

Annual Report

The Law Society of Saskatchewan

For the year ended
December 31, 2001





Mission Statement

**To govern the legal profession by upholding
high standards of competence and integrity;
ensuring the independence of the profession;
advancing the administration of justice,
the profession and the rule of law;
all in the public interest.**

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Benchers & Professional Staff

Benchers

Ron Barsi

Judy Bell

Beth Bilson, Q.C.

Stuart Eisner

Michael Fisher

Robert Gibbings (Vice-President)

W. Brent Gough

Brian Hendrickson

Brent Klause

Edward Komarnicki

Lana Krogan

Effie Kuszniir

John McIntosh, Q.C.

Alan McIntyre

Michael Milani, Q.C. (President)

Graeme Mitchell, Q.C.

Barry Morgan

Martel Popescul, Q.C.

George Thurlow

Rick Van Beselaere

Donna Wilson, Q.C.

Professional Staff

A. Kirsten Logan, Q.C. - Secretary/Co-Director of Administration

Allan T. Snell, Q.C. - General Counsel/Co-Director of Administration

Donna R. Sigmeth – Complaints Officer

Thomas J. Schonhoffer – Counsel, SLIA

John Allen, C.A. – Auditor/Inspector

Paul W. Greening, CLA - Adjuster, SLIA

Susan Baer, MLS - Director of Libraries

President's Report

by Michael W. Milani, Q.C.



There are no set indicia for determining whether or not the governing body of our profession had a successful year. However, from a financial perspective, and notwithstanding the large amounts that were paid out as a consequence of a defalcation by one of our members that came to light in January, 2001, the coffers of the Law Society of Saskatchewan and of Saskatchewan Lawyers' Insurance Association are healthy.

Additionally, the Law Society and its Benchers have had a very busy year considering, debating and addressing a variety of matters, including those involving professional standards, ethics, discipline, professional responsibility and admissions. The balance of this report describes a few of the matters that were of particular note.

LAND Project

The Moose Jaw Land Registration District was the first to convert to the new LAND system, in June, 2001. The new system is complex, and there are a number of areas of particular concern to lawyers. A good deal of time was spent meeting with the Minister of Justice, the Honourable Chris Axworthy, Q.C. and others in his

Department, as well as with senior personnel from Information Services Corporation ("ISC"). The Law Society believes that it was in the public interest that the difficulties with the new system be addressed prior to the project being expanded to the other land registration districts. Matters were delayed, but not postponed, pending the enhancement of the new system. Within a short time after the introduction of the new system, the necessity and value of practicing lawyers involvement with the adjustments being made to the system was recognized by ISC. For clarity, the LAND system is not the Law Society's project. However, as it is in the public interest that the sanctity and reliability of the Torrens system be maintained, we have been increasingly involved in trying to assist in the improvements to the regime. The complexities of the new system have underscored why lawyers must be the sole and exclusive authorized users of on-line registration, once that becomes a part of the system.

Government Relations

The Law Society Executive met with Minister Axworthy and his senior department officials on a number of occasions. The Department was willing to discuss any matters which the Law Society chose to put on the agenda, and for that the Law Society is appreciative. We did not agree on all matters, but on each topic our input was received and considered.

No Fault Insurance

The efforts of the Joint Committee on No Fault (of the Canadian Bar Association and the Law Society) bore fruit during 2001, with the announcement by the Government that it intends to introduce legislation which will see at least a partial return to the tort system. The Joint Committee has expressed a number of concerns and questions, and continues to make its position known to Saskatchewan Government Insurance. The Law Society will remain involved in such matters, out of its concern for the public interest.

Federation of Law Societies

The Federation had an extremely busy, and visible, year. It has been guided since August, 2001 by our own Mr. Maurice Laprairie, Q.C. Among other matters, the Federation has successfully challenged those portions of the federal money laundering legislation that required reporting by lawyers.

Western Mobility

As a consequence of Rule changes passed by the Benchers, and by the Benchers of the Law Societies of British Columbia, Alberta and Manitoba, any member in good standing of one of those Bars can practice in any one or more of the other Bars for up to six months in any twelve month period without the need to register or pay an occasional appearance fee. Discussions continue with respect to the rationalization of matters such as trust accounting rules, and to endeavoring to achieve some uniformity in respect of diverse matters, including, for example, the bar admission courses.

Conclusion

In its role of governing the profession in the public interest the Law Society and its Benchers are involved in the consideration of diverse issues.

Some organizations struggle to find reasons to be relevant. That is not the case with the Law Society. In addition to dealing with the day-to-day matters of the stewardship of the Society, our organization will have an increasing role in defending the core values of our profession.

We are all greatly assisted in those matters by our professional staff headed by Allan Snell, Q.C., Kirsten Logan, Q.C., Tom Schonhoffer, John Allen, C.A. and Donna Sigmeth. They are employees who are dedicated to the organization and, equally importantly, to the profession.

Michael W. Milani, Q.C.
President

Report of the Co-Directors of Administration

by A. Kirsten Logan, Q.C. and Allan T. Snell, Q.C



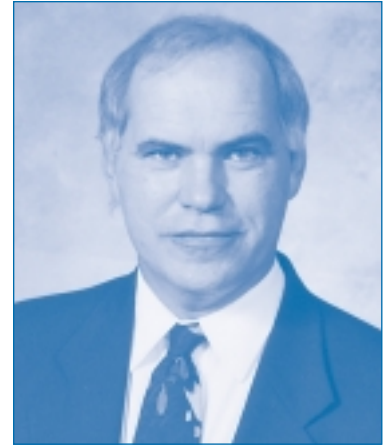
Some time ago when Her Majesty was experiencing some political and familial challenges, she referred to the previous 12 months as “annus horribilis”. Well. The Law Society of Saskatchewan was challenged rather significantly in 2001 by the Lamontagne defalcations. The resulting cost not only in dollars, but also in staff and volunteer time, was at least exceptional and arguably horrible. There is no way to fully prepare for something like that, but as co-directors we are very proud to be able to say that the systems, resources and especially the personnel upon which the Law Society could call were unquestionably equal to the task.

The Special Fund at the beginning of 2001 stood at \$2.5 million dollars. That of itself was sufficient to cover the costs. In addition, the Self-Insurance Fund was available to cover some of the costs. That Fund had been used to pay insurance claims made prior to 1988. In that year, CLIA and SLIA were created. The final

pre-1988 insurance claim was settled in 2001. The Self-Insurance Fund had \$590,000 in excess reserves after payment of all claims and legal and adjuster’s fees. The Benchers agreed to transfer \$400,000 from the Self-Insurance Fund to the Special Fund to defray some of the impact of the defalcation. You have seen Mr. Popescul’s report circulated at the beginning of this year regarding the situation and the steps taken and there is no need to repeat his report here.

The lease for the Law Society office expired on March 31, 2002 after ten years. Last year, we received an offer to renew the lease. We believed it was necessary to pursue other options. We viewed several other locations. Ultimately, we entered into a new lease for our present location at a reduced rate with an allowance for renovations. Those renovations have been concluded and we will happily remain at the same location for another five years.

