

Communiqué

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

GERRI WIEBE, K.C.

What's New

**NEW EXECUTIVE and
Bencher By-Election**

**PREP Sessions
and Fall Pilot Project**

**CPD Education
Centre**

They say time flies when you're having fun. If that's true, then this last year has been the most fun of my life. My presidency has been a whirlwind of travel and networking, strategic planning, governing, and putting out fires (mostly of my own creation). It has been one of the greatest honours of my life to be able to serve the public interest and the profession in this capacity, and I will be forever grateful for all that I have learned, and the friends that I have made through my involvement with the Law Society of Manitoba.

Going into my term, I fully expected wellness to be my main focus. The well-being of the profession has long been a priority of mine, and my goal was to continue to advance lawyer wellness while I was president. While wellness is still a huge priority to me, life had other plans for my time and energy.

The world as we know it has changed. Not just shifted - it's been turned on its head. The things that we learned as "foundational principles" in law school, that we have taken for granted as being untouchable institutions, are under direct attack. The rule of law is suddenly vulnerable, and it's nothing short of terrifying.

As many readers will know, I learned this lesson personally, when a colleague of mine was singled out for sanction because of his association to me, which made him distasteful because of my representation of a particularly ill-reputed client. Thankfully, professional and public backlash was intense and immediate, and the necessity of the independence of the legal profession was ultimately affirmed. This was, however, one small victory in a much larger sea of attacks.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT continued...

In the U.S., law firms that dared to challenge the Trump administration are under direct attack. Many are making the “Sophie’s choice” to settle with the administration in order to stay in business. While facially understandable, the notion that private law firms can be threatened with governmental sanction because they dare to challenge the president or his policies is alarming, and, rather than fighting the constitutionality of this government action, many law firms are setting a dangerous precedent by legitimizing these attacks through the acknowledgment of wrongdoing and making “reparations”.

In Canada, the attacks on the rule of law are also evident. The regulation of the legal profession is in the process of being fundamentally changed in B.C, justice funding and the parameters of lawyer regulation are under attack in Alberta, the Ontario Premier openly states his intention to appoint judges who will advance his “tough on crime” agenda, and the federal government is proposing to sanction immigration lawyers across the country if they do not comply with federal regulations that may compromise solicitor/client privilege, to name a few.

The role of lawyers in a democracy has never been so evident, or important. There’s a reason why Dick the Butcher wanted to “kill all the lawyers” in Shakespeare’s *King Henry VI*. He wanted to overthrow the government, and knew for his coup to prevail, he had to “eradicate society of the defenders of justice who could stop his revolt” (that language is from academic commentary on the play).

So, if there is one legacy that I can leave, one lesson that I can impart, it’s that we have to do more than just remain vigilant. We have to challenge the erosion of the rule of law wherever it is threatened. We have to be the front line against authoritarianism. We have to be the “defenders of justice who stop the revolt.”

***Take the Next Step
Connect with***



All contacts are confidential



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CEO'S REPORT LEAH KOSOKOWSKY

“
... the benchers approved
of the 2025-2028
strategic plan, in which
they have directed the
Law Society to focus
its energies on five key
areas...”

New Executive Officers

I am very pleased to report that the benchers held their executive officers election at the March 20, 2025 bencher meeting at which time Kyle Dear was elected to be the Law Society's President for the 2025-2026 year and Ken Mandzuik, KC, was elected to the role of Vice-President. They will join Gerri Wiebe, KC (Past President) and Carmen Nedohin, who will begin the second year of her term as Officer-at-Large. I am very much looking forward to working with the new executive officers as we commence the work of the 2025-2028 Strategic Plan.

Networking Events

The Law Society was pleased to partner with the MBA and the Manitoba Indigenous Law Students Association to host the Building Connections Event for practising lawyers, Indigenous law students and articling students. Both the participation and engagement were fantastic.

Shortly thereafter, the Law Society once again partnered with the MBA to host a networking event for Internationally Trained Lawyers and those seeking to practise their profession in Manitoba. We were very pleased to have Deborah Wolfe, the Executive Director of the National Committee on Accreditation, attend the event and bring greetings on behalf of the Federation of Law Societies of Canada.

