



MINUTES

Annual Meeting of Members

Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023

Time: 12:30 pm

Location: Law Society Offices, 200 - 260 St. Mary Avenue
and Via Videoconference

Present:

Wayne Onchulenko, President	Tehani Jainarine
Gerri Wiebe, Vice President	Dr. Richard Jochelson
Sacha Paul, Past President	Leah Klassen
Miriam Browne, Officer-at-Large	Mathieu Lafreniere
Susan Boulter	Christopher Lange
Mason Broadfoot	Kenneth Mandzuik
Kyle Dear	Brian McLeod
Serena Ehrmantraut	Christian Monnin
Blair Filyk	Carmen Nedohin
Sharyne Hamm	Joëlle Pastora Sala
Kameron Hutchinson	Kelli Potter
Sarah Inness, KC	Nikhilesh Verma
Teresa Jaenen	

Guests:

Omolola Agboola	Zahra Hosseini
Jacqueline Boily	Jill Perry, KC
Audrey Bews	Garret Rea
Samantha Harvey	Mikal Sokoloski
Suzanne Holatko	Erin Wilcott

Staff Present:

Leah Kosokowsky	Leah Neufeld
Rennie Stonyk	Deirdre O'Reilly
Noelia Bernardo	Richard Porcher
Tana Christianson	Sean Rivera

Eileen Derksen
Lee-Ann Harrison
Joan Holmstrom
Colleen Malone

Alissa Schacter
Darcia Senft
Betta Wishart

1.0 PRESIDENT'S WELCOME AND TREATY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mr. Onchulenko, President, called the meeting to order at 12:35 pm and welcomed benchers, guests and staff to the meeting. Treaty territory 1 was acknowledged with gratitude.

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.1 Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Members of June 23, 2022

Motion: That the minutes of the Annual Meeting of Members of June 23, 2022 be approved as presented.

MOVED: Ms Boulter
Seconded: Mr. Lafreniere
Carried.

3.0 APPROVAL OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

3.1 Audited Financial Statements for the Practising Year Ending March 31, 2023

The audited financial statements for the practising year ending March 31, 2023 were presented to benchers by Deloitte LLP auditors, Ms Holatko and Mr. Rea. As part of the audit risk analysis, Ms Holatko asked whether benchers were aware of any actual or suspected fraud which may have occurred during the period under review. Mr. Onchulenko confirmed on behalf of the benchers that there were no concerns relating to the risk of fraud to report.

Motion: That the audited financial statements for the practising year ending March 31, 2023 be accepted as presented.

MOVED: Mr. Mandzuik
Seconded: Mr. Filyk
Carried.

Ms Holatko and Mr. Rea were excused from the meeting at 1:15 pm.

4.0 ANNUAL REPORT

4.1 Consideration of the Draft Annual Report for the Practising Year Ending March 31, 2023

Benchers received for information the draft Annual Report covering the period April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023. It was suggested that consideration be given to breaking down the demographics data of Indigenous members into Metis, First Nation and Inuit categories. Benchers were advised that the Indigenous Advisory Committee had previously concluded that collection of this specific data was not necessary. However, given the period of time that has since passed, it was agreed that it would be appropriate for the committee to again consider this issue.

5.0 APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

5.1 Appointment of Auditors for the 2023/2024 Practising Year

Benchers were reminded that at the 2022 annual meeting of members they had directed that the executive explore the retention of a new firm to conduct the Society's annual audit as more than a decade had passed since a different firm had conducted a review of the Society's financial records. Benchers were advised that three audit proposals had been received in response to a request for proposals circulated to the larger audit firms in Manitoba. After considering each proposal and having spoken with representatives from each firm, the executive was satisfied that BDO Canada LLP – Winnipeg was well positioned to conduct the Society's audit for the 2023/2024 fiscal period.

Mr. McLeod joined the meeting at 1:20 pm.

Motion: That BDO Canada LLP - Winnipeg be appointed as the auditors for the Law Society of Manitoba for the 2023/2024 fiscal year.

MOVED: Mr. Lafreniere
Seconded: Ms Klassen
Carried.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the President adjourned the meeting at 1:25 pm.