Certified True Copy of Amendments to the Rules of the Law Society of Saskatchewan

May 1, 2020

It was moved, seconded and carried that the *Rules* of the Law Society of Saskatchewan be amended. Please note that deletions have a "line through" for identification purposes.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:

The Law Society of Saskatchewan is moving from CPLED to the new Practice Readiness Education Program (PREP), effective June 1, 2020, along with 3 other participating jurisdictions being Alberta, Manitoba and Nova Scotia.

It was important that the rules and policies that support PREP be developed and adopted across all four jurisdictions so that the operational policies and principles are as consistent as possible. The Benchers approved amendments to the Rules to update and reflect the changes caused by this transition.

CPLED will be responsible for a number of centralized functions that were formerly administrated by individual law societies. Provisions related to these functions were contained in our Law Society Rules 711 and 712; however, now that CPLED will be administering PREP, this information will be housed in PREP policies. As such, the content of Rules 711 and 712 have been removed and Rule 711 has been amended to state that students-at-law are required to register for PREP (via CPLED) as part of the Bar Admissions process. Other minor changes have also been made to the Rules to refer to the new PREP program.

Since tuition fees will now be handled by PREP, our Schedule of Fees also required amendment.

The amendments are outlined below:

PART 7 - Membership and Practice Privileges

A. Definitions

Definitions

701 In this Part:

"active member" means a person with a valid practising certificate in accordance with the Act and Rule 719:

- "Appeal Panel" means an admissions panel mentioned in sections 23 and 24 of the Act which is established to hear appeals from decisions of a Hearing Panel;
- "Bar Admission Program" means <u>Practice Readiness Education Program; Canadian Centre for Professional Legal Education Program;</u>
- "Canadian Legal Advisor" means a member admitted pursuant to Rule 817;
- "Committee" means the Competency Committee;
- "disqualified member" means a member who has been disqualified in accordance with Rule 721, 724 or 1612;
- "Executive Director" includes a person designated by the Executive Director to perform any of the duties assigned to the Executive Director in this Part;
- "former member" means a person who was a member, but who has resigned, has been appointed to the judiciary or has been disbarred;
- "Hearing Panel" means an admissions panel mentioned in sections 23 and 24 of the Act which is established to hear applications pursuant to subrule 729(4);
- "inactive member" means a person who has qualified in all respects to be admitted as a lawyer but has elected not to maintain a practising membership;
- **"Law Professor member"** means an active member permitted to practise in accordance with Rule 716:
- "licence to practise" means a licence as defined pursuant to clause 2(1)(g.1) of the Act;
- "Pro Bono member" means an active member permitted to practise in accordance with Rule 717;
- "Program" means the Bar Admission Program;
- "retired member" means a member who has retired in accordance with Rule 726;
- "Senior Life member" means a person who has been granted a senior life membership by the Benchers before December 31, 2017;
- "Student-at-law" means a person admitted to the Society pursuant to Rule 703;
- "suitability to practise" means honesty, governability, financial responsibility and respect for the rule of law and the administration of justice and "suitable to practise" has a corresponding meaning;
- "suspended member" means a person who has been suspended pursuant to Rule 1121, 1129, 1131 or 1141.

Commencement of Articles

705(1) Following admission as a Student-at-law and approval of one or more principals, but before the commencement of articles, the Student-at-law and the principal must file:

- (a) an articling agreement in a form approved by the Committee;
- (b) documents verifying that the student:
 - has successfully completed the requirements for a Bachelor's degree or a Juris Doctor from a common law faculty of law in a Canadian university approved by the Federation of Law Societies of Canada:

- (ii) holds a Certificate of Qualification issued by the National Committee on Accreditation of the Federation of Law Societies of Canada; or
- (iii) has successfully completed all courses and examinations required to obtain a Certificate of Qualification issued by the National Committee on Accreditation of the Federation of Law Societies of Canada; and
- (c) the articling fee as set out in Schedule 1.; and
- (d) confirmation of enrollment in the Bar Admission Program, pursuant to Rule 711.
- (2) The Executive Director may require a Student-at-law and principal to submit an education plan within a specified time.