Rule of Law and Trade Barriers

In response to the tariffs recently imposed on Canada by the United States government, Canadian provinces are at various stages of enacting legislation to remove trade barriers between provinces. Given that Canada's law societies already have removed inter-provincial barriers to practice law through the National Mobility Agreement, we have

CEO REPORT continued...

been actively working to persuade the government of Manitoba that no change is required for the legal profession, particularly in light of the fact that law societies have removed such barriers in a manner that ensures appropriate regulatory oversight and insurance coverage.

Bencher Business

At the bencher meeting of March 20th, the benchers approved of the 2025-2028 Strategic Plan, in which they have directed the Law Society to focus its energies on five key areas: (1) improving and enhancing the competence of Manitoba lawyers, with some emphasis on supporting internationally trained lawyers, along with solo and small firm practitioners; (2) improving Manitoban's access to justice, with a particular initiative aimed at building a coalition of services across the province; (3) promoting and improving equity, diversity and inclusion for Indigenous and racialized lawyers; (4) building public and stakeholder confidence, with emphasis on the rule of law and the role of an independent regulator, as well as continuing to build relationships with our rural and northern communities; and (5) promoting and supporting a culture of well-being in the legal profession.

The development of an activity plan to achieve the strategic goals is well underway and will be presented to the benchers at their June meeting.

In furtherance of the electronic banking initiative, the benchers approved, in principle, Law Society rule amendments which will enable firms to move funds out of trust electronically, with appropriate systems in place and the requisite approval from the Law Society. The amendments are in translation and will be presented to the benchers in English and French for final approval at a future bencher meeting.



Notice of Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Law Society of Manitoba will be held on **Thursday, June 26, 2025** at **12:30 p.m.** at the Law Society offices and via videoconference.

All members are invited to attend.

Please contact Pat Bourbonnais at pbourbonnais@lawsociety.mb.ca to receive the videoconference information.

New Executive Members

Congratulations to **Kyle Dear** who will take over from Gerri Wiebe, KC as President when the benchers next meet on May 15, 2025. Kyle practises with Taylor McCaffrey LLP in Winnipeg. We extend warm congratulations to her as our 105th president. She will be joined by the newly elected Vice President, **Ken Mandzuik, KC** who practises with Tradition Law LLP. They will commence their official duties at the May 2025 bencher meeting.



Kyle Dear, President



Ken Mandzuik, KC, Vice President

BENCHER BY-ELECTION

Winnipeg Electoral District

A by-election will be held on
Wednesday, June 11, 2025
in order to fill two vacant bencher positions in the
City of Winnipeg Electoral District.



Candidate Nominations Due: Friday, May 16, 2025

Online Voting Opens: Wednesday, May 21, 2025

Voting Closes: Tuesday, June 10, 2025

Full Details Available Here

INTERNATIONALLY TRAINED LAWYERS NETWORKING EVENT

What an incredible evening! In partnership with the Manitoba Bar Association, the Law Society of Manitoba was thrilled to sponsor the second annual Internationally Trained Lawyers (ITL) Section Networking Event on Wednesday, April 16th. Huge congratulations to MBA Section co-chairs Chidera Anadi-Mbanefo and Ayodeji Olunlade for bringing this fantastic vision to life! The energy in the room was electric, with over 50 attendees coming together to share stories, build connections, and celebrate community. A big thank you as well to our inspiring guest speakers - Law Society President Gerri Wiebe, KC, Deborah Wolfe, Jessica Schofield, Dr. Amar Koday, Greg Evans, and Ranhulu (Nisa) Karunaratne - who brought insight and inspiration to the evening. Here's to many more vibrant ITL events ahead!



THANK YOU!



A huge shoutout to the amazing legal community for showing up and generously donating their time and support to the 15th Annual Read-a-Thon on Saturday, March 15th with the children of West Broadway Youth Outreach. The event was filled with joy and enthusiasm as both WBYO kids and participating lawyers shared a fantastic morning of reading together.

Together we raised
\$7,017.25
for 2025!

Photos on pages 12 and 13
in this issue!

VIEW VIDEO



Lawyers for Literacy 2025



BUILDING CONNECTIONS



A Night of Mentorship and Momentum

The Law Society of Manitoba, in partnership with the Manitoba Bar Association's Aboriginal Law Section, the Indigenous Lawyers' Forum, and the Manitoba Indigenous Law Students Association (MILSA), hosted the seventh annual **Building Connections** networking event on Wednesday, March 26th.

