

CONVOCATION AGENDA

Convocation Date: February 8, 9 and 10, 2017
Location: DoubleTree Hotel, Regina
Commencement and End Time: Wednesday, February 8th to Friday February 10th
(session on “How to Build a Better Benchers Table”
Thursday afternoon)

1. Approval of the Agenda

1.1 Apologies for Absence

Ian Wagner is unable to attend Committee meetings, but will be present for the Benchers meeting on Friday. An apology for absence was received from Gregory Walen, Q.C., Federation Council.

1.2 Confirmation of Agenda

1.3 Benchers Conflict of Interest Disclosures

1.4 Agenda Items, Committee Reports and Documents Which Are Not Open to the Public

- a. Communications Director Update
- b. IT Update
- c. Appointments (background materials)
- d. Law Foundation

2. Approval of the Minutes of December 2, 2016

2.1 Amendments

2.2 Confirmation of Minutes

2.3 Business Arising from Minutes

3. Welcome to Special Guests (awarding of Honorary Membership)

Roberta Campbell, President and Kristen Dangerfield, CEO, Law Society of Manitoba will be in attendance. A motion is required to approve Roberta Campbell as an honorary member of the Law Society of Saskatchewan.

4. President's Message

5. Strategic Planning

5.1 Work Plan

For information, attached is an updated Law Society Work Plan.

5.2 Improve Confidence in the Law Society among Stakeholders

Informational items:

- i. Communications Director Update
- ii. IT Update
- iii. Renovations Update

5.3 Improve Capacity, Competency and Knowledge of Members

- i. Innovating Regulation Update

For review, attached is a memo from Barbra Bailey summarizing the results of the self-assessment tool emailed to all Benchers and Practice Advisors on a trial basis.

Erin Kleisinger, Q.C., Tim Brown, Donna Sigmeth, Q.C., Brenda Hildebrandt, Q.C. and Barbra Bailey attended a meeting in Winnipeg on December 9th with representatives from the Law Societies of Alberta and Manitoba to discuss the next phase of this project. Attached is a copy of the Minutes from the December 2016 meeting.

- ii. Legal Resources Survey Update

The survey is in-progress and there is no update since last Convocation.

5.4 Improve Access to Legal Services

- i. Legal Technicians Project Update

There is no update since the last Convocation. Barbra Bailey will provide a brief report.

6. Society Governance

6.1 Privacy/Confidentiality Refresher

Erin Kleisinger, Q.C. will provide comments.

6.2 TRC Training – CPD Course

At December 2016 Convocation, the A & E Committee recommended that all Benchers attend a full day session scheduled March 13, 2017 in Saskatoon. To encourage Bencher participation, the cost will be covered by the Law Society and qualifies for 6.0 hours (Ethics). Attached is a brochure outlining course information, cost and registration.

If you wish to participate, please complete the [registration form](#) in the usual manner, submitting it to the CPD department (with a note that you are a Bencher and place a zero in the *Total Amount* box). A block of overnight rooms are being held at the Holiday Inn. To secure a reservation, advise the hotel that you are with the Law Society. If you require assistance, please contact Liz at llynchuk@lawsociety.sk.ca.

6.3 Bencher Self-Evaluation Survey

Results of the Bencher Evaluation Survey have been compiled and are outlined in the attached memo from Tim Brown (to follow).

6.4 “How to Build a Better Bencher Table” – post mortem

This session is scheduled for Thursday afternoon at 1:15 pm and is designed to be an open discussion about various governance models. Attached is a memo from Barbra Bailey on the topic.

6.5 Appointments

i. CPLED Board

The board consists of appointees and CEO's from all 3 prairie Provinces. Tim Brown, as Executive Director, automatically fills Tom Schonhoffer's place on the board, due to the vacancy created by his retirement.

The Executive recommends that Tom Schonhoffer, Q.C. replace Eric Neufeld on the board. The appointment of Mr. Schonhoffer requires Bencher approval and a resume from Tom Schonhoffer, Q.C. has been included for review.

ii. University of Regina Senate

The term for David Brundige, Q.C. expires June 30, 2017 and the University has enquired whether the Society wishes to reappoint him for a second term.

Mr. Brundige is willing to serve another term. Bencher approval is required.

iii. Request for Reports from Law Society Appointees

The Executive Committee decided that administration should request reports from the various committee representatives to ensure we are receiving timely reporting from each of our appointees. Tim Brown will contact each representative for such reports.

6.6 2017 Committees

i. Legal Resources

Library Review has been an *ad hoc* committee for some time and the committee made a request at December Convocation to become a standing committee and to change their name to the *Legal Resources Committee*.

For consideration, attached is a memo from Melanie Hodges Neufeld to support her position. Bencher approval is required.

ii. Equity & Diversity

The Equity and Diversity Committee existed in the past and Barbra Bailey has made a request to re-activate this committee to carry on work of the Justicia Committee, but also to deal with matters to implement the TRC recommendations and other such equity and diversity issues within the practice of law.

Bencher consideration and approval is requested to re-activate this committee as a standing committee.

6.7 Public Representative Bencher Update

Perry Erhardt, Q.C. will provide an update on the search for new Public Representatives.

6.8 Law Foundation

President Kleisinger to provide a verbal report *in-camera*.

6.9 Greystone Resolution

With the appointment of a new President and Vice-President, Greystone requires a resolution authorizing signing authorities.

7. Regulation

7.1 Rule Amendments

- i. None.

8. Reports

8.1 President's Report

8.2 Executive Director's Report

8.3 Financial Report

- i. A *draft* copy of the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016 will follow.
- ii. For review, attached is the Investment Report to December 31, 2016.

8.4 Federation Council Report

Greg Walen, Q.C. has provided a written report, as he will not be in attendance at this Convocation.

9. Committee Reports

- a. Access to Legal Services
- b. Admissions & Education
- c. Audit
- d. Conduct Investigation

- e. Discipline
- f. Equity & Diversity
- g. Ethics
- h. Executive
- i. Governance
- j. Insurance
- k. Legal Resources
- l. Professional Standards

10. Informational Items

- a. *Column: B.C. law society sidelines paralegal access-to-justice initiative*, Vancouver Sun, by Ian Mulgrew, print and online, posted January 9, 2017
- b. *Letter to the Editor: Law Society supports affordable legal services*, by Herman Van Ommen, Q.C., Vancouver Sun, print and online, posted January 16, 2017
- c. *The Transforming Profession*, Blog, Above the Law, Bloomberg Law, by Scott Mozarsky, posted January 10, 2017
- d. *California Split – Under fire from the legislature, state bar faces the possibility of being divided into two separate entities*, by Lorelei Laird, ABA Journal, Jan 2017

11. Meeting Finalization

- 11.1 Review Actions to be Taken**
- 11.2 Confirm Items under 1.4**
- 11.3 Meeting Evaluation**
- 11.4 Next Meeting - April 26, 27 and 28, 2017 in Saskatoon**
- 11.5 Motion to Adjourn**

12. In-Camera Session with Executive Director

13. In-Camera Session without Executive Director