We continue to take part in discussions with the other Western Provinces regarding mobility and as an offshoot, studying common elements for education, special funds and trust accounting rules. A database showing all practicing members in the four Western Provinces is under development. We have lost some “practicing out” members as a result of the mobility rules, and thus have lost revenue. However, we hope that increased mobility gives our members more options to serve existing clients and a wider pool from which to draw new clients.



The year 2001 saw the introduction of three pieces of legislation with very positive effects on professional corporations, class actions and limited liability partnerships. On the legislative downside was the coming into force of the Federal Regulations on money laundering.

This will be the first year in many that the Law Society Annual Meeting will be a short business meeting only. We will miss the camaraderie of the social events surrounding the Annual Meeting, but we look forward to seeing as many of you as can attend in Swift Current.

The Law Society of Saskatchewan is a very busy organization. We continually marvel at the dedication of our staff and volunteers, particularly the Benchers. That dedication allows the Law Society to perform both its day-to-day functions and to deal effectively with the odd horrible surprise.

Report of the Secretary

by A. Kirsten Logan, Q.C.

The total number of lawyers entered on the Roll from the incorporation of The Society in 1907 to December 31, 2001 is 4,174. In 2001, 56 (20 male, 36 female) lawyers were enrolled, and 65 (36 male, 29 female) students-at-law were admitted.

Comparison on Number of Active Members January 1, 2001 to December 31, 2001

January 1, 2001 - Active on Roll			1,452
New Enrollments:			
Students-at-Law	55 (19M, 36F)		
Other Provinces	5 (2M, 3F)		
Reinstatements from Inactive Status	41 (16M, 25F)		
Reinstatements (Discipline)	1 (1M)		
Reinstatements (Fees & Assessments)	1 (1M)		
Reinstatement from Disqualified	3 (1, 2F)		
Reinstatement from Judiciary	None		
Reinstatement from Resigned Status	None		
Inactive Membership from Practicing Status		78 (44M, 34F)	
Suspended and Disbarred (Discipline)		2 (1M 1F)	
Suspended (Fees & Assessments)		2 (2F)	
Retirement		4 (4M)	
Deaths		8 (8M)	
Judges Appointed		4 (4M)	
	106	98	1,452 + 8
December 31, 2001 - Active members on Roll			1,460

The above statistics represent the changes to the Roll in 2001 for practicing members only. With regard to inactive members, we started the year with 565 (337M, 176F, 45M retired and 7F retired) and ended it with 592 (353M, 181F, 51M retired and 7F retired).

The Rules of The Law Society allow members taking parental leave to receive a prorated refund of their Annual Fee. In 2001, we had 9(9F) members, file Declarations of Non-Practice under these provisions with 5 female members resuming active practice.

Judicial Appointments:

Gerald Mervin Morin, Q.C. (January 26, 2001)
Provincial Court of Saskatchewan

Robert Douglas Jackson, Q.C. (January 26, 2001)
Provincial Court of Saskatchewan

Earl Kalenith (August 31, 2001)
Provincial Court of Saskatchewan

Dennis Percy Ball, Q.C. (August 31, 2001)
Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan

Obituaries:

Robert George Treleaven (January 18, 2001)

Douglas John Britton, Q.C. (February 13, 2001)

Gavin Douglas Evans Gordon (March 30, 2001)

Allan Wesley Mathiason (May, 2001)

Hugh Milton Ketcheson, Q.C. (June 22, 2001)

James Johnston Kerr, Q.C. (June 30, 2001)

John Louis Bowles (September, 2001)

Robert Kohaly, Q.C. (October 24, 2001)

Enrollment Statistics as at December 31, 2001

Category	Male	Female	Total
Practicing Status residing in Saskatchewan	990	363	1353
Practicing Status residing outside Saskatchewan	81	18	99
Non-Practicing Status residing in Saskatchewan	135	79	214
Non-Practicing Status residing outside Saskatchewan	269	109	378

Law Firms by Number of Practitioners and Gender

Number of Practitioners per firm	Number of Firms	Male Practitioners	Female Practitioners
1	180	142	38
2	54	87	21
3	37	87	24
4	16	50	14
5	13	49	16
6	8	40	8
7	1	5	2
8	7	42	14
9	2	18	0
10	1	7	3
11	1	9	2
12	1	11	1
14	2	20	8
15	1	11	4
17	1	14	3
19	1	15	4
26	1	21	5
28	3	68	16
32	1	24	8
33	1	26	7