The evening brought together Indigenous law and articling students with lawyers from a wide range of practice areas for a lively, high-energy event filled with conversation, laughter, and community-building. The event featured speed networking rounds and informal socializing - all in a welcoming, supportive environment.

A huge thanks to our event partners, volunteers, and participants for making this year's event another resounding success!





Starting Friday, May 30, 2025, multi-factor authentication (MFA) will be mandatory to access Manitoba's Land Titles Registry and Personal Property Registry.

MFA enhances account security by requiring a second verification step in addition to your password. This helps prevent unauthorized access and ensures that only you can log in.

Not sure how to get started?

Visit [Teranet Manitoba's website](#) for detailed instructions on how to set up MFA.

MBA SOGIC SECTION

PRIDE WEEK NETWORKING EVENT

MAY 29, 2025
5:00 - 7:00 PM

THE LAW SOCIETY OF
MANITOBA
200-260 ST MARY AVE

Celebrate the legal achievements of LGBTQ+ lawyers and activists in promoting equality and human rights. Open to all legal professionals, including allies.

[LEARN MORE](#)



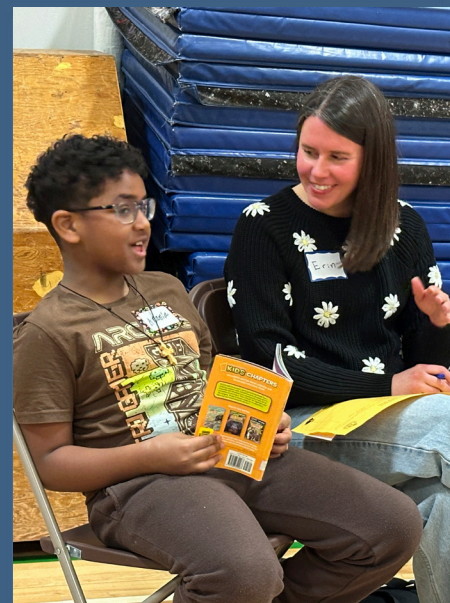
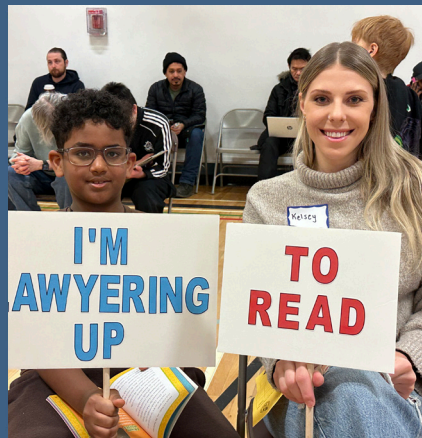
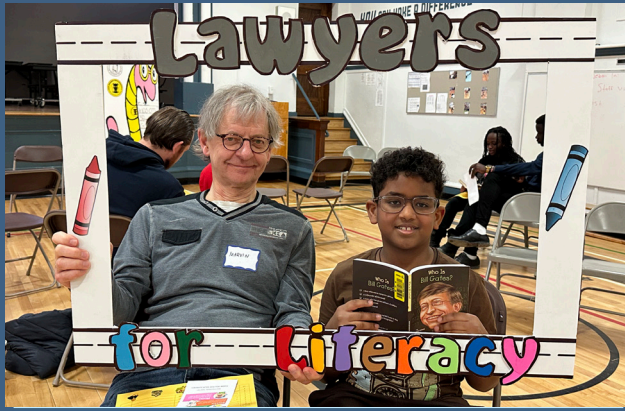
The Law Society
of Manitoba

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Lawyers for Literacy 2025





A morning of
fun, smiles and
stories!





WELL-BEING WEEK IN LAW

MAY 5-9, 2025

May 5th to 9th is Well-Being Week in Law, a week in which we encourage and celebrate actions that we can take every day to boost our happiness and health. Each day focuses on an aspect of health. This year's theme is the **Social RX: Boosting Well-Being with Connection**.

We love this, because connection is part of our mission to create a connected, supportive and thriving legal community in Manitoba. We thrive when we feel we belong. **Relationships** help to **protect** us from some of the negative effects of high pressure/ demanding jobs. Loneliness on the other hand, is a feeling of disconnection. One can feel isolated when surrounded by people if a sense of inclusion and belonging is missing.

