



Communiqué

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

WAYNE ONCHULENKO

Independence

There are two topics we often do not discuss, likely because we take them for granted: first, the independence of judges and lawyers; and secondly, the work we do at the Law Society promoting access to justice in furtherance of our mandate to protect the public. They are related.

Independence of Judges

During the pandemic we did not swear-in judges in public. Public swearing-in ceremonies are important and this year, the practice has returned. Such ceremonies are not only a time for families of appointees to be proud and for colleagues to honour the new judges' accomplishments, they also are important occasions in the functioning of our legal system. Through the remarks delivered by all three levels of court, legal representatives of the federal and provincial departments of justice, representatives from the Faculty of Law, the Manitoba Bar Association and the Law Society of Manitoba, the public observes the different, independent and essential roles played by the government, the legal profession and the courts in a properly functioning democracy. Essential to this function is the independence not only of the profession but the independence of the judiciary and having government representatives in attendance validates that independence. It has been good to see our new provincial Minister of Justice in regular attendance and most recently, the Premier of Manitoba.

Independence of Lawyers

In British Columbia, the government is contemplating a change to how lawyers will be regulated. While change can bring about efficiencies and improvements, law societies across Canada are carefully following the developments in British Columbia so that we may take steps, if necessary, to prevent the undermining of the independence of lawyers, as self-regulation is essential to the independence of the legal profession.

What's New

BECOME A BENCHER

**ELIMINATION OF
INACTIVE CATEGORY AND
NON-PRACTISING FEE**

**TO TAKE A FILE OR
NOT TAKE A FILE**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT continued...

As noted by Estey, J. in *Canada (AG) v. the Law Society of British Columbia* [1982] 2 SCR at pp. 335-36:

"The independence of the Bar from the state in all its pervasive manifestations is one of the hallmarks of a free society. Consequently, regulation of these members of the law profession by the state must, so far as by human ingenuity it can be so designed, be free from state interference, in the political sense, with the delivery of services to the individual citizens in the state, particularly in fields of public and criminal law. The public interest in a free society knows no area more sensitive than the independence, impartiality and availability to the general public of the members of the Bar and through those members, legal advice and services generally."

If the legal profession is regulated by non-lawyers, or by government, independence can be undermined and with it the Law Society's ability to protect the public, to maintain the public's trust and the ability to challenge state actions.

Access to Justice

It is a well-known fact that many Manitobans are unable to access information and services to address their legal needs. By facilitating greater access to justice, we help validate why the legal profession should be self-regulated. Here are some of the things we do.

The Law Society has established a regulatory "[sandbox](#)" which is a five-year pilot project where non-lawyers may be approved to fill in gaps in legal services. The Society also is in the early stages of developing a trusted intermediaries training program where front line workers of social welfare organizations can gain legal knowledge and information to better support their clients. The Society also is collaborating on the development of a "pre-law" education program at the University College of the North to encourage more law school applications from our northern residents. Through a soon to be expanded definition of "[civil society organization](#)", the Law Society is encouraging the delivery of pro bono legal services to clients of social welfare organizations as well as pro bono law clinics.

While achieving better access to justice for Canadians is a monumental task, the Law Society is taking many steps to tackle the issue.

OTHER UPDATES**Meeting with the Minister of Justice Canada**

At the request of the Minister of Justice for Canada, I participated in a round table discussion regarding diversity in the Judiciary. The Minister emphasized his commitment to making timely appointments to the bench in Manitoba and noted that currently, there is only one vacancy in the family division. The Minister suggested to the meeting participants that they encourage qualified candidates to apply, indicating that having a large pool of quality candidates allows for a more diverse bench. The Minister also asked participants to encourage the Judicial Advisory Committee to meet frequently to review applications.

The Bencher Election

A strong, committed and diverse bencher table creates an effective regulator. The 2024 bencher election and appointment process is underway. Please consider running or applying for a seat at the bencher table.



CEO'S REPORT

LEAH KOSOKOWSKY



The 2024-2025 budget was presented to the benchers, which included an exceptionally high and unprecedented statutory grant from the Manitoba Law Foundation...

The benchers last met on February 8, 2024 where they received a PowerPoint presentation from Liza Worthington, the Chief Executive Officer of CPLED, regarding the progress that has been made in the development of PREP over the past five years. The benchers learned that, under the current model of delivery, students can either complete a nine-month program concurrent with serving their articles or they can complete a three-month condensed program, in advance of articling, where the students will devote all of their time to their studies. Ms Worthington reported that the pass rates of students who have been admitted through the National Committee on Accreditation are consistently lower than students who obtained a Canadian common law degree, particularly those who complete PREP without articles. CPLED has, and continues, to employ methods to assist NCA students, one of which is the very successful Legal Research and Writing Program that is offered as a stand-alone program for students who intend to obtain their Certificate of Qualification through the National Committee on Accreditation.

The benchers received a report on the [Part-Time Practising Fees Pilot Program](#) as the Law Society is nearing the conclusion of the two-year pilot project. Due to somewhat limited data that has been generated, the benchers directed that the pilot program be extended for an additional three years and that the Law Society conduct a survey of the profession in the third and final year. The benchers also directed the Law Society to create an "exceptional circumstances" category to be included in the balance of the pilot program, which category will encompass lawyers who, due to a serious health issue, are unable to practise full-time. The parameters of such a category will be decided upon by the benchers at a future meeting.

CEO REPORT continued...