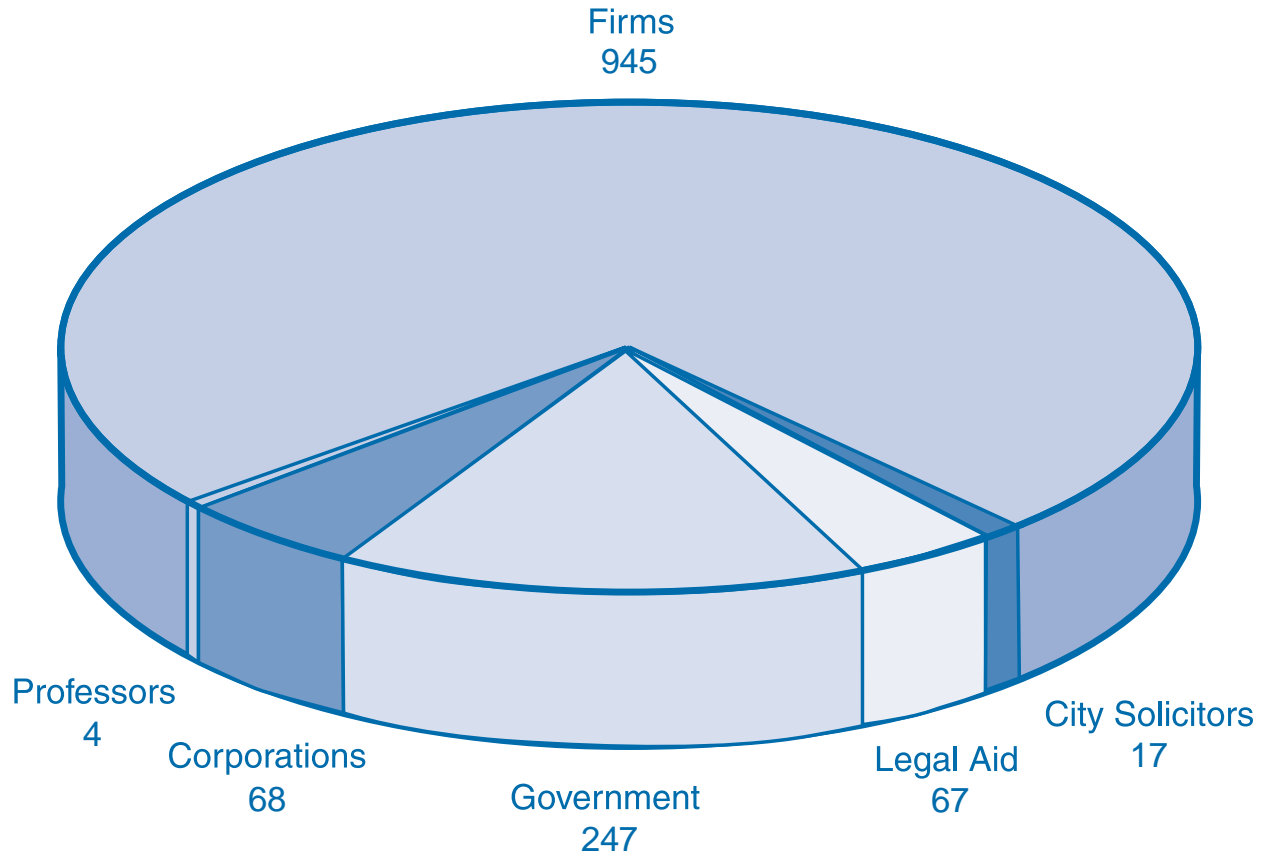
Total Enrollments per year

Year	TOTAL New Enrollments	New Enrollments Female	New Enrollments Male	Enrollments from OUT OF PROVINCE	Occasional Practice	Resumptions of Practice	Declarations of Non-Practice
1980	102	15	86	25			
1981	103	25	78	27			
1982	102	23	79	26			
1983	102	32	70	26			
1984	106	34	72	22			
1985	101	22	79	34			
1986	32	32	59	21	3*		
1987	94	22	72	22	19		
1988	73	24	49	8	7		
1989	70	25	45	8	15	34**	99**
1990	65	19	46	11	23	32	70
1991	60	25	35	4	24	25	42
1992	57	25	32	10 (8M 2F)	25 (22M 3F)	43	103
1993	66	30	36	13 (11M 2F)	31 (28M 3F)	54 (28M 26F)	123 (87M 36F)
1994	74	34	40	18 (11M 7F)	21 (19M 2F)	50 (24M 26F)	88 (53M 35F)
1995	65	31	34	8 (6M 2F)	21 (17M 4F)	57 (26M 31F)	75 (48M 27F)
1996	69	31	38	16 (6M 10F)	49 (46M 3F)	46 (22M 24F)	64 (37M 27F)
1997	79	42	37	7 (5M 2F)	54 (51M 3F)	37 (21M 16F)	70 (45M 25F)
1998	76	31	45	14 (8M 6F)	53 (44M 9F)	40 (16M 24F)	86 (47M 39F)
1999	61	28	33	8 (6M 2F)	65 (56M 9F)	33 (16M 17F)	86 (48M 38F)
2000	55	26	29	6 (2M 4F)	35 (33M 2F)	53 (28M 25F)	93 (47M 46F)
2001	66	30	36	5 (2M 3F)	2 (2M)	41 (16M 25F)	78 (44M 34F)

* Occasional Practice Rules came into effect October, 1986

** Earlier Figures not available

Type of Practice
Practicing Lawyers in Saskatchewan Only



Practicing Lawyers in Saskatchewan
by Age

	26 to 30	31 to 35	36 to 40	41 to 45	46 to 50	51 to 55	56 to 60	61 to 65	66 to 70	71 and up
Male	44	80	116	198	228	213	79	43	31	23
Female	44	70	77	65	72	33	12	2	0	2

Complaints Officer's Report

by Donna R. Sigmeth



I am pleased to present the following report with respect to the complaints handled by The Law Society of Saskatchewan during January 1, 2001 – December 31, 2001.

The role of the Complaints Officer is set out in *The Legal Profession Act, 1990*, and more specifically defined in *The Rules of the Law Society of Saskatchewan*. In my role as Complaints Officer, I review all written complaints against members and take telephone inquiries from the public regarding potential complaints. In dealing with the public by telephone, I have been able to assist in resolving some matters informally before and after they reach the written complaint stage. I also deal with questions from the membership regarding professional ethics and requests for rulings on particular matters. In dealing with such telephone inquiries, the Complaints Officer is in a position to offer assistance to the public and the membership.

In dealing with written complaints, the Complaints Officer may refer matters to the Discipline Committee, Professional Standards Committee, or Ethics Committee. Prior to referring matters to the Discipline Committee, the Complaints Officer generally does preliminary investigation to ascertain if there is a potential discipline issue. If the complaint appears to be non-jurisdictional or simply unfounded,

the Complaints Officer is authorised to direct no further action be taken in the matter.

If a complainant does not agree with the decision of the Complaints Officer to take no further action, they may request an appeal of the decision of the Complaints Officer by the Complainants' Review Committee. The Complainants' Review Committee is made up of all Benchers and generally, one Bencher is appointed to act as Complainants' Review Committee to review the decision of the Complaints Officer to take no further action. The Complainants' Review Committee may also review a decision of the Chair of Discipline or the Chair of the Professional Standards Committee to take no further action.

In 2001, a total of 598 complaints were received as opposed to 576 in 2000. Of this total received, 190 actual complaints files were opened in 2001, as compared 196 in 2000. The majority of complaints alleged conduct unbecoming on the part of a member, or questioned delay on the part of or quality of service provided by a member. (Trust account complaints were higher than normal due to the Lamontagne defalcation.) Complaints which allege negligence of a member or which essentially deal with ongoing civil matters before the Court, are non-jurisdictional. Complaints which deal with the quantum of a member's legal fees also generally fall into the category of non-jurisdictional. Non-jurisdictional complaints may also include complaints which are trivial, frivolous or simply without merit.

As previously mentioned, telephone conciliation is an effective and expeditious method of resolving minor complaints, particularly those received in the category of "failure to respond" or "delay". The Benchers approved the use of alternative dispute resolution on a two year trial basis commencing in 1998. Two successful mediations were conducted in 2001, and I hope to continue to mediate disputes, as this method of complaint resolution certainly

has the highest level of "satisfaction" reported by the participants.

I have been working on a special project, developing a data base to improve our complaints information and record keeping system. This system will, as well, improve our ability to track statistical data. The new data base has been up and running since mid-March 2001. This system will require some refinement, but we have already noticed a large improvement in our ability to track complaints information. Our very capable consultant, Lisa Clarke of Accessible Business Services, has done a wonderful job on this project thus far. My previous assistant Rebecca's contribution to the "hands on" work required to set up the database, and my new assistant, Marcella's ongoing efforts to maintain, improve and refine the system are also most appreciated. A sample of the type of statistical information we are now able to produce is included with this report.

Another activity, outside of the regular complaints process, which I have undertaken is speaking to various groups among our membership. I was pleased to have been invited to speak at various CBA South Saskatchewan Section Meetings, and a local Bar Meeting, on the topics of Complaints and Discipline process, as well as our new initiatives in the area of competency which are currently being developed by the Subcommittee on Competency. I have found the experience rewarding and have enjoyed the opportunity to meet members I had not previously met, and to field questions about our process.

In closing, I would like to thank the membership for their co-operation and assistance in dealing with complaints. I understand that receiving a complaint is not the most pleasant experience for members, yet my dealings with the membership have been very positive in most cases, despite the circumstances. I invite the members to feel free to contact me if they are involved in a complaint matter, or just have questions about our process.