Professor Lawrence Krieger's 2015 study of what makes lawyers happy found that relationships, autonomy and overall **connectedness** – with one's values and with others, were overwhelmingly present in happy thriving legal professionals. Factors with the **minimal** impact on happiness were one's position, – ie, partnerships and income. Check out this **podcast** where Prof. Krieger talks about choosing a joyful life in law at: [Path To Well-Being In Law – Episode 15: Larry Krieger](#)

To learn more about, or register for one of the free online events offered by the Institute for Well-Being In Law (IWIL): [WELL-BEING WEEK IN LAW \(2025\) - Institute For Well-Being In Law](#)

See next page for list of days and activities.

Contact us:



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EVENT SCHEDULE

05

MONDAY

STAY STRONG

Invite folks at work to go for a walk at lunchtime! If you are in Winnipeg, the [Monday Walk Club](#) meets at The Forks at noon, under the canopy for a 30-minute walk. It is fun to get to know others outside of a work setting. All members of the legal community are welcome!

06

TUESDAY

ALIGN

Connect with the calm and peace within. Join us at noon for a [guided meditation session](#), led by one of our mindful lawyer volunteers. Email support@lawyerstrong-mb.ca to learn more.

07

WEDNESDAY

ENGAGE AND GROW

Check out [Wednesday's link](#) for suggestions to boost health and happiness in life at the office. Put down the cell phone and try spotting the character strengths in those around you, and tell them you appreciate them. See the [Strengths-Spotting Worksheet](#) to identify your own strengths (60% of us do not recognize our strengths), and learn to use them to achieve your goals.

08

THURSDAY

SOCIAL WELL-BEING

Spend time doing something for others.

09

FRIDAY

FEELING WELL

Research shows that belonging to groups that matter to us is part of the social RX for Well-Being. Lean into your natural interests that bring you satisfaction and take steps towards joining a new group, maybe with a buddy!

PROTECT CLIENT INFORMATION WHEN TAKING YOUR PHONE OR LAPTOP ACROSS BORDERS

It's Critical to Plan Ahead

TANA CHRISTIANSON, Director - Insurance



The Government of Canada recently issued a [travel advisory for Canadians travelling to the US](#). Among other things, it reminds Canadians that US border agents are entitled to search travellers' phones, laptops or tablets. They do not have to provide you a reason when requesting a password to open your device.

If you refuse to provide the password, there are consequences. [US Customs and Border Protection \(CBP\) may refuse entry, detain you or seize your device](#). If your device is seized, agents have the authority to conduct a manual search of content easily accessible on your device. If there is suspicion of illegal activity, searches involving external equipment to analyze and copy your device's content can be conducted.

Your phone or laptop could hold a lot of information about your personal life. It is up to you how much of your own personal information you are prepared to reveal at the border. This includes social media posts, and emails and texts that are critical of the US. Articles in various news outlets have reported some foreign nationals have been denied entry because of the traveller's perceived anti-American sentiments. You also don't want border agents to see other personal and confidential items that you may have saved to your phone, for example your child's birth certificate, your saved credit card information, or that racy novel you planned to read on vacation. But that is your choice.

But if you have **client information** on your devices, it is your professional obligation to uphold solicitor client privilege. You **MUST** protect your clients' information.

How Can You Protect Your Clients' Confidential Information at a Border Search?

1. Limit the amount of digital information you carry across the border.
2. Leave unnecessary devices at home or consider travelling with temporary devices like an old phone, wiped and reactivated, or "burner" phone.
3. Delete unnecessary personal information, including cookies, cache and browsing history and remember to empty your trash!
4. Delete your email app on your phone and instead access email through a browser. This makes accessing email on your phone less convenient for you but tougher for others to access client confidential material.
5. Before crossing the border, put your device in airplane or flight mode so remote files don't get downloaded accidentally. Border agents can't look through your email inboxes or cloud storage if your device is 'offline' in airplane or flight mode.
6. Delete confidential or sensitive data or move it to secure cloud storage to download again once you've crossed the border. Don't forget to delete items you might have saved to your desktop.
7. Log out of any apps and/or browsers that give easy access to your cloud-based data, your VPN or 'tunnel' and any other online accounts. By temporarily removing your easy access, you can better protect client data. Remove any user names and passwords or other credentials you may have saved. Encryption, secure passwords and multi-factor authentication, which we urge you to adopt to protect you from cyber criminals, will not stop the border agent from accessing your device initially, but if your device is seized, access to data will be more difficult.
8. Get help from your information technology advisor or IT professional about how to secure your devices and protect privileged information you need to carry across the border.