The 2024-2025 budget was presented to the benchers, which included an exceptionally high and unprecedented statutory grant from the Manitoba Law Foundation due to the high rates of interest earned on lawyers' trust accounts in the prior year. Pursuant to s. 90(1) of *The Legal Profession Act*, the statutory grant must be used for educational purposes and for expenses incurred to ensure compliance by lawyers with s. 50(2) of the *Act*. Accordingly, the benchers were apprised of education initiatives that are being pursued for the profession and for the public. A portion of the funds are reserved for future educational endeavours and will factor into the benchers' strategic planning over the course of 2024.

Finally, the benchers struck a special committee to review proposed amendments to the competence section of the national Model Code of Professional Conduct. The committee will return to the benchers with recommendations at a future date.

Law Society

HEALTH RECOVERY PROGRAM

Focusing on support, rehabilitation and recovery.

[Learn More](#)

A positive alternative.



NEW CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
Sandra Alleyne

We are pleased to announce that Sandra Allyne has stepped into the Chief Financial Officer role when Colleen Malone retired in early February. Some of you might be familiar with Sandra. She has been an auditor with the Law Society for 12 years. You might have met her in person at your office during an audit or there's a good chance she has assisted you with your financial questions over the phone. Sandra's eager to take on this new role and fill the very big shoes that Colleen left behind.

BECOME A BENCHER

Interested in the Work of the Law Society?

The bi-annual Law Society bencher election process will be underway shortly and we encourage all practising members to consider seeking election or appointment to the bencher table. Election day is Wednesday, May 1, 2024.

To be eligible for election or appointment, a member of the Law Society must be a practising lawyer on the 1st Monday in March. Each bencher sits for a two year term, for a maximum of four terms (eight years). Nominations for election are due no later than Monday, April 1, 2024.

If you are interested and would like to learn more about the bencher experience, please contact any one of the following or any other sitting bencher. We would all be pleased to speak with you.

Leah Kosokowsky
Chief Executive Officer
204-926-2030
lkosokowsky@lawsociety.mb.ca

Wayne Onchulenko
President
204-957-6402
wonchulenko@lgtlc.ca

Gerri Wiebe, K.C.
Vice President
204-560-5206
gerri.wiebe@gwslaw.ca

For more information:

BECOME A BENCHER

The Bencher Experience - A Behind the Scenes Chat

Elected benchers Mathieu Lafreniere for the *Eastern Electoral District* and Sharyne Hamm for the *Winnipeg Electoral District*, share **What they found to be the most rewarding part of the bencher experience.**



CHECK OUT THE LATEST CHANGE!

Elimination of Inactive Membership Category and Non-Practising Fee

The Law Society has made Rule changes that eliminate the inactive membership category as well as the non-practising fee effective April 1, 2024.

As of that date, all inactive members will have their status automatically changed to non-practising.

Current non-practising members will continue to have access to the Member Portal and will receive Law Society communications for a period of three years.



[LEARN MORE](#)

Law Society news items, including past editions of the Communiqué, are also publicly available on the Law Society website.

14TH ANNUAL LAWYERS FOR LITERACY

Saturday, March 16, 2024

Mulvey School

750 Wolseley Avenue

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Join in for a rewarding day of reading for an hour or more and make a positive difference with children in the West Broadway Youth Outreach Program.

Past Participant Beti Kelem shares how much fun she has getting to read and laugh with lawyers.

"IT IS THE GREATEST DAY OF THE YEAR EVERRRRRR"

Beti learned to read at West Broadway Youth Outreach and at five years old, read her first book publicly at Lawyers for Literacy over four years ago. She remains one of WBYO's top three readers ever since!

Register with Debbie Rossol at drossol@lawsociety.mb.ca or 204-926-2048.

Download a [Pledge form](#) and start raising funds.

Sponsor one of your colleagues.

Donate Online through [CanadaHelps](#) by selecting "Lawyers for Literacy" as the "Fund Your Donation Will Support".





