



**The Law Society
of Manitoba**

INCORPORATED 1877 | INCORPORÉ EN 1877

AGENDA

Benchers

Date: Thursday, September 10, 2026

Time: 1:20 p.m.

Location: Elkhorn Resort, Clear Lake, Manitoba and Via Videoconference

ITEM	TOPIC	TIME (min)	SPEAKER	MATERIALS	ACTION
1.0 PRESIDENT'S WELCOME AND TREATY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT					
	The President will welcome benchers, guests and staff to the meeting.				
2.0 IN MEMORIAM					
	Bergthor Geirhard Palsson, who passed away on January 23, 2026 at the age of 81. Mr. Palsson received his call to the Bar on June 26, 1973. He began his career serving as counsel and later as Area Director for Legal Aid Manitoba in The Pas for 11 years. In 1984 Mr. Palsson pursued a career in private practice as a sole practitioner and partner in Swan River. He retired from practice in 2014. Honourable Larry William Ring, who passed away on June 14, 2026 at the age of 84. Mr. Ring received his call to the Bar on June 26, 1969. After serving as counsel in private practice for 18 years, Mr. Ring was appointed a judge of the Provincial Court of Manitoba and in 1987 was				

	appointed a Master of the Court where he continued to serve until his retirement in 2010. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1983. Robert Brent Giesbrecht, who passed away on July 22, 2026 at the age of 69. Mr. Giesbrecht received his call to the Bar on June 25, 1981. He then joined and continued to practice with the firm known today as Pitblado LLP up to the date of his death. Professor Karen Louise Busby, who passed away on July 23, 2026 at the age of 67. Professor Busby received her call to the Bar on June 24, 1982. She began her career serving as an associate with Thompson Dorfman Sweatman for two years and then as a research assistant and clerk of the Federal Court of Canada (Appeal Division) for three years. In 1987 Professor Busby joined the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Law where she taught for 35 years. In 2010 she co-founded and served as inaugural director of the University of Manitoba Centre for Human Rights Research. Professor Busby was the recipient of the Richard J. Scott Award In 2025 and was designated an Eminent Jurist of Robson Hall in 2026. Jon Michael McGuire, who passed away on July 26, 2026 at the age of 81. Mr. McGuire received his call to the Bar on June 26, 1973. He served as in house counsel to the Manitoba Securities Commission for three years and then as in house counsel to Manitoba Telephone Services Inc. until his retirement in 1998. Miriam Browne, who passed away on August 31, 2026. Ms Browne served as a lay bencher (2016 to 2024), Officer-at-Large (2022 to 2024), and as a public representative (2010 to 2016 and 2024 to 2026). She was instrumental in the development and delivery of the Law Society's Health Recovery Program, which was launched in 2022.				
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3.0 CONSENT AGENDA The Consent Agenda matters are proposed to be dealt with by unanimous consent and without debate. Benchers may seek clarification or ask questions without removing a matter from the consent agenda. Any bencher may request that a consent agenda item be moved to the regular agenda by notifying the President or Chief Executive Officer prior to the meeting.					
3.1	Minutes of June 18, 2026 Meeting	5		Attached	Approval
3.2	Report of the Complaints Investigation Committee			Attached	Information

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4.0 EXECUTIVE REPORTS					
4.1	President's Report	5	Ken Mandzuik, KC	Attached	Briefing
4.2	CEO Report	5	Leah Kosokowsky	Attached	Briefing
5.0 DISCUSSION/DECISION					
5.1	Bencher Meetings - <i>In Camera</i> Sessions	30	Ken Mandzuik, KC/ Leah Kosokowsky	Attached	Discussion/ Decision
5.2	Education and Competence Fund - Reserve and Surplus Policy	15	Leah Kosokowsky/ Sandra Alleyne	Attached	Discussion/ Decision
5.3	Ours to Protect – Manitoba Proposal	10	Leah Kosokowsky	Attached	Discussion/ Decision
5.4	Access to Justice: The Future of the Sandbox and Broader Questions Regarding Regulation	20	Alissa Schacter	Attached	Discussion/ Decision
6.0 MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS					
6.1	IT Stabilization, Modernization and Managed Services Partnership	10	Sandra Alleyne	Attached	Briefing
7.0 MONITORING REPORTS					
7.1	Manitoba Law Library		Linda Fontaine/ Leah Kosokowsky	Attached	Briefing
7.2	Statements of Operations - April 1, 2026 to July 31, 2026	10	Sandra Alleyne	Attached	Briefing
7.3	Investment Compliance - June 30, 2026	5	Sandra Alleyne	Attached	Briefing

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8.0 OTHER BUSINESS					
8.1					
9.0 FOR INFORMATION					
9.1	Media Monitor – September 2026			Attached	Information
9.2	2025-2028 Strategic Plan			Attached	Information