In 2018, the Federation of Law Societies of Canada published [*Crossing the Border with Electronic Devices: What Canadian Legal Professionals Should Know*](#). While that report was triggered by a series of cases where lawyers' devices were searched by Canadian customs agents, it is worth rereading.

Ultimately, it is up to you to make decisions about what personal information you are prepared to be seen by border agents, but if you have **client information** on your devices, it is your professional obligation to take appropriate steps to protect solicitor client privilege.

IS \$1 MILLION ENOUGH PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR YOUR PRACTICE?

TANA CHRISTIANSON, Director - Insurance



Your Mandatory \$1 Million Coverage

You, like every insured lawyer in the province of Manitoba, have **mandatory** insurance coverage of \$1 million per claim with an annual aggregate limit of \$2 million. The \$1 million per claim limit means if a disgruntled former client presents a claim against you between July 1, 2024 and July 1, 2025 you would have coverage for up to \$1 million for that claim (defence and damages combined). The annual aggregate means if multiple unhappy clients each make separate claims against you between July 1, 2024 and July 1, 2025, you have a total of \$2 million to cover the damage and defence costs on those claims. Once you hit that \$2 million cap, you are on your own.

CLIA Excess Insurance

You should consider these limits of insurance when you decide how much is enough coverage for your practice. You can purchase excess insurance that covers your firm (whether you are in a solo practice or a large firm) for claims that might arise after your \$1 million per claim and \$2 million aggregate limits have been exhausted. Excess coverage is available through the Law Society's own reciprocal, the Canadian Lawyers Insurance Association (CLIA), in amounts from \$ 1 million to \$35 million. The online applications will be available after May 5, 2025 on the [CLIA website](#). Or contact CLIA directly at service@clia.ca for more information.

Claims Made

Like most excess liability policies, CLIA's excess liability program is "**Claims Made**" meaning that you will need to have insurance in place when a claim is made and not when the work was done. It is **not** transaction-based coverage. You can't buy insurance specific to a particular file or deal. Firms that do not renew their excess insurance will not have coverage for losses reported after the expiry date of the policy. So, if you purchased coverage with a specific transaction in mind, that coverage will need to be renewed as long as the possibility of a claim arising out of that transaction still exists.

Excess insurance is different from mandatory coverage in this respect. On your mandatory coverage, as long as you had insurance at the date of the alleged error, you are covered for that claim even if, when the claim is presented, you are no longer insured, practising or alive. Mandatory coverage stays with you forever. Excess insurance does not.

Seamless Coverage

Purchasing your excess liability coverage through CLIA provides you with seamless coverage. Your initial report to Professional Liability Claims Fund staff here in Manitoba is deemed a report to CLIA. So, if a claim that initially looked like it wasn't going anywhere suddenly and unexpectedly takes a bad turn some years later, you will still be covered, because it was considered reported to CLIA at day one.



Coverage in Retirement

Lawyers contemplating retirement often call us about continuing coverage. If you were insured under the mandatory coverage when you did the work, you continue to have \$1 million mandatory coverage even if you are no longer practising when a claim is made. But, depending on your practice before you retired, you may need more than that \$1 million mandatory limit of coverage to give you comfort in your retirement. CLIA is able to provide retired inactive lawyers with excess insurance at a discounted rate. Check with your accountant, but for most retired lawyers, that premium would also be tax deductible.

Things to Consider When Making Your Decision to Buy Excess Insurance:

1 Does your client require it?

Some clients require proof of excess insurance. Lenders may require insurance at a level that matches a loan advance. Some government agencies or large corporations may require proof of a minimum level of insurance that is higher than the mandatory \$1 million as a condition of the retainer. You can buy excess from CLIA now or at any time throughout the year, but remember, coverage purchased with a single transaction in mind should be renewed as long as the possibility of a claim relating to that transaction still exists.