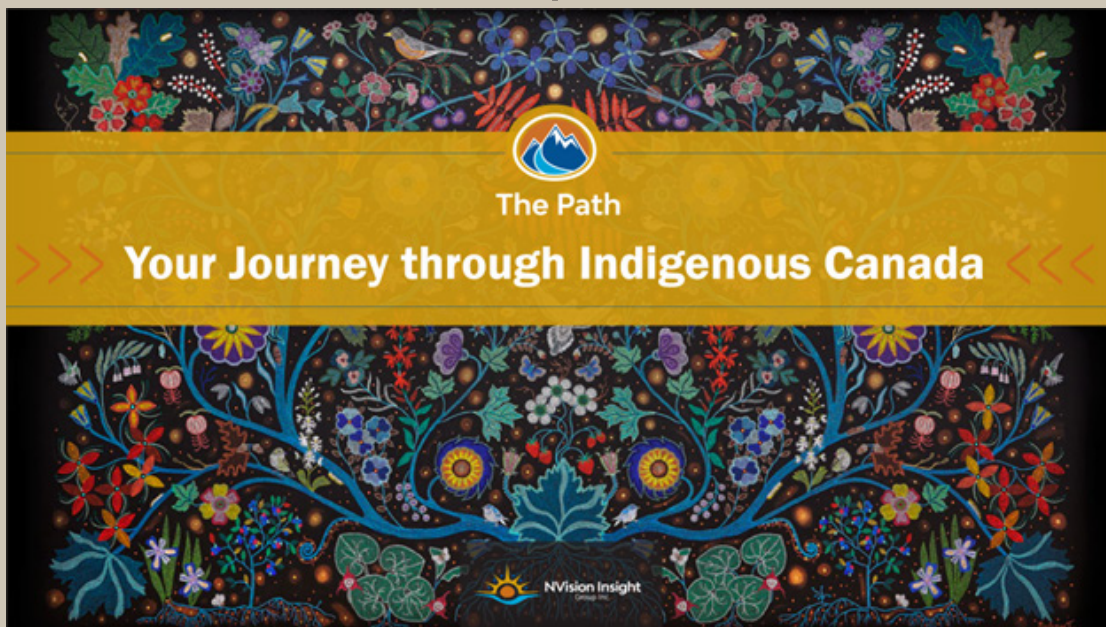
New Login Process

In February 2024, accessing your account will become more intuitive



Scan to learn more

Time to Fill the Gap in Our Education



Access The Path Today ~ Eligible for a total of 7 CPD and EPPM hours, this mandatory training is available to practising members at no cost. [Learn more.](#)

VERIFYING THE IDENTITY OF CLIENTS WHO DO NOT HAVE PHOTO ID

TANA CHRISTIANSON, Director - Insurance



There are some clients who do NOT have valid government issued photo ID such as a driver's license or passport. For example, an elderly client selling the family home or their interest in the family business.

So, how do you verify the ID of someone who can't flash you their government issued photo ID? You can use two pieces of information ("trusted documents") from a reliable source.

2

This two-piece method requires some advance planning because the two trusted documents must be original – not a photocopy or electronic image like a digital photograph, screen capture or scanned copy. Most clients will not be carrying these documents in their wallets and will need to be instructed to either bring them with them, deliver or snail mail them to you.

HOW DOES THIS TWO-PIECE INFORMATION/TRUST DOCUMENT METHOD WORK?

What is a Reliable Source?

The two trusted documents have to come from a reliable source. Federal, provincial or municipal governments, crown corporations, utilities (hydro, gas, telecommunications companies) or financial institutions all qualify as a “reliable source.”

What Information **MUST** the Two Trusted Documents from the Reliable Source Include?

The trusted documents must include:

- 1 the client’s name and address; or
- 2 the client’s name and date of birth; or
- 3 information that contains the client’s name or confirms they have a deposit account or credit card or other loan with a financial institution.

Examples of acceptable trusted documents include:

- CPP statement
- vehicle registration
- municipal property tax assessment
- CRA issued communication including Notice of Assessment, GST Credit Statement, T4
- utility bills
- foreign travel visa
- record of employment
- government benefits statement
- birth certificate
- permanent resident card
- citizenship certificate
- marriage certificate
- credit card statement
- mortgage statement
- bank statement
- registered investment account statements (e.g. RRSP, TFSA or RRIF)
- insurance documents (e.g. home, auto or life)*

TO TAKE A FILE OR NOT TAKE A FILE

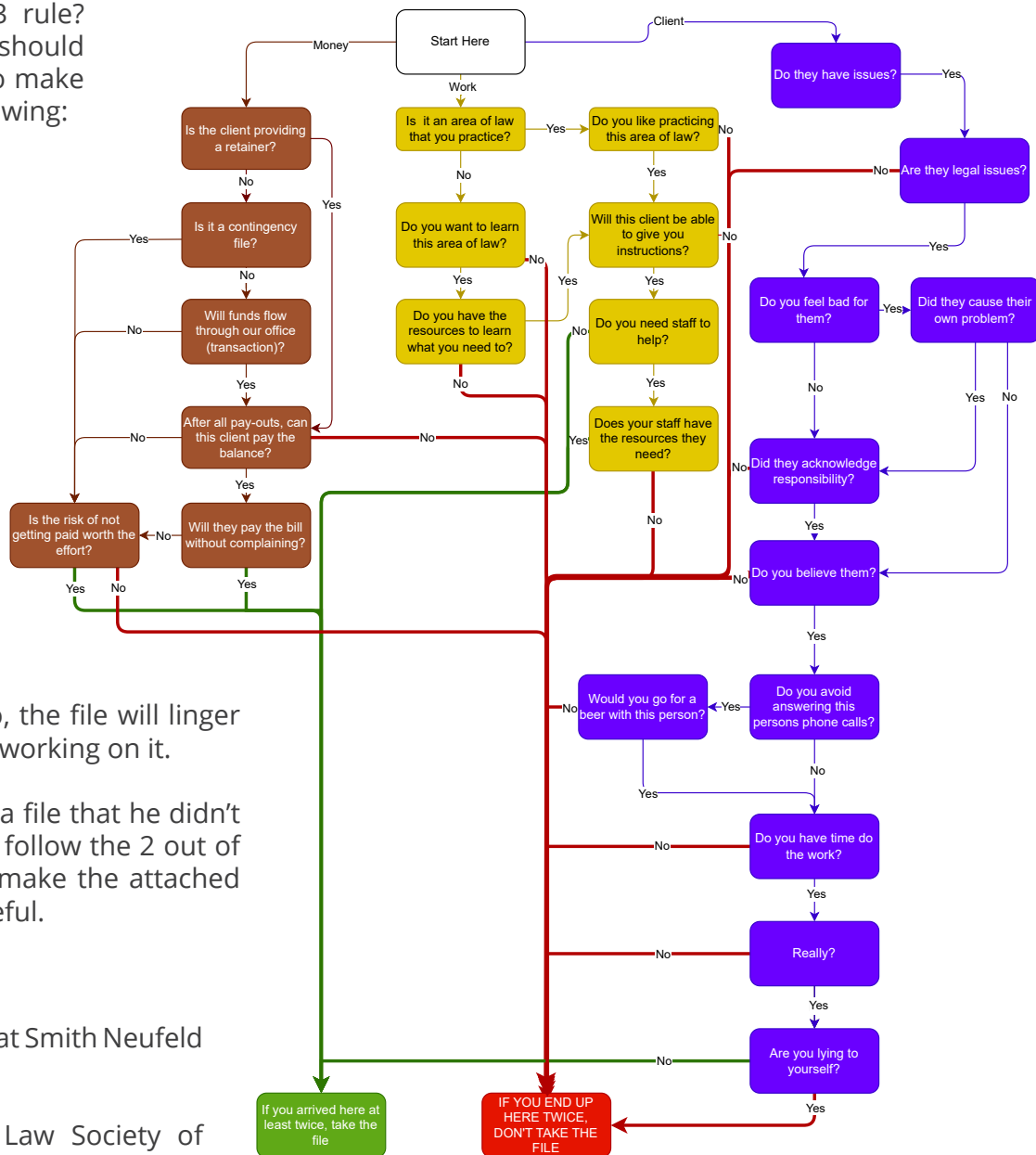
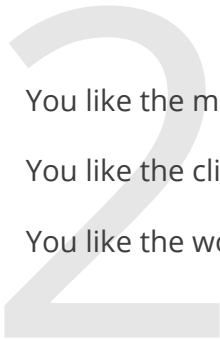
TANA CHRISTIANSON, Director - Insurance