Complaints Officer's Report...continued

by Donna R. Sigmeth

<u>Total Complaints Received</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Total Complaint Files	196	190
Total Potential Complaints	332	343
Total Miscellaneous Complaints	27	33
Total Telephone Conciliation Complaints	21	32
Total of All Complaints Received	576	598

<u>Area of Law</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Civil Litigation	29	30
Corporate/Commercial	14	7
Criminal	14	16
Debtor/Creditor/Collection	14	6
Estates	41	27
Family	41	36
Labor/Administration/Employment	2	6
Law Society Prosecution	1	2
N/A	38	40
Personal Injury	2	2
Real Estate		17
WCBĪ/SGI Appeal		1

Number of Potential/Miscellaneous/Telephone

<u>Total Complaints Received</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Potential	332	343
Miscellaneous	27	33

<u>Area of Law</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Civil		7
Criminal	2	4
Estates		2
Family		5
Labour/Admin/Employment	1	1
Miscellaneous	20	3
N/A	4	10
Real Estate		1

Telephone

<u>Area of Law</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Civil		5
Criminal		2
Debt/Credit/Collect		1
Estates		2
Family		3
Miscellaneous	1	1
N/A	20	17
Personal Injury		1

<u>Total Complaints Received</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Fees		1
Miscellaneous	17	1
NA/Unknown		1
Potential	4	21
Quality		1
Unethical Conduct/Sharp Practice		2

<u>Category of Complaint</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Breach of Trust Condition/Undertakings	6	4
Conduct Unbecoming	35	47
Conflict of Interest	14	10
Delay	41	21
Failure to Pay Costs Incurred	7	7
Failure to Respond/Lack of Communication	7	14
Fees	15	2
File Transfer Disputes	8	5
NA/Unknown	11	3
Quality of Legal Services	26	27
Trust Accounts	8	35
Unethical Conduct/Sharp Practice	18	15

<u>Category of Complaint</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Conduct Unbecoming	1	6
Conflict of Interest	1	2
Delay		3
Failure to Respond		1
Fees		1
Miscellaneous	20	4
Potential	3	11
Quality	2	5

<u>Category of Complaint</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Communication	1	
Delay	4	

Complaints Officer's Report...continued

by Donna R. Sigmeth

Number of Files Referred to Committees					
<u>Comp. Review</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>Discipline</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Total Referrals	41	24	Total Referrals	50	82
Area of Law			Area of Law		
Civil	8	6	Civil	5	11
Corporate/Commercial	2		Corporate/Commercial	3	1
Criminal	2	5	Criminal	1	5
Debt/Credit/Collect	6		Debt/Credit/Collect		1
Estates	6	3	Estates	18	11
Family	13	7	Family	7	6
Labour/Admin/Employment	1		Labour/Admin/Employment	1	1
Law Society	1		Law Society		2
N/A	2	2	N/A	14	20
Real Estate		1	Real Estate	1	8
			Personal Injury		4
			WCB/SGI Appeal		2
Category			Category		
Conduct Unbecoming	14	8	Conduct Unbecoming	19	20
Conflict of Interest	3	3	Breach		2
Delay	3		Delay	10	8
Failure to Pay		1	Failure to Pay	2	2
Failure to Respond	1	2	Failure to Respond	3	2
Fees	4	1	Fees	3	3
NA/Unknown	6	1	File Transfer Disputes	3	4
Quality	7	4	NA/Unknown	3	1
Unethical Conduct/Sharp Practice	3	4	Quality	4	3
			Trust Accounts	3	36
			Unethical Conduct/Sharp Practice		1
Ethics	2000	2001	Professional Standards	2000	2001
Total Referrals	16	12	Total Referrals	59	33
Area of Law			Area of Law		
Civil	4	4	Civil	9	6
Corporate/Commercial	1	1	Corporate/Commercial	4	3
Criminal	1		Criminal	3	2
Debt/Credit/Collect	3		Debt/Credit/Collect	2	1
Estates	2	1	Estates	18	6
Family	2	3	Family	16	7
N/A	3	2	Labour/Admin/Employment	1	
Real Estate		1	Law Society	1	
			N/A	5	2
			Personal Injury		2
			Real Estate		3
			WCB/SGI Appeal		1
Category			Category		
Breach	3		Breach	3	2
Conduct Unbecoming	5	4	Conduct Unbecoming	15	2
Conflict of Interest	1	3	Conflict of Interest	1	
Delay		1	Delay	16	11
Failure to Pay		2	Failure to Respond	2	6
Fees	1		Fees	5	
File Transfer Disputes		1	File Transfer Disputes	4	1
NA/Unknown	1		NA/Unknown	1	1
Unethical Conduct/Sharp Practice	5	1	Quality	10	6
			Trust Accounts	1	
			Unethical Conduct/Sharp Practice	3	2

Complaints Officer's Report...continued

by Donna R. Sigmeth

Number of Committees Appointed

<u>Discipline Investigation</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Total Referrals	36	46
<u>Area of Law</u>		
Civil	4	7
Corporate/Commercial	2	1
Criminal	1	1
Debt/Credit/Collect		1
Estates	15	11
Family	4	4
Labour/Admin/Employment	1	1
Law Society		1
N/A8	8	
Personal Injury		4
Real Estate	1	5
WCB/SGI Appeal		2
<u>Category</u>		
Breach		2
Conduct Unbecoming	15	14
Delay	8	6
Failure to Pay		3
Failure to Respond	3	2
Fees	2	4
File Transfer Disputes	2	3
NA/Unknown	1	
Quality	3	2
Trust Accounts	2	10
<u>Informal Conduct</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Total Referrals	2	9
<u>Area of Law</u>		
Civil	1	1
Criminal	1	
Estates	1	
Family	4	
N/A1	2	
<u>Category</u>		
Conduct Unbecoming		4
Delay	1	1
Failure to Respond	1	1
Quality		2
Unethical Conduct/Sharp Practice		1

<u>Hearing</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Total Referrals	6	41
<u>Area of Law</u>		
Civil	2	2
Corporate/Commercial		1
Estates		7
Family		2
N/A	3	26
Personal Injury		1
Real Estate	1	1
WCB/SGI Appeal		1
<u>Category</u>		
Conduct Unbecoming	4	3
Delay		6
Failure to Pay		2
Failure to Respond		1
Fees		1
File Transfer Disputes	1	2
Quality		1
Trust Accounts	1	25

Complaints Officer's Report...continued

by Donna R. Sigmeth

<u>Prof. St. Investigation</u>	2000	2001	<u>Professional Standards</u>	2000	2001
<u>Law Office Management Review</u>			<u>Investigations</u>		
Total Referrals	10	9	Professional Standards	2000	2001
<u>Area of Law</u>			<u>Area of Law</u>		
Civil	1	1	Civil	5	1
Corporate/Commercial	1	1	Corporate/Commercial	2	
Criminal		1	Criminal	2	
Debt/Credit/Collect		1	Estates	6	2
Estates	4	3	Family	7	4
Family	3		Labour/Admin/Employment	1	
N/A	1	1	Law Society	1	
WCB/SGI Appeal		1	N/A	5	
			Personal Injury	1	
			Real Estate		2
<u>Category</u>			<u>Category</u>		
Breach	1		Breach	1	2
Conduct Unbecoming	3		Conduct Unbecoming	5	
Delay	1	5	Conflict of Interest		1
Failure to Respond	2		Delay	8	5
Fees	1		Failure to Respond		2
File Transfer Disputes		1	Fees	3	
NA/Unknown		1	File Transfer Disputes	4	
Quality	2	2	NA/Unknown	1	
			Quality	4	
			Unethical Conduct/Sharp Practice	3	

Admissions and Education Committee

by Stuart Eisner



The Admissions and Education Committee has as its mandate to review applications for admission to the Law Society by students-at-law, members from other jurisdictions and reinstatement by former members. Further, the Committee is heavily involved with all aspects of the Bar Admission Course.