2 Do you or your partners practise in an area of law with a higher risk of many claims or of larger claims?

Some areas of law consistently result in more frequent claims. For instance, real estate files account for the highest number of claims by volume, but these are usually less costly per claim. Missed limitations or dismissals for delay on medical malpractice or personal injury files, or securities or tax law related claims arise less frequently, but damages tend to be more severe. When you are deciding whether to purchase excess insurance and in what amount, consider whether your practice and that of your partners and associates falls into areas of law that are high risk for frequent claims or high risk for severity.

3 Do you and members of your firm handle large dollar value files?

You should also assess the potential quantum of damages arising out of potential claims. Valuable estates, farm transactions and family law files where the value of assets is high all have the potential to develop into large claims. Personal injury, including medical malpractice, has potentially high value if limitations are missed or claims are dismissed for delay. If you and your firm seldom deal with matters where more than \$500,000 is at issue, you may not feel such a pressing need. However, large claims continue to arise out of unforeseen areas of law. For instance, ten years ago, we did not expect to see drafting and executing wills as a top five area of law for frequency of claims. We also did not expect ineffective counsel at first instance to be a common ground of appeal in criminal law, with resulting claims.

4 Could large defence expenses erode your \$1 million coverage?

You should also remember that it is not only the indemnity or damage payment which might ultimately erode the limits of your insurance. Defence costs eat into your coverage limits. There have been claims in Canada where costs incurred in defending lawyers in complex legal malpractice suits have exceeded \$1 million, with the mandatory limit totally gone before damages are paid. We have had several professional liability files in Manitoba where legal defence costs were more than \$700,000 (preliminary motions, multiple parties, expensive experts and then lengthy trials, appeals and leave applications all add up). The cost of defending these claims dramatically decreases the amount left to satisfy damage awards.

5 Do you have a large tolerance for personal risk?

In the United States, only two states require lawyers to have any professional liability insurance. Lawyers there 'creditor proof' themselves against claims by clients and hope that they don't make any mistakes. Consider whether you are comfortable being personally exposed to a claim that exceeds \$1 million.

The Decision is Yours

You are the only one who can assess your firm's exposure to a claim or series of claims that might take you over the mandatory \$1 million limit or the annual \$2 million aggregate limit. Take some time and consider your exposure.

Cyber Insurance

If you would like more information on this year's CLIA Excess Program, excess coverage for retired lawyers, or Cyber insurance, please contact CLIA by email at service@clia.ca. **The [online application](#) to apply for Voluntary Insurance products can be completed any time after May 5, 2025 by going to the [CLIA website](#).** You can also buy excess insurance at any time during the year on a pro-rated basis.



Application Process

To learn more about CLIA's excess E&O and cyber coverages please check out the [CLIA website](#). If you have any questions, please contact CLIA at service@clia.ca.



CLIA Hosts Free Well-Being Webinar Series

May 12–16

CLIA is offering a free, week-long webinar series focused on mental health and wellness in the legal profession. Sessions will be held daily from 1:00–2:00 PM CST and are available in both English and French. Space is limited - register in advance for each session to secure your spot.

The series kicks off on Monday, May 12th, with an interactive webinar: Concrete Strategies for Positive Change (Perfectionism), featuring speaker Bena Stock.

For full details on the series, including speakers, topics, and registration links, visit the [CLIA blog](#).

SPEAK NOW OR FOREVER HOLD YOUR PEACE

TANA CHRISTIANSON, Director of Insurance

Your current professional liability insurance policy will expire July 1, 2025 at 12.01 a.m. So, if you are aware of an issue which might possibly, at some point in the future, give rise to an insurance claim against you, report it now.

Why Report Potential Claims Now?

Your new policy only covers claims if you had no knowledge of the claim or potential claim before July 1, 2025 and could not have reasonably foreseen that a claim might arise. That means if you want coverage and are aware of a problem or have a file keeping you up at night, report before July 1, 2025 when the current policy runs out.

What Should You Report?

Report all files that have the potential to turn into a claim where:

- 1) You think you might have made an error or are concerned about a file;
or,
- 2) Someone is making allegations (even unmeritorious allegations) against you.

How Should You Report?

