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Me Hélène de Kovachich, former president of the Tribunal administratif du Québec, is considered one of the pioneers of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in Quebec. She has presided over more than 1,000 private and judicial mediation cases nationally and internationally. Lawyer, mediator, trainer, author and member of the Tribunal from 2006 to 2022, she acts primarily in shareholder disputes, corporate restructuring and business transfers. She is accredited as a mediator in civil and commercial matters (construction litigation, estates, insurance, workplace disputes, *Autorité des marchés financiers* and - as a judge - in expropriation, municipal taxation and social affairs). She has developed a national and international practice (notably in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Mali, Mexico, Cambodia, Morocco, Haiti, India, China, Italy and Burkina Faso). "Distinguished Fellow of the International Academy of Mediators (2006). She was invited by the President of France's "Conseil National de la Médiation" to speak at their first plenary session, and to share her 30-year experience of ADR methods in Quebec.

After practicing tax law (Ministère du Revenu du Québec, Stikeman Elliott), she founded *Groupe Option Médiation* in 1994. She contributed to the creation of one of the first integrated judicial mediation programs, which has become a world reference in the field: the Amicable Settlement Conferences (ASC) and the program to facilitate criminal proceedings in Quebec. She has trained judges from Quebec, Canada and abroad in judicial mediation. At the Tribunal administratif du Québec, she developed and implemented the first judicial co-mediation process in expropriation matters and participated in the development of the conciliation process in the social affairs section. She has participated in activities advocating the implementation of ADR systems in Canada and abroad, including the creation of Front Line Justice (FLJ), a transitional justice system for countries affected by conflict and environmental disasters that has been implemented in Haiti and Mali. She chaired the Canadian Bar Association's national ADR section and led numerous ADR projects, including those related to the development and adoption of the Canadian Model Commercial Law based on the UNCITRAL Model Conciliation Law. She was a member of the Board of Directors of the Institut de médiation et d'arbitrage du Québec (IMAQ) and, in 2006, received the "Prix de la qualité de l'enseignement" from the Faculty of Law of the Université de Sherbrooke.

Me de Kovachich is co-author in Québec of "Guide pratique de médiation" in 1997, and in France of "La médiation administrative, nouveau mode de résolution des litiges" in 2020. She is the author of numerous articles on commercial and civil mediation, mediation in administrative law and arbitration, and family mediation. She developed the training manual and trained and supervised lawyers who are to be accredited by the Quebec Bar as family mediators.

In 2016, Me de Kovachich was mandated by the Conseil des Ministres of the Government of Quebec to create, implement and direct the first University Mediation Clinic in Quebec at the Université de Montréal's Faculty of Law (2016-2019). Throughout her career, Me de Kovachich has been invited on numerous occasions to speak before a variety of local, national and international audiences, including students, colleagues, the business community and international dignitaries.