Before Samuel Teichroew went to law school, he met with Barney Christianson to talk about rural legal practice.

Samuel is now an associate with Smith Neufeld Jodoin LLP. He says that a few of the things Barney told him have stuck with him, including, Barney's "2 out of 3" rule.

What is Barney's 2 out of 3 rule? When determining if you should take a file or not, you need to make sure you have two of the following:

1. You like the money.
2. You like the client.
3. You like the work.



If you don't have at least two, the file will linger because you're going to hate working on it.

Samuel says he recently had a file that he didn't like and he realized he didn't follow the 2 out of 3 rule. That inspired him to make the attached graphic. You might find it useful.

Samuel Teichroew is a lawyer at Smith Neufeld Jodoin LLP.

Barney Christianson is the Law Society of Manitoba's [Practice Management Advisor](#).

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT QUICK TIPS *To Make Practice (and Life) Easier*

TANA CHRISTIANSON, Director - Insurance



Barney Christianson is the Practice Management Advisor to the Law Society of Manitoba. In that role, he provides free and confidential practice management advice to all Manitoba lawyers - from articling students coming into practice to lawyers considering retiring from practice or leaving to try something new. Barney monitors practice management materials from all across North America and picks out ones worth sharing.

Here's what Barney has to say this month:

LATEST LEGAL TRENDS REPORT FOR SOLOS

Clio is one hell of a marketing company. It's the Red Bull of law office software. A useful result of its focus on marketing is its annual lawyer and client survey. Bob Ambrogi summarizes some of the pros and cons of solo practice and provides a link to the full survey in [The Good and the Bad of Solo Practice, Per Clio's Latest Legal Trends Report for Solos](#).

ABANDONING FREE CONSULTATIONS

There is no axiom in sociology that "people value what they pay for", but there should be. The author of [5 Reasons You Should Give Up Free Consultations](#) suggests you give up the nonsense of a free consultation.

FILTERS IN EXCEL

If you are using Excel, [How to Use Filters in Microsoft Excel](#) may make your life more bearable.

BALANCING TECHNOLOGY

No doubt the pace we are expected to keep has become a true burden. Technology has contributed to that burden. However, there are ways to use technology to ease some of that burden. Learn how in this article titled [Technology and Well-Being: Cause, Cure or Control?](#)

OPENING YOUR OWN OFFICE

Thinking of leaving your current practising arrangement and opening your own office? Check out [Opening Your Own Law Office](#), a practice management tool written for Manitoba lawyers.



If you are looking for advice on how to make your practice more efficient and less aggravating, contact Barney directly at 204-857-7851 or by email at barney.christianson@gmail.com. And remember, Barney's practice management advice is free and confidential.



Are You Always Right?



Confirmation bias – looking for, and finding, the bits of information that support our view. Lawyers do this for a living, don't we? Sure, we also look for the facts and law that are contrary, but really, when we are talking with other lawyers (or anyone), how open are we to listening when they have an opposite view? How do we react?

How emotionally attached are we to our viewpoint? Do we feel personally threatened when someone does not agree with us at work or in our personal life? Do we feel we must criticize or dismiss them, to defend our own view?

Can lawyers sometimes be jerks? (Yes)

According to the *Greater Good Science Centre Magazine, Berkeley University, California*, **intellectual humility**, “the degree to which people recognize their beliefs might be wrong”, is one of ten pillars to support your health and happiness. Research suggests that it can help you learn new things, have better relationships, and be a better leader. People with intellectual humility tend to be more empathetic, compassionate and able to build bridges with ideological opponents in all areas.