All of the Committees of the Law Society of Saskatchewan are heavily dependent on the staff of the Law Society. The Admissions and Education Committee is no exception. The Admissions Committee, in addition to receiving a great deal of assistance and direction from Kirsten Logan, Q.C., was also greatly assisted by the new Bar Admission Course Director, Bruce Wiwchar. Similarly Abena

Buahene, the Executive Director of SKLE-SI, has provided invaluable assistance to the Committee.

For the past five years the Committee was very fortunate to have Willy Hodgson as a member. The Committee, in the course of its deliberations, had the benefit of Willy's wisdom, compassion, insight and humour. Ms. Hodgson's contributions were always greatly appreciated and her contributions to the Law Society will be missed.

In 2001, in addition to Willy, other Benchers on the Committee included Vice-Chair Barry Morgan, Dean Beth Bilson, Q.C., Brent Gough, Brian Hendrickson and the 2002 Chair, George Thurlow.

Discipline Committee

by Rob Gibbings



This can only be of benefit to both the complainant and the member involved. In 2001, the Committee continued its efforts to refine the complaints process, with a view to obtaining a complete, efficient and consistent approach to investigations.

To this end, the Committee approved in principle, as a pilot project, the hiring of an in-house "fact-finder" to assist Investigation Committees. When appropriate and necessary, this individual will be available as a resource to conduct preliminary investigations, gather documents, obtain the names of witnesses, conduct witness interviews, and the like. The information will be provided to the Investigation Committee to assist the Committee in determining whether a hearing into a charge of conduct unbecoming should occur, or whether there should be some other disposition of the complaint.

It is important to emphasize that the work of the "fact-finder" will be an adjunct to, and not a substitution for, the current role of the Investigation Committee. Both Bencher and non-Bencher members who act as Investigation Committees will still

be charged with the responsibility of ultimately making recommendations regarding a complaint, and this may still involve additional investigation personally by the Investigation Committee. Nevertheless, it is hoped that the assistance of the "fact-finder" will in many instances result in a quicker, while more complete, investigation process.

Statistically, in 2001 there were 71 total referrals to the Discipline Committee, involving 26 members. Informal Conduct Reviews were directed on 9 referrals, involving 7 members. Hearing Committees were appointed to enquire into 41 referrals, involving 6 members. There were 5 Hearings actually conducted in 2001.

It was my privilege and honour to serve as Chair of the Discipline Committee in 2001. The Vice-Chairs of the Committee were Brent Klause, Judy Bell, Ed Komarnicki, Lana Krogan, Michael Milani, and Donna Wilson, each of whom ably did all that was asked and more. As always, we obtained the sensible advice and assistance of Donna Sigmeth, Complaints Officer, and Allan Snell, General Counsel. Our thanks to them both.

While the Discipline Committee consists of all of the Benchers, the administration of discipline complaints, investigations and hearings is conducted through the Discipline Executive Committee.

The Discipline Executive Committee is always concerned that complaints referred to it are dealt with in a timely manner, while always ensuring procedural fairness.

Equity/Diversity Committee

by Ed Komarnicki



Selected Benchers Responses

Responses to questions posed as to the importance attributed to this Committee and strategies that would help define further successful action were both insightful and helpful. A sampling of responses follows. There is a continuing need to accommodate a diversity of people, backgrounds, cultures and styles of practice. The focus of the Committee needs to be broader than gender-only issues and should include race, disability and other equity issues such as Aboriginal students at the Bar Course, adequate Aboriginal education as well as the retention rate of Aboriginal lawyers. A number of advancements have occurred over the past number of years. We have

made significant practical and attitudinal changes. We have come far, however, there is still a long way to go. Education and understanding of the issues is always important and certainly a priority. However, the best educator is experience, that is, showing how the principle can work in practice.

Equity Ombudsperson

On a more specific and focused basis, the Committee moved to create an Equity Ombudsperson position. The role and scope of the position was concluded after a review of information and statistics from other jurisdictions. In a report by A. Kirsten Logan, Q.C., accepted by the Committee, the role and function was outlined as follows:

1. the Equity Ombudsperson will work as an independent contractor of the Law Society and maintain separate records. Complaints and counseling information will be confidential and not accessible to the Law Society. Quarterly statistical reports will however be provided;
2. the Equity Ombudsperson will offer neutral and confidential assistance to lawyers, articling students and support staff working for legal employers who ask for help in resolving complaints of discrimination or harassment. This will be accomplished by providing advice and counseling as

to what options are available to the complainant, facilitating mediation, mediation between the complainant and the respondent, or referring the parties to an outside mediator. The office will not provide legal advice to the complainant or the respondent;

3. the Equity Ombudsperson will also provide educational services to members through training seminars, presentations, personal speaking engagement and written publications.

General

From information received from other jurisdictions, it is apparent that many of the calls relate to information and advice, coaching, support or mediation. In one statistical report, of a total of 54 persons seeking assistance with specific workplace discrimination conflict, the greatest number of complaints involved allegations of sexual harassment followed by discrimination based on family, race, gender, disability and personal issues. In another report, personal harassment complaints focused on abuse of power issues, loss of control, inappropriate anger management skills and refusal to accept responsibility for mistakes.

In the end, we as a profession need to strive on a continuing basis to eliminate as much as possible discrimination for reasons that have little to do with the effective practice of law.

Ethics Committee *by Brent Klause*



The members of the Ethics Committee for the year 2001 were Brent Klause, Chair, Dean Beth Bilson, Q.C., Vice-Chair, Stuart Eisner, Robert Gibbings, Brent Gough, Effie Kuznir, Graeme Mitchell, Q.C. and Rick Van Beselaere.

The Ethics Committee plays several roles in the work of the Law Society of Saskatchewan. The first of these is to assess that a member has committed a breach of the ethical obligations set out in *The Code of Professional Conduct*. Although some of

these allegations are ultimately referred to the Discipline Committee for further investigation, the Ethics Committee is often able to advise a member as to whether the facts alleged disclose a possible breach of the appropriate ethical standards. This advice may give the complainants and lawyers involved, a guideline in how to approach a particular problem and amend their ways.