Bar Admission Program

- 711 A Student-at-law must register with the Canadian Centre for Professional Legal Education for admission to the Bar Admission Program. (1) A Student-at-law must apply for admission to the Bar Admission Program at least 60 days before the commencement of the Program, by submitting:
- (a) the application form for registration in the Program;
- (b) the Bar Admission Program fee as set out in Schedule 1.
- (2) A Student-at-law may apply to the Executive Director to extend the deadline for application into the Program.
- (3) To successfully complete the Program, Students-at-Law must:
- (a) demonstrate competency in all mandatory assignments and competency evaluations including supplemental assignments, competency evaluations, and repeat modules, if any;
- (b) otherwise fulfill all of the requirements of the Program pursuant to the Program Handbook; and
- (c) comply with the policies set from time to time by the Society regarding administration of the Program.
- (4) A Student-at-law who receives a grade of "competency not yet demonstrated" on a mandatory assignment, competency evaluation, supplemental assignment, or supplemental competency evaluation may apply for a re-read in accordance with the Program Handbook.
- (5) A Student-at-law who has obtained a grade of "competency not yet demonstrated" or "incomplete" on a mandatory assignment or competency evaluation may attempt to demonstrate competency in that area by completing a supplemental assignment or competency evaluation or by repeating a module, as the case may be, subject to the limitations in subrule 712(1).
- (6) Subject to the limitations in subrule 712(2), a Student-at-law who has not demonstrated competency in all mandatory assignments and competency evaluations may repeat up to a maximum of three individual modules; otherwise, the Student-at-law must repeat the entire Program. Repetition of any module of the Program constitutes a second attempt at the Program.
- (7) The Executive Director may, upon application, approve a Student-at-law's absence from a face-to-face session or online portion of the Program.
- (8) Students-at-law are expected to conduct themselves according to the standards of the profession during the Program. The Executive Director has discretion to deal with misconduct by:
- (a) placing conditions on a Student-at-law's attendance in the Program;

- (b) imposing academic sanctions; or
- (c) suspending a Student-at-law from the Program.
- (9) The Student-at-law may appeal a suspension imposed by the Executive Director to a Hearing Panel, in which case a hearing will be conducted pursuant to Rules 730 to 741.
- (10) Students-at-Law are expected to commence articles before participating in the Program.
- (11) Any Student-at-law who has not commenced articles upon completion of five modules of the Program shall discontinue the Program.

Limitations

712(1) Notwithstanding subrule 711(6):

- (a) the maximum number of supplemental attempts on mandatory assignments is one supplemental per assignment;
- (b) the maximum number of supplemental attempts on competency evaluations is one supplemental per competency evaluation; and
- (c) the maximum number of supplemental attempts for all competency evaluations combined is a total of three; subject to any right the Student-at-law may have to repeat the Program.
- (2) A Student-at-law who has not successfully completed the Program after attempting to do so a second time:
- (a) is deemed to have demonstrated incompetence;
- (b) may not further repeat the Program; and
- (c) will have the registration as a Student-at-law terminated.

Services Performed by Students-at-Law

713(1) Subject to the Act, *The Queen's Bench Rules of Court*, the *Criminal Code*, and subrule (2), a Student-at-law may perform any legal service that the principal:

- (a) is personally competent to perform;
- (b) supervises, to the extent necessary in the circumstances; and
- (c) is satisfied that the Student-at-law is, because of the principal's supervision, competent to perform.
- (2) A Student-at-law shall not give or accept a professional undertaking.

D. Lawyers

Admission as a Lawyer Following the Bar Admission Program

714 A Student-at-law applying for admission as a lawyer must:

- (a) satisfactorily complete:
 - (i) the articling term;
 - (ii) the Bar Admission Program; and
- (b) deliver to the Executive Director:

- (i) an application for admission as a lawyer in a form approved by the Committee and pursuant to Rule 729;
- (ii) a principal's affidavit in a form approved by the Committee;
- _(iii) an affidavit of Program attendance;
- (iiiv) the oath of office;
- (iv) the lawyer admission application fee as set out in Schedule 1; and
- (vi) any other information and documents required by the Act, these Rules or requested by the Executive Director.

SCHEDULE 1 – Law Society Fees and Assessments

D. Student-at-law Fees

| Student-at-law application fee | 175 |
|---|--------------------|
| 2. Articling fee | 175 |
| 3. Articling assignment fee | 175 |
| 4. Bar Admission Program fee | 2,70 0 |
| 5. Competency Evaluation re-read fee, per competency evaluation | 100 |



CERTIFIED to be a true copy of the resolutions passed by the Benchers of the Law Society of Saskatchewan at their meeting held May 1, 2020.

TIMOTHY J. BROWN, Q.C.
Executive Director