



Executive Professional Development

Conflict and Negotiation in Healthcare Certificate

Format | Live Online

Fee | \$2,500

HIGHLIGHTS

November 2025 - March 2026

- Live online (via Zoom)
- Four modules
- Eight half day sessions
- 9:00 PM - 1:00 PM
- Spread over 5 months

A certificate of completion will be issued to participants who complete all four modules of the certificate program.

Certificate Overview

The *Conflict and Negotiation in Healthcare Certificate* equips current and aspiring leaders with practical, evidence-based tools to navigate conflict and lead with confidence in challenging situations. Participants will deepen their self-awareness, enhance their ability to respond thoughtfully to conflict, and develop key leadership and negotiation skills. Through a blend of theory, reflection, and applied exercises, the program develops the capacity to lead with empathy, resolve tension constructively, and create healthier, more resilient workplaces.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Recognize and Analyze Conflict Dynamics
2. Expand and Apply Conflict Handling Styles
3. Strengthen Empathic Leadership and Communication
4. Adopt Transformative and Ethical Approaches to Conflict
5. Develop Practical Strategies for Conflict Resolution and Negotiation

The *Conflict and Negotiation in Healthcare Certificate* will help you develop essential skills for navigating complex healthcare dynamics and advancing high-quality, patient-centered care.

Modules:

Conflict Styles

November 12 - 13, 2025

Tools to help you understand, analyze, and develop your conflict handling and empathic style as a leader. You will identify which styles are prominent in your toolkit, how you respond to stressful and conflictual situations, and the strengths and opportunities for growth. The end goal is to increase the flexibility of your skills, so you can make conscious choices about what response fits your goals best.

Facilitator: Dr. Debra Gilin

The Self-Management of Conflict

January 12 - 13, 2026

Learn how to respond, rather than react, to the conflicts you face. Using the lens of the transformative understanding of conflict, you will examine common human reactions to difficult communication, consider what guides your behavior when you're feeling overcome, and develop practical strategies for responding more deliberately to the conflicts you face.

Facilitator: Basia Solarz

Leadership and Conflict

February 12 - 13, 2026

This module aims to develop evidence-based leadership skills needed to guide teams and individuals through work conflicts. Unlike conflict resolution skills, which aim to help individuals manage conflicts, these leadership skills are necessary to restore healthy workplaces needed for employees to thrive and provide high-quality, safe patient care.

Facilitators: Dr. Diane LeBlanc and Brennan Dempsey

Negotiation

March 16 - 17, 2026

Applying conflict resolution skills in combination with negotiation strategies to address both formal and informal negotiations in healthcare settings. Participants will develop practical, evidence-informed leadership capabilities to engage in negotiation processes that support effective team collaboration, restore psychological safety, and foster healthier work environments.

Facilitator: Dr. Wendy Carroll

How to Register: Sign up today with this quick [registration form](#).

Questions: Contact us at epd@smu.ca

Conflict and Negotiation Certificate - Facilitators



Dr. Wendy Carroll

Dr. Wendy R. Carroll is an award-winning teacher and researcher, serving as the Director of the EMBA and EDBA Programs and an Associate Professor in the Department of Management at the Sobey School of Business, Saint Mary's University. Her research focuses on the challenges faced by organizational leaders, earning national recognition and support. In 2016, she received a SSHRC grant to explore employee silence following unjust events like harassment or bullying. She has also secured funding from Ryerson's Diversity Institute and Future Skills to study micro-credentials and human resource analytics. Wendy's teaching excellence has been recognized with eight student-driven and two peer-driven teaching awards. In 2018, she was honored with the Dr. Geraldine Thomas Educational Leadership Award and was named one of the Top 25 HR Professionals of 2016 by Canadian HR Reporter Magazine.



Dr. Debra Gilin

Dr. Gilin's training is in Industrial/Organizational Psychology focused on what fosters productive/healthy versus unproductive/unhealthy conflict in the workplace. Her research focuses on organizational conflict, negotiation, and mediation, the implications of conflict for work stress and well-being, how personality and thinking styles influence conflict handling, inter- and intra- group conflict dynamics, and organizational change interventions. Recent projects have examined the distinct operation of cognitive perspective-taking versus empathy in conflictual interactions, how to decrease incivility among workers in high-stress work environments (i.e., nursing) over the long-term, and how disrespectful work group norms can hasten the effects of work stressors on physical and mental employee strain. Debra has a strong interest in applying basic social psychological research to real organizational problems.



Dr. Diane LeBlanc

Diane's professional journey started in the telecommunications sector, where she ascended from entry-level positions to manage transformative initiatives across Canada and the United States. She completed a BSc at Mount Saint Vincent University, followed by an MSc and PhD at Saint Mary's University (2019). Diane resumed her consulting work with both private and public organizations to advance workplace health. Diane consults on a diverse range of activities, including training, personnel selection, leadership development, conflict management, and organizational design. Her specialization lies in guiding groups to effectively navigate and manage seemingly intractable conflicts. Diane brings a wealth of experience helping others create a healthier and more productive workplace environment.



Brennan Dempsey

Brennan is a researcher, writer, and editor with a perspective on work conflict gleaned from a combination of academic training and invaluable experience at low levels of large institutions. Brennan obtained both a B.A. and a M.A. in history from Dalhousie University, studies that enhanced his skills in critical thinking, communication, cultural awareness, and empathy, and helped him develop a nuanced understanding of causality. He is skilled in sharing information and ideas with a broad audience. He is currently undergoing training in Acceptance and Commitment Therapy techniques, a method that can help people manage negative emotions and work experiences.



Basia Solarz

Basia Solarz MAEd, PCC brings over 25 years' experience facilitating difficult conversations in educational, workplace, and community settings. She served as the Consultant for Communication & Conflict Competence for the award-winning conflict resolution program at Nova Scotia Health, offering conflict coaching, mediation, and educational services. A Certified Transformative Mediator and Fellow of the Institute for the Study of Conflict Transformation, Basia is particularly interested in the moral-ethical dimensions of conflict as well as the intersection of adult learning and the transformative approach to working with conflict. She founded the ISCT Virtual Institute and is the convener of the TCC Lab. Her publications have appeared in journals such as Conflict Resolution Quarterly and in books such as Transforming Conflict From the Inside Out. Basia is the founder and president of Braver Path Coaching, Consulting and Facilitation.

Questions: Contact us at epd@smu.ca