Here are four things to try to cultivate intellectual humility:

1 Put a little space between your perception and your response

Several studies found that people who journaled about themselves in 3rd person became much more humble when reflecting on challenges they had with other people. Observe your reaction before actually reacting.

2 Curiosity

Ask yourself if you have all the information, or if it is possible that the other person has some that you do not. Are you making assumptions? How do our own biases affect our view? Consider how you arrived at this view, and where the information came from. Then, ask these questions about the other person.

3 Embrace Mistakes

We can benefit more from mistakes when we acknowledge and correct them than by avoiding making mistakes at all costs. Admitting you were wrong takes humility and strength. People will generally respond well when someone can take responsibility for their errors.

4 Awe

We can get caught up in our thoughts and be the centre of our universe. When we turn our attention outwards, we see we are just a small part of the vastness of this immense and complex world. Take an "Awe Walk". Look around. Stars in the sky. Tall green forests. An incredible sunset reflecting on a beautiful building. How many wondrous things can you find?

Be patient as you try to observe how you think about things or respond in a new way.

To explore this topic further, check out this article from Greater Good at Berkeley: [How Mindfulness Can Help You Become More Humble](#)

You matter. We want to help.

For Confidential Peer Support
Contact us:

 lawyerstrong-mb.ca

 support@lawyerstrong-mb.ca

 204-201-1764

 Suicide Prevention: 1-877-322-3019



Manitoba Articling Recruitment Guidelines

For the 2025-2026 Articling Year



These Guidelines are prepared pursuant to Law Society Rule 5-6.1 and concern the recruitment of articling students for positions within the City of Winnipeg. They set out the procedures for the recruitment of articling students in Winnipeg and were developed by representatives of the Manitoba Bar Association (MBA), the Law Society of Manitoba, the Manitoba Law Students Association and the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Law. **All Winnipeg firms and organizations engaged in the recruitment of articling students for the 2025-2026 articling year, and all candidates applying to such employers, are expected to adhere to the guidelines and dates set out below. Workplaces outside of Winnipeg who also wish to participate in this recruitment may do so by submitting their firm profile in accordance with the guidelines. By doing so, they will be required to follow the deadlines and procedures set out in these guidelines.**

Guidelines & Important Dates to Remember for Firms, Organizations and Students

Firm Profiles

Employers are to provide profiles containing information about the firm's practice, office facilities, the number of articling positions available, the documents required for the application (resume, cover letter, copies of transcripts, etc.), the contact person, address to which applications must be sent, and all other pertinent information to both:

1. The Faculty of Law, Career Development Office, via email: lisa.griffin@umanitoba.ca (phone: 204-474-7932); and
2. The Law Society of Manitoba, via email: lehnes@lawsociety.mb.ca (phone: 204-926-2042)

no later than 4:00 p.m., Monday, March 18, 2024. All postings received by this date will be accessible to Robson Hall students through the Faculty of Law Career Development website on Friday, March 22, 2024 by noon and to all others from the Law Society of Manitoba by emailing a request to lehnes@lawsociety.mb.ca. Profiles received after Monday, March 18, 2024 will be posted as quickly as possible.

Application Deadline

The application deadline for students to submit resumes, cover letters and transcripts directly to the employers for 2025-2026 articling positions shall be **12:00 (noon), Tuesday, May 14, 2024.**

Interview Call Day

Interview offers may only be made between the hours of **10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Friday, May 24, 2024**. No communication regarding interviews may be made prior to this time. Students must respond to an offer of an interview within this same timeframe

Recruitment Suspension Period

Between **4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 24, 2024 and 8:00 a.m. on Monday, June 3, 2024**, neither students nor employers should be involved in any recruitment activity, including but not limited to participating in open houses, firm tours, or similar activities directed at encouraging employment, conducting of interviews, and discussing offers of employment.

Communications and interactions between employers and students related to a summer job placement, and not concerning an articling placement, are not prohibited in this context.

Interview Period

8:00 a.m., Monday, June 3, 2024, to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 11, 2024. Interviews shall not be conducted prior to 8:00 a.m. on Monday, June 3, 2024. Firms and organizations may interview students at a location of their choosing. Both the Law Society of Manitoba and the Faculty of Law may provide space upon request. Please contact lehnes@lawsociety.mb.ca or lisa.griffin@umanitoba.ca if you require either.



No Contact Period

There is to be no contact between students and employers between the end of the interview period and the earliest offer date.

Eligible Students

Approved principals or their delegates may make an offer of an articling position only to students who have, at a minimum, completed their second year of law studies. Only students who have, or will have obtained an LL.B., J.D. or CQ from the National Committee of Accreditation on or prior to June 30, 2024 will be eligible to apply for 2025-2026 articling positions

Earliest Offer Date

Approved principals or their delegates may **not** make an offer of an articling position in Winnipeg for the 2024-2025 articling term **before 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 12, 2024**. Offers made on June 12, 2024 must remain open until 10:00 a.m. of the following morning. Offers made on June 12, 2024 can be accepted or rejected by students anytime before 10:00 a.m. on June 13, but must be responded to by that time. *Offers made **after** June 13, 2024 must be responded to no later than 10:00 a.m. the following morning.*

Content of Offers

At the time the offer is made, employers must provide students with the name and contact information of the person to whom the student should communicate acceptance or rejection of the offer. Employers are also encouraged to include pertinent information with the offer, such as the proposed start date, salary and benefits.