A second role of the Ethics Committee is to consider requests for rulings from members. Requests for rulings must actually be such and not disguised complaints. It is the policy of the Law Society that it will not deal with hypothetical situations, nor with questions regarding another member's conduct without giving the other member an opportunity to respond. The area of lawyer advertising and trust conditions are often areas in which the Ethics Committee will try and present a reasoned response.

Ethics Committee meetings are held during every Convocation and often involve a good amount of spirited debate. The composition of the Committee is meant to reflect the different areas of practice amongst the membership at large and during the past year, the Committee had private practitioners, prosecutors, acade-

mics and lay personal participate in its deliberations.

A further role of the Committee is to make recommendations to the Benchers for amendments to the Rules and to *The Code of Professional Conduct* which make the obligations of members as clear as possible. Although some of the issues placed before the Committee are ultimately dealt with as matters of discipline, the Committee regards its primary function as educational and to this end, rulings of the Committee are regularly summarized in the *Benchers' Digest* in a form which protects the anonymity of the parties. This permits members to refer to the rulings for guidance in making their ethical decisions.

The Chair and the Committee are indebted to Donna Sigmeth, the Complaints Officer of the Law Society, who routinely distills often complicated problems into easily understandable issues which are then debated by the Committee and rendered into cogent decisions. The Chair would also like to personally thank Dean Bilson for solely chairing the Committee for the first four months of 2001 when the Chair was in Australia on leave.

Finance Committee

by John McIntosh, Q.C.



The agenda of the Finance Committee meetings includes current reports of revenue and expenditures which encompass every aspect of the Law Society's work. The Committee also regularly receives statements of income from reserves invested by Greystone Managed Investments Inc. Market value of the Law Society's portfolio as of December 31, 2001 was \$5,059,026.00. These reports and statements are carefully studied and compared to budgeted estimates. In the fall the Committee also oversees in detail the drafting of a proposed budget for the following year.

Law Society funds are now divided into two parts – the Consolidated General Fund and the Special (or Defalcation) Fund. The former covers the routine activities of the

Law Society and is managed by the Co-Directors of Administration. The Special Fund meets the obligation of the Law Society to reimburse victims of a lawyer's misappropriation of funds.

In the year 2001 the Law Society suffered a major defalcation which seriously depleted the Special Fund. At the end of October, the total cost to the Law Society, including payments to victims, trustee's fees and miscellaneous expenses, was in excess of \$805,000.00. The Financial Report for the year is necessarily overshadowed by this loss. In order to restore the Special Fund in part, the Benchers approved a transfer of \$400,000.00 from the Self-Insurance Fund, which is no longer needed for its initial purpose. The Special Fund now stands at just over \$2,300,000.00.

The Benchers had budgeted in the year 2001 for a deficit. Deficit financial is accepted as an alternative to increasing the practice fee. Any such deficit would be taken from the accumulated surplus which is maintained at its present level to provide for this purpose and for any unforeseen contingencies. Return on investments in recent years has been positive and accordingly, past proposed deficits often failed to materialize.

The year 2001 was an example. As of year-end, the Consolidated General Fund showed a surplus of \$70,910.00, and not a deficit, but for the defalcation referred to earlier. This was a favourable result, in a

year of economic difficulty (and when TSE returns were down by 32%). It was due in part to continuing efficient management by Law Society staff, and a cautious approach to investing reserves, resulting in a relatively small portion of equities. Given the economic circumstances, bonds did well and Greystone produced a return on investments of 6.6% compared with the benchmark established by the Law Society of 5.4%.

The annual practice fee has remained at One Thousand and Ten (\$1,010.00) Dollars since 1990 and insurance premiums have been decreased repeatedly and significantly in recent years.

The year 2001 budget anticipated no dramatic changes. There continued to be significant expenditures for the Committee Against No Fault Insurance, increases for Libraries and the provision of services through the Internet.

The profession is again grateful to the Law Foundation, especially for its support of Library services and the Bar Admission Course and extraordinary projects which arise from time to time. This support has helped keep fees down.

Benchers strive to minimize costs and decisions about investments, the budget and indeed every financial issue, are frequently the subject of lively debate. Despite the major defalcation which dominated the year 2001, the Law Society finances remain stable. We are fortunate in our administrative staff and investment advisors.

Insurance Committee

by Michael Milani, Q.C.



During the 2001-2002 fiscal year, the Insurance Committee continued to carry out its functions relative to the Saskatchewan Lawyers' Insurance Association ("SLIA"), including those

involving Canadian Lawyers' Insurance Association ("CLIA").

SLIA continues to be in a strong financial position. That is the case, notwithstanding a very large defalcation that the Law Society was required to deal with during 2001.

The number of insurance claims made on an annual basis continues to decrease. The Committee is of the view that the efforts by Saskatchewan Legal Education Society Inc. to include loss prevention aspects in its seminars, and the system of loss prevention credits, have aided this result.

The yearly premium payable by our members is stable.

The Insurance Committee deals with a number of other matters, including:

- (a) setting rates, including premiums, deductibles and surcharges;

- (b) financial management (including the review of financial statements, budgets, accounts receivable, investments and our auditor's report); and

- (c) loss prevention.

The Insurance Committee was, during the last year, comprised of members Stuart Eisner (Vice-Chair), Alan McIntyre, Rick Van Beselaere and Lana Krogan. Mr. Eisner and I were also members of the Claims Committee (a sub-committee of the Insurance Committee). We wish to thank Mr. Neil Gabrielson, Q.C., Mr. Don Phillips and Mr. Pat Kelly, Q.C. who continue to be of a great assistance to the Claims Committee, and Mr. Gabrielson and Mr. Kelly who have also devoted significant time as our representatives to CLIA. As well, thanks go to Mr. Tom Schonhoffer for his ongoing good management.

Legislation and Policy

by Ed Komarnicki



Delivery and Marketing of Legal and Non-Legal Services

Considerable discussion took place regarding Multi-Disciplinary Partnerships (generally a partnership consisting of at least one lawyer and one non-lawyer agreeing to share profits from the delivery of legal and non-legal services) and Affiliated Law Firms (generally a law firm separate from but affiliated with another non-lawyer professional service entity for the purposes of joint marketing and delivery of their respective services to the public).

The Law Society of Upper Canada allows firms in affiliation in varying degrees to share physical office space, information systems, equipment and associated costs, provided the practices are not integrated. (The Law Society of Upper Canada Report to convocation September 21, 2000. See

also Law Society of Upper Canada Bylaws <http://www.lsuc.on.ca/services/bylaw>).

Our Committee, for now, has shelved setting out specific regulations for either Multi-Disciplinary Partnerships or Affiliated Law Firms preferring rather to let the practice evolve over time without setting a specific regulatory scheme. It is my view, however, that we as a Law Society should in time take a pro-active role in encouraging the affiliation of law firms with others in the delivery and marketing of legal and non-legal services for the benefit of both the client and the parties involved. The degree, type and nature of affiliation would be determined by the imagination of the parties and as the specific circumstances might dictate. It is my view that there would be a greater likelihood of affiliation if the participants knew in advance what the Rules were. Our present Rules provide:

Sharing of premises with non-lawyers

Rule 1616:

"A member may share premises, facilities and staff with a person who is not a member of the Society, provided that:

- (a) the non-member's reputation or activities do not jeopardize the integrity of the profession;
- (b) the business of the member and non-member are kept entirely separate; and
- (c) clients of the member are not confused as to the person with whom they are dealing.

