The Law Society of Manitoba
INCORPORATED 1877 | INCORPORÉ EN 1877

AGENDA

Benchers

Date: Thursday, September 4, 2025

Time: 1:00 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, including new benchers Jason Gisser and Nicole Hamilton.				
2.0	IN MEMORIAM				
	Morris Harvey Smeltz, KC, who passed away on May 6, 2025 at the age of 80. Mr. Smeltz received his call to the Bar on June 26, 1968. He practised in Virden and Melita, Manitoba for 14 years before relocating to Alberta where he continued to practise until 2024. Mr. Smeltz was appointed King's Counsel in 1980. **James McLaren Halley, KC**, who passed away on May 18, 2025 at the age of 89. Mr. Halley received his call to the Bar on June 6, 1966. He was a practising member of the Law Society for four years before relocating to British Columbia in 1970, where he continued to practise until 2011. Mr. Halley was appointed King's Counsel in 1986.				

	Walter Thiessen, who passed away on June 27, 2025 at the age of 86. Mr. Thiessen received his call to the Bar on June 26, 1973. He served as counsel to the Attorney General's Department and the Canadian Wheat Board before joining Falk Thiessen Warkentin in 1977. In 1983 he moved to Pitblado & Hoskin and then joined D'Arcy and Deacon LLP in 1998, where he practised up to the date of his death.				
ITEM	**TOPIC**	**TIME (min)**	**SPEAKER**	**MATERIALS**	**ACTION**
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 26, 2025 Meeting	5		Attached	Approval
3.2	Report of the Complaints Investigation Committee			Attached	Briefing
4.0 EXECUTIVE REPORTS					
4.1	President's Report	10	Kyle Dear	Attached	Briefing
4.2	CEO Report	15	Leah Kosokowsky	Attached	Briefing
4.3	2025-2028 Activity Plan Update	10	Alissa Schacter		Briefing
5.0 DISCUSSION/DECISION					
5.1	Governance Policies	5	Leah Kosokowsky	Attached	Discussion/ Decision

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6.0	MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS				
6.1	Rule of Law – Public Education Campaign	40	Leah Kosokowsky	Attached	Briefing
6.2	Access to Justice Initiative - Phase I Update	20	Leah Kosokowsky Alissa Schacter	Attached	Briefing
6.3	Western Canada Competency Profile – Implementation Project	5	Rennie Stonyk	Attached	Briefing
6.4	Pension Plan Valuation	5	Leah Kosokowsky	Attached	Briefing
6.5	CPLED Report – August 2025	5	Leah Kosokowsky	Attached	Briefing
7.0	MONITORING REPORTS				
7.1	Admissions and Membership Department	20	Rennie Stonyk	Attached	Briefing
7.2	Statements of Operations - April 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025	10	Sandra Alleyne	Attached	Briefing
7.3	Investment Compliance – June 30, 2025	10	Sandra Alleyne	Attached	Briefing
8.0	FOR INFORMATION				
8.1	Media Reports			Attached	Information
8.2	2025-2028 Strategic Plan			Attached	Information