Communication of Acceptance/Rejection

As a courtesy to employers and fellow students, students shall deal with offers received as soon as reasonably possible. Once a student has accepted an offer from one employer, the student must promptly communicate his/her rejection to any other employer that has extended an offer to the student. Failure to promptly communicate rejection of an offer prejudices the offering employer, as well as fellow students to whom subsequent offers may be made.

Accepted Offers

Once an offer has been accepted, neither the employer nor the student may withdraw from the agreement without the permission of the Chief Executive Officer of the Law Society of Manitoba.

Offer of Articling Positions after June 13, 2024

Employers may contact students directly to fill any unfilled articling positions. Offers made after June 13, 2024 must remain open until 10:00 a.m. the following day, unless accepted or rejected by the student.



Communication of Results

Once an offer has been accepted, the student and the employer **must immediately** advise **both**:

1. Lisa Griffin; Career Development, University of Manitoba, Faculty of Law by email: lisa.griffin@umanitoba.ca or phone: 204-474-7932); and
2. Lisa Ehnes, The Law Society of Manitoba, by email: lehnes@lawsociety.mb.ca or phone: 204-926-2042)

These [recruitment guidelines](#) for workplaces looking to hire articling students to start in the spring/summer of 2024 are also posted on our website.

Timeline Summary	
Employer profiles/postings due at both Robson Hall and the Law Society of Manitoba	4:00 p.m. CDT, Monday, March 18, 2024
Profiles/postings available to students	12:00 p.m. (noon) CDT, Friday, March 22, 2024
Application deadline for students	12:00 p.m. (noon) CDT, Tuesday, May 14, 2024
Interview offers	Between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. CDT, Friday, May 24, 2024
Recruitment suspension period	4:00 p.m. CDT, Friday, May 24, 2024 to 8:00 a.m. CDT, Monday, June 3 2024
Interview period	8:00 a.m., Monday, June 3, 2024 to 5:00 p.m. CDT, Tuesday, June 11, 2024
No contact period	5:00 p.m. CDT, Tuesday, June 11, 2024 to 2:00 p.m. CDT, Wednesday, June 12, 2024
Earliest offer date	No earlier than Wednesday, June 12, 2024 at 2:00 pm CDT



CALL TO THE BAR

The 2024 Mass Call to the Bar Ceremony is scheduled to take place on

Thursday, June 20, 2024
9:00 a.m.
RBC Convention Centre

The A. Montague Israels, QC Prize will be awarded at this ceremony.

Details about the prize, information on how to submit a nomination and past recipients can be found [here](#).

PREP and ARTICLING - *Important Dates*

With more than one offering of the bar admission program now provided each year, and to assist with managing schedules, below you will find an overview of some of the important dates for articling students according to the applicable PREP offering.

	Accelerated PREP 2023	June 2023 Intake
March 2024	Capstone Assessment re-attempts	Capstone Assessment weeks begin
April 2024	Applications for Israels' Prize due	Applications for Israels' Prize due
May 2024	Capstone Re-Attempts results issued	Capstone Re-Attempts results issued
June 20, 2024	Call to the Bar	Call to the Bar

Please note that CPLED no longer allows students who are unsuccessful on portions of the Capstone Assessment to attempt a supplemental evaluation on only a segment of the Capstone Assessment. To successfully complete PREP, a student must successfully complete the full Capstone Assessment.

If a student is unsuccessful on the March Capstone Assessment, the next opportunity to attempt a Capstone Assessment will be in September 2024.

Students must successfully complete both PREP and their required articling period to be eligible to be called to the Bar and to participate in the Call Ceremony in June.

Students and their principals are reminded to make sure that they have sufficient time to prepare for their Capstone Assessment in March and that there are no other office duties assigned during their Capstone Assessment week.

Annual Member Report

Complete Online

Due April 1, 2024

This year's Annual Member Report is now available in the [Member Portal](#) and is due April 1, 2024. It combines your annual report on your continuing professional development activities in 2023 and your Law Corporation renewal (for those that have them). For trust account supervisors, there are additional reporting requirements. This report must be filed by every lawyer who had practising status in Manitoba at any time in 2023.

Completing and submitting this report is mandatory. If you have provided us with your business email address, then you should have already received notification by email that your personalized online report is ready for completion. The email notification would also have contained your user ID and login instructions on how to access the Member Portal for easy completion and filing of the report. If you have not received your email notification but believe you should have, first check your spam or junk mail folder. To avoid Law Society emails mistakenly being flagged as spam, add the email address no_reply@lawsociety.mb.ca to your contacts/safe sender list.

If you are still unable to locate this notice in your inbox, then please email us at membership@lawsociety.mb.ca or by phone at 204-942-5571. If you have not provided the Law Society with your business email address, please do so immediately.



2024-2025 Practising Fee RENEWAL

April 1, 2024

An email was sent on March 1st with instructions on how to retrieve your personalized invoice in the

Member's Portal



If you did not receive your email or invoice, you can contact **Carol Hiebert**



chiebert@lawsociety.mb.ca



204-926-2046



Payment Due:
April 1, 2024

DO YOU QUALIFY AS A PART-TIME PRACTITIONER?

FIND OUT HERE

If you were approved as a part-time practitioner last year, you will be required to apply for part-time status again for the upcoming 2024-2025 practising year. To re-apply, sign in to the **Member's Portal**.