The Ethics Committee, in a previous ruling respecting the sharing of office space, held that sharing a common reception area and telephone service, provided the member had a dedicated telephone line which was answered only on the member's behalf, would be acceptable. In that case, the member's records and word processing system was separate from the other business as well.

Limited Liability Partnerships and Corporations

Limited Liability Partnership and Incorporation Rules and Forms were passed at Convocation. To date, there have been 82 applications for incorporation, and 62 permits have been granted. To date, members have not taken any significant advantage of Limited Liability Partnerships, although we would expect interest to grow in time.

Enforcement of Judgments Act

Professor Ronald C.C. Cumming and Tamara M. Buckwold have prepared an Interim Report on Modernization of Saskatchewan Money Judgment Enforcement Law. The report states that it proposes a fully integrated, unitary system that would apply to enforcement against all types of property owned by a judgment debtor. The report was provided to the Legislation & Policy Committee for review and input.

Libraries Committee

by George Thurlow



2001 was another busy year for the libraries. The Library Committee was Chaired by George Thurlow, with Judy Bell as Vice-Chair, Michael Fisher, Brent Klause, John McIntosh, Q.C. and Rick Van Beselaere sitting as members. The Director of Libraries is Susan Baer.

The Library Committee began the year by facilitating a presentation by the CanLII project manager, Janine Miller, on the exciting new website funded by the Federation of Law Societies. Members of the Library Committee, along with various other groups, continued to encourage the Government to open the statutes of Saskatchewan to the public. The Government announced their intention to open the Queen's Printer site to the public effective October 1, 2001. While the Library Committee cannot take credit for the Government opening the statutes to the public, their decision supports the desktop philosophy of the Library Committee.

The third edition of the *Queen's Bench Rules Annotated* was published in April 2001. The library also prepared the Queen's Bench forms in an online format located on the website. Each form has been prepared in an individual file. The forms have also been compressed into a file to make downloading the complete set of forms easier for law firms. Subscribers to the *Queen's Bench Rules Annotated* third edition received access to the forms online as part of their subscription. Others may subscribe separately for access to the forms.

The library was successful in receiving four additional Law Foundation grants in 2001 as follows:

1. Digital copier/ printer

The library received a one-time grant to purchase a digital copier/printer to be used to print the large publications that the library sells, such as the *Queen's Bench Rules Annotated* and *TWL*. The library should realize savings from using the digital printer compared to sending the print jobs to commercial printers.

2. Rural Training Project

In keeping with the library's philosophy of desktop access for its members, the Library Committee was successful in receiving money to provide training to rural lawyers on using the resources available on the Law Society's website. The library staff will be conducting hands-on training in 12 rural centres. The training will be conducted in 2002. Rural lawyers will not be charged to attend. The library will offer the same training to SKLESI if they want to include it in their schedule of training for Regina and Saskatoon lawyers in late December 2002. SKLESI's course fees would then be applicable.

3. CanLII Data Conversion Project

The library is the Provincial Editor for sending the Saskatchewan judgments to CanLII. There is a sample of data presently on the CanLII site but this is a selection of cases and not all of the data. Using funding from the Law Foundation, the library will be checking all cases in the fulltext judgment database for errors, odd characters, privacy and confidentiality issues in order to convert the data to the CanLII database. The library will eventually link to the CanLII database instead of supporting its own fulltext judgment database. The project will take about 1.5 years to complete.

4. Queen's Bench Practice Manual

The Library Committee would like to place Saskatchewan precedents in the members' section. To accomplish this, the Library Committee developed a plan to update Justice Tallis' *Civil Procedure Manual* that was written in the 1970's. Late in 2001, the Library Committee

applied for a grant to help produce a printed manual with precedents. Work will begin on the manual and precedents in 2002. The project is expected to take at least two years to complete.

The work on three of the projects will occur over more than one year.

2001 was the first year of a three-year grant from SLIA to supply every library in the system with SKLESI seminar and Bar Admission Course materials. The materials are extremely useful for all lawyers and should form part of the core of the library's collection.

To help the small law firms cut costs, the library began a bulk purchase program for *Martin's Criminal Codes*. The library ordered 64 copies of *Martin's Criminal Code* for 53 Saskatchewan law firms to take advantage of the lower price for multiple copy orders. The savings were \$13.38 per code.

The Court of Appeal's sentencing digest was launched as a new database in the members' and judges' section in September 2001. The database contains links to the fulltext judgment and several fields for searching. The Court of Appeal has been supportive of the library's efforts.

The Law Society's web master wrote a website for the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan and a web page for SLIA. These were small revenue-generating projects for the library.

Dwindling revenues from traditional services such as photocopying continue to be a concern for the library's budget. The LAND project will result in a significant loss in revenue since the library operates photocopy machines at the Land Titles Offices in Regina and Saskatoon. In 2001, since the closure of the Land Titles Office in Regina was delayed by four months, the impact of the closures will not be felt until 2002.

The library began a new procedure of providing information to the complaints officer on lawyers with accounts that are more than six months overdue. The procedure is informational and is not intended as a complaint.

The library is extremely grateful for the generous support from the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan and the Law Society membership.

Professional Standards Committee

by Barry Morgan



The general mandate of the Professional Standards Committee is to deal with issues of competence/professional standards of members. Where issues of competence, as opposed to discipline, are raised and established to be well-founded, the Committee endeavors to assist those lawyers who are prepared to work with us to help them improve their practice standards. In addition, the Committee reviews general issues of competence/professional standards that may be of benefit to the membership as a whole.

The Committee in 2001 consisted of Vice-Chairs John McIntosh, Q.C., Donna Wilson, Q.C., Michael Fisher, Brian Hendrickson, George Thurlow, Ron Barsi and Brent Gough. Donna Sigmeth, Complaints Officer for the Law Society, acted as the staff liaison.

Total referrals to the Committee dropped from 59 in 2000 to 36 in 2001, involving 22 individual lawyers. Professional Standards Investigation Committees were appointed with respect to ten files involving six lawyers, and law office management reviews were conducted with respect to six lawyers. The purpose of a law office management review is to review the lawyer's practice generally, with

an eye towards making recommendations to assist the lawyer in improving his or her practice generally.

In addition to the member-specific matters referred to above, the Professional Standards Committee dealt with a number of other issues:

- The Sub-Committee on Competence concluded its work last year. This Committee was comprised of Benchers from Professional Standards, Admissions & Education and Insurance Committees, and was supplemented by representation from Saskatchewan Legal Education Society Inc. and interested members of the profession. As reported last year, the purpose of that Committee was to provide to the Society some guiding principles for the purpose of assessing competence of members. At Convocation in December, the Benchers approved a Competency Profile which has now been distributed to the membership. This profile provides an objective standard that, although not exhaustive, should be of considerable assistance to the Committee and the membership in providing a standard against which members can measure competency in general.
- The Real Estate/Real Property Sub-Committee also had considerable input from the Professional Standards Committee. Overall, that Sub-Committee has been studying the real estate practice throughout the province, and was instrumental in providing the uniform trust conditions to the membership. The Benchers have now determined that it is improper for a lawyer to impose trust conditions which would obligate the recipient of the trust condition to guarantee payment of the entire purchase price. It would likewise be improper for a lawyer to accept such trust conditions. The Benchers were not prepared to make the uniform trust conditions mandatory because there may be

situations where the uniform trust conditions may not be appropriate.