Questions? Contact Alissa Schacter



aschacter@lawsociety.mb.ca



204-926-2029

PAYMENT METHODS

Four convenient ways to pay:

 Cheque

Online E-transfer
Online Bill Payment

through your financial institution

 CAFT Customer Automated Funds Transfer



Visit our website for details and instructions on each [payment method](#).



FAST TRACK PHOTO ID RENEWAL

YOUR FAST TRACK PHOTO ID CARD EXPIRES ON MARCH 31ST

You will have a 30-day grace period where your 2023-2024 card will allow you access to the Law Courts. After April 30th, Manitoba Sherriff's Officers will confiscate any expired cards.



RENEWAL IS FAST AND EASY!

If you had a card last year, the renewal is included on your personalized invoice in the [Member's Portal](#). Cards are automatically issued when your practising fees and fast track payment are received.

For assistance, contact SHARI LOUGH



slough@lawsociety.mb.ca



204-942-5571



**The Law Society
of Manitoba**

INCORPORATED 1877 | INCORPORÉ EN 1877

NOTICE OF DISBARMENT

Jonathan Lee Black-Branch

By resolution of a Panel of the Discipline Committee of The Law Society of Manitoba, **JONATHAN LEE BLACK-BRANCH** was found guilty of professional misconduct and conduct unbecoming a lawyer. He was ordered to be disbarred and his name struck from the Rolls of Barristers and Solicitors of the Society.

February 21, 2024

Leah Kosokowsky
Chief Executive Officer

Issued: February 21, 2024



NOTICE OF SUSPENSION

Lauren Nicole Fourmeaux Clemens

Pursuant to a resolution of a Panel of the Discipline Committee of The Law Society of Manitoba, **LAUREN NICOLE FOURMEAUX CLEMENS** was found guilty of conduct unbecoming a lawyer and is suspended from the practice of law for a period of one (1) year, commencing on February 7, 2024 through to and including February 6, 2025.

March 4, 2024

Leah Kosokowsky
Chief Executive Officer

Issued: March 4, 2024

Membership Changes

Inactive to Practising:

February 23, 2024 Matthew S. Deleau

Non-Practising to Practising:

February 1, 2024	Catherine V. Bator
February 9, 2024	Patrick O. Durham
February 29, 2024	Susan D. Billinkoff
March 1, 2024	Rashidul Islam

Practising to Inactive:

January 26, 2024	Alero P. Bovi
January 31, 2024	Kelly P. Land
February 5, 2024	Alexander Barnes
February 26, 2024	Karlie A. Stewin

Practising to Non-Practising:

January 26, 2024	Chioma V. Nwachukwu
February 17, 2024	Stephen A. Porco
February 17, 2024	Lianni Nair
February 28, 2024	Rishi G. Bharath

New Admissions:

March 1, 2024 Michael Petrini

Update your membership information by using the [Member Forms](#) located in the For Lawyers, Membership Services section of the Law Society's website.

IN MEMORIAM

James Ramsay, who passed away on September 29, 2023. Following a lengthy career with Legal Aid Manitoba, Mr. Ramsay joined the Law Society as Office Manager. He served in this position from 2007 until his retirement in 2014.

Roxroy Oscar Osborne West, who passed away on December 16, 2023 at the age of 71. Mr. West received his call to the Bar on June 28, 1990. He practised as an associate with two Winnipeg firms for 11 years and then as a sole practitioner in St. Boniface for 17 years. Mr. West retired from practice in 2019.

Paul Herbert Bromley, who passed away on January 4, 2024 at the age of 89. Mr. Bromley received his call to the Bar on June 17, 1959. He practised as a partner with Pollock Nurgitz Bromley Myers for 34 years and then as a sole practitioner for 11 years. Mr. Bromley retired from practice in 2004.

Arnold Arthur Goodman, who passed away on January 21, 2024 at the age of 74. Mr. Goodman received his call to the Bar on September 14, 1989. He practised for eight years as a sole practitioner and associate in several firms located in Winnipeg, Selkirk and Flin Flon and also practised in Saskatchewan. Mr. Goodman retired from practice in 2007.

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NOTICE OF BENCHERS' MEETING

The next regular meeting of the benchers of the Law Society of Manitoba will be held on:

 **Thursday, March 21, 2024**

 **The Law Society offices
and via videoconference**

 **12:30 p.m.**

Members of the Law Society are encouraged to attend and participate in the deliberations of the governing body.



**The dates of future meetings
of the benchers are as follows:**

- May 16, 2024
- June 27, 2024

If you wish to attend a meeting via videoconference, please contact Pat Bourbonnais at pbourbonnais@lawsociety.mb.ca.

Agenda and meeting minutes are published on the website [here](#).

Health and Wellness Resource Library

Resources from the Law Society, Manitoba Blue Cross and other Partner Organizations

Digital Wellness Platform from Manitoba Blue Cross

www.wellness.mb.bluecross.ca

From one central location you can now access:

- Counselling support
- Relationship learning program
- Yoga and meditation program
- Sleep assessment
- Budgeting and financial self-directed courses
- And much more

For curated content, tips and resources to help YOU, start by taking a quick 10-minute [wellness assessment](#).



Learn More

MANITOBA COURTS
COURT OF KING'S BENCH

NOTICE

RE: LUNCH MEETING – CIVIL LITIGATION FEEDBACK

As we have done in the past, Chief Justice Joyal and I are in the process of arranging lunch meetings with civil litigation lawyers who appear in the Court of King's Bench General Division.

The lunch meetings will be information gathering sessions in which we will hear concerns and suggestions that may help the court provide better judicial services. The topics raised in previous such meetings have included the one-judge model, our scheduling protocols, the pre-trial and case management process, motions, JADRs, remote appearances, and reserve judgments. In our view, this is an opportunity for lawyers to raise ideas, however novel they may be, for our consideration and is an opportunity for the exchange of information.

We are in the process of communicating with law firms to schedule these meetings. With the objective of being as inclusive as possible, in the event that you practice at a firm that has not been contacted about a lunch meeting, as we have in the past, we invite you to attend a lunch meeting at the Law Society of Manitoba classroom (260-200 St. Mary Ave, Winnipeg) on **May 13, 2024 at 12 noon**.

In the event you would like to attend, please RSVP by email before Friday, May 10th to sections@cba.mb.ca. Lunch will be provided at a cost of \$12 per attendee. Please advise of any dietary restrictions at the time of registration.

The Honourable Shane I. Perlmutter
Associate Chief Justice
Court of King's Bench of Manitoba

GREAT LEXPECTATIONS

KAREN SAWATZKY, Director - Legal Resources

GEORGE ROY, Legal Information Professional

NEW RESOURCES AVAILABLE FROM THE MANITOBA LAW LIBRARY

The library is excited to announce that changes are coming to some of our online resources. Emond's Criminal Law Series is a popular collection of criminal law texts that has been available through the Member's Portal. Starting in June, this series will be available on the vLex platform, which will allow for integration with vLex's expansive legal database. For more information, see the article from vLex, "[vLex Partners with Emond Publishing to Enhance Legal Research in Canada](#)".

Once this integration goes through, members will be able to access both the Irwin Law series, "Essentials of Canadian Law" and the 15 volume Criminal Law Series on the same platform. More details will follow as it rolls out.



We also want to point out a new guide available to help members of the Criminal Bar use Rangefindr.ca. In order to help users better understand sentencing calculations, Rangefindr has developed a detailed **Pre-Sentence Custody Credit Guide** for

pre-sentence custody and release. This guide is only available for Rangefindr subscribers, so you will have to sign into the Library Resources behind the Member's Portal to download it.

As always, please contact us for any of your legal research and information needs either by phone or email.

Great Library

Monday to Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

For assistance, please contact us by phone 204-945-1958
or email at library@lawsociety.mb.ca.

Anti-Money Laundering Learning Program

Anti-Money Laundering

Free resource from the Federation of Law Societies of Canada includes 5 modules, eligible for CPD and EPPM hours ~ Available in [French](#) and [English](#). Additional resources available on the Law Society of Manitoba's Education Centre, [Anti-Money Laundering page](#).

MANITOBA BLUE CROSS



Free and **confidential** service available 24 hours per day, seven days a week to support you with a variety of well-being concerns such as:

- **Financial Stress**
- **Relationships**
- **Career Transitions**
- **Mental Health**
- **Addictions**



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Winnipeg: 204-786-8880
Toll-Free: 1-800-590-5553
Hearing-Impaired Line: 204-775-0586

CPD Education Centre

Upcoming Programs

Register	Apr 25	Task & Deadline Management
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Register	May 15	Organize Your Digital Matter File
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Register	May 9	POAs, HCDs and Committeeship
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Register	May 29	Documenting & Mapping Your Process
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Save the Date	Jun 7	Northern Bar (The Pas, MB)
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CPD on Demand for Productivity

Take advantage of our fresh new CPD on Demand titles from Paul Unger's productivity series. Available on [CPDonline](#).

Here's what people are saying:

“ He did an excellent job of walking through the info while keeping me entirely focused, very impressive.

Material was so rich and well explained and clearly presented. This presenter is fabulous. I always learn so much from his presentations. ”

How To Beat Procrastination

Time & Distraction Management

Email Management

The Path – A Reminder

Many members have already completed [The Path](#) since the official launch last October. If you haven't had the opportunity, we remind you that you can take this mandatory course at your own pace.

Don't forget, The Path is available to you at no-cost and is eligible for seven CPD hours, all of which are considered EPPM.



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Upcoming IMPORTANT DATES At a Glance



MARCH 16

LAWYERS FOR LITERACY

Mulvey School - 750 Wolseley Avenue
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

MARCH 18

FIRM PROFILE DEADLINE

by 4:00 p.m.
for 2025-2026 Articling Recruitment

MARCH 21

BENCHER MEETING

12:30 p.m.

APRIL 1

FILING DEADLINE

2023 Annual Member Report

APRIL 1

FILING DEADLINE

2023 Mandatory Continuing
Prof. Development (MCPD) Report

APRIL 1

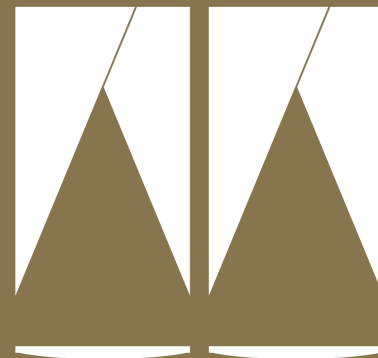
RENEWAL DEADLINE

Law Corporation Permit

APRIL 1

PAYMENT DUE

2024-2025 Practising Fees



PRESIDENT

Wayne Onchulenko

VICE PRESIDENT

Gerri Wiebe, K.C.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Leah Kosokowsky

DEPUTY CEO

Rennie Stonyk

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lawsociety.mb.ca