- As a number of complaints involve situations in which a client wishes to transfer a file, the Committee is working on trying to provide information for the guidance of the membership. A recent article published in the *Benchers Digest* invited input from members, and it appears that work will be ongoing for the presently-constituted Committee on various aspects of that.
- The issue of unauthorized practice continues to come before the Committee. Although we recognize that many quasi-judicial forums are designed to be informal and accessible by the public at large, without the need for specific legal training, the concern of the Committee is with those situations which arise where individuals who lack legal training purport to offer legal advice to individuals before these forums.
- The Committee maintains contact with representatives of Collaborative Lawyers of Saskatchewan Inc., with a view to the public interest in general. At present, the Law Society is not regulating the training process for lawyers earning that designation, however, that situation will be monitored on an ongoing basis.

A significant amount of work the Committee does is undertaken by non-bencher volunteers, and on behalf of the Committee as a whole, I would like to thank all of those members of our profession who have given their time and expertise in advancing the mandate of the Committee.

On a final note, the Committee acknowledges the invaluable assistance and expertise of our Complaints Officer, Donna Sigmeth, both in organizing the considerable volume of work, and helping us at and in between Convocations in dealing with various issues that come before the Committee.

Public Relations Committee

by Judy Bell



The Public Relations Committee, wanting to continue to build on the very successful Lawyer Care Initiative, spent the year reviewing the mandate, direction, role and responsibility of the Committee and the membership survey in some detail. As a result, the Committee recommended a number of significant changes to improve the focus and enhance the success of the Law Society's public relations initiatives.

The Public Relations Committee, which is an ad hoc committee of the Law Society, derives its direction from the mission statement and the strategic plan.

The Mission Statement of the Law Society which states:

"To govern the legal profession by upholding high standards of competence and integrity, ensuring the independence of the profession, advancing the administration of justice, the profession and the rule of law, all in the public interest.

And Goal #6 of the Strategic Plan - **To monitor and respond to significant events and changes involving the membership and the law.**

Upon review of these guiding principles the Committee recommends a change in the direction and the practice of the Public Relations Committee and the Law Society.

Recommendation #1

That the Committee act as an *ad hoc* committee rather than a standing Committee. Committees will be established at the call of the President when specific initiatives are to be undertaken.

Recommendation #2

That each standing Committee of the Law Society incorporates a public relations component in the mandate to ensure that all processes, procedures and communication enhances the public's perception of the Law Society and the legal profession.

Recommendation #3

That the Law Society participates actively with PLEA and the CBA who will take a lead role in public relations, lawyer image and advancement of the reputation of the legal profession. Benchers will work on committees/initiatives; provide suggestions and reasonable financial support. This will focus the Law Society on facilitating communication and improving understanding of Law Society related functions such as complaint procedures, competence etc. This will clarify the roles of the CBA (advocacy) and the Law Society (governing in the public interest). The Law Society should also support and become actively involved in special initiatives such as the millennium projects.

Recommendation #4

That the Law Society focuses on developing materials and providing assistance and education to lawyers to enhance the day-to-day public relations, which we have identified as our major public relations challenge. The reputation of lawyers depends on effective communication and ability to work collaboratively with clients in an efficient and productive manner.

The Admissions and Education Committee should work in partnership with SKLESI to develop a public relations/client satisfaction package for lawyers. Sessions should be conducted in the articling year to assist new lawyers in building public relations skills and incorporating client satisfaction processes into their practices.

The Professional Standards Committee should ensure customer satisfaction/public relations is a component which is considered during an audit and is included in recommendations for improving practice. Public Relations should be a measurable core competency (competency sub committee).

The staff should review all procedures involving the public to ensure the reputation of the Law Society is advanced in the complaint process and all communication.

The Ethics Committee should consider the public relations aspect of each complaint/issue and ensure comment is made when advising lawyers of ethical practice.

It is our assumption that the reputation of the legal profession depends largely on the day-to-day interaction with clients and colleagues and that this interaction should be the focus of the Law Society's public relations work. Advertisement and advocacy should be the prime responsibility of the CBA.

We think this approach will bring better results in the area of public relations.

The Benchers approved the Committee's recommendations with the exception of Recommendation #1. The Benchers felt strongly that a standing Committee of the Law Society should be maintained.

Thanks to the Committee members and the staff who participated in this review of the Committee's work.

2002 Committees

Admissions & Education

Barry Morgan, Chair
George Thurlow, Chair
Brent Gough, Vice-Chair
Michael Fisher
Lana Krogan
Effie Kusznr
Donna Wilson

Complainants Review

All Benchers

Discipline Executive

Barry Morgan, Chair
Rob Gibbings, Vice-Chair
Michael Fisher, Vice-Chair
Brent Gough, Vice-Chair
Lana Krogan, Vice-Chair
Donna Wilson, Vice-Chair

Equity/Diversity Committee

Beth Bilson, Chair
Donna Wilson, Vice-Chair
Rob Gibbings
Brent Klause
Effie Kusznr
Graeme Mitchell
Katherine Hillman-Weir
Hon. Judge Huculak
Hon. Madam Justice Jackson
Anil Pandila
Hon. Madam Justice Wright

Ethics

Rob Gibbings, Chair
Brent Klause, Vice-Chair
Stuart Eisner
Brian Hendrickson
Lana Krogan
Graeme Mitchell
Marty Popescul

Executive

Michael Milani
Rob Gibbings
Marty Popescul

Finance

John McIntosh, Chair
Rick Van Beselaere, Vice-Chair
Ron Barsi
Judy Bell
Alan McIntyre
Barry Morgan
John Allen

Insurance

Stuart Eisner, Chair
Alan McIntyre, Vice-Chair
Judy Bell
George Thurlow
Rick Van Beselaere
Paul Greening
Tom Schonhoffer

Legislation and Policy

Brent Klause, Chair
Beth Bilson, Vice-Chair
Ron Barsi
Stuart Eisner
Brent Gough
Ed Komarnicki
John McIntosh

Libraries

Marty Popescul, Chair
Michael Fisher, Vice-Chair
Judy Bell
Ed Komarnicki
George Thurlow
Sue Baer

Professional Standards

Ed Komarnicki, Chair
Brian Hendrickson, Vice-Chair
Beth Bilson, Vice-Chair
John McIntosh, Vice-Chair
Alan McIntyre, Vice-Chair
Graeme Mitchell, Vice-Chair
Rick Van Beselaere, Vice-Chair

Public Relations

Ron Barsi, Chair
Marty Popescul, Vice-Chair
Sue Baer
Brian Hendrickson
Effie Kusznr
Barry Morgan