Call or e-mail

Tana Christianson	204-926-2011	e-mail: tchristianson@lawsociety.mb.ca
Kate Craton	204-926-2012	e-mail: kcraton@lawsociety.mb.ca
Will Barnstead	204-926-2013	e-mail: wbarnstead@lawsociety.mb.ca

Or, go to the [Member Portal](#) on the Law Society website and fill in and submit a Claim Report form. If you would like a form mailed or e-mailed to you, contact:

Kristin Forbister	204-926-2047	e-mail: kforbister@lawsociety.mb.ca
Heather Vanrobaeys	204-926-2036	e-mail: hvanrobaeys@lawsociety.mb.ca

Late reporting can compromise your insurance coverage,
so speak now or forever hold your peace.

CALL TO THE BAR



The 2025 Mass Call to the Bar Ceremony is scheduled to take place on

Friday, June 20, 2025
9:00 a.m.
RBC Convention Centre

The 2025 Mass Call to the Bar Ceremony is scheduled to take place at the RBC Convention Centre on Friday, June 20 at 9:00 a.m. Members of the profession are encouraged to attend and welcome our newest members.

Tickets can be obtained by contacting Lisa Ehnes by e-mail at lehnes@lawsociety.mb.ca. If you would like to be a part of the procession of robed members and be seated alongside fellow members, please let Lisa know when you contact her for tickets.

ARTICLING RECRUITMENT GUIDELINES

Workplaces looking to hire articling students to start in the spring/summer of 2026 can refer to the guidelines posted on our website.

RECRUITMENT GUIDELINES



If your firm has now decided it wishes to participate in the recruitment of articling students for the 2026-2027 cycle, it is not too late. Please send your Firm Profile to the recipients listed in the guidelines by noon on May 9, 2025.

PREP IMPORTANT DATES

	Accelerated PREP 2024	June 2024 Intake
May 2025	March Capstone results issued	March Capstone results issued
Friday, June 20, 2025 9:00 a.m.	Mass Call to the Bar Ceremony RBC Winnipeg Convention Centre	

	Accelerated PREP 2025	Regular PREP 2025
Registration Opens	May 5, 2025	May 5, 2025
REGISTRATION DEADLINE	May 9, 2025	May 23, 2025
DEADLINE TO PAY 1st Tuition Instalment	May 15, 2025	May 23, 2025
PhHASE ONE: Course Opens	May 26, 2025	June 2, 2025
DEADLINE TO PAY 2nd Tuition Instalment	May 30, 2025	June 6, 2025
Participate in six online synchronous workshops	June 2, 2025 to June 20, 2025	June 9, 2025 to August 29, 2025
DEADLINE TO PAY 3rd Tuition Instalment	June 20, 2025	August 29, 2025
PHASE THREE: Complete assignments Virtual Law Firm	June 25, 2025 to August 8, 2025	September 12, 2025 to January 23, 2026
DEADLINE TO PAY Final Tuition Instalment	July 28, 2025	January 12, 2026
Complete Oral Capstone Evaluations	August 18, 2025 to August 22, 2025	February 2, 2026 to February 6, 2026
Complete Written Capstone Evaluations	August 25, 2025 to August 29, 2025	February 9, 2026 to February 13, 2026

PREP SESSIONS

Additional Information for Firms and Students

JOAN HOLMSTROM, Director - Competence

EMPLOYERS

Workplaces are expected to not provide assignments to students enrolled in the **Accelerated PREP Program** between May 26, 2025 and August 29, 2025.

Students enrolled in the **Regular PREP Program** must be given time to not only attend the six workshops in the summer period, but to also prepare the required background work expected for the six workshop sessions. Further, workplaces should not be assigning any duties to students which may prevent a student from completing the required activities in the two week Capstone period in February 2026.

PREP TUITION SUBSIDY

Students registered with the Law Society as an articling student member are eligible for the PREP tuition subsidy. The Law Society of Manitoba will pay a subsidy of \$2600 plus applicable taxes to assist with CPLED tuition costs which have been paid in full. The subsidy will be paid to the student, or to the workplace if the workplace has made the payment to CPLED. Payments of the subsidy amounts will be made in instances where the full tuition has been paid to CPLED and upon confirmation from CPLED that tuition has been paid in full. The Law Society will process the subsidy payments at the start of the course for those paying the entire tuition amount at the start and at phase four of the course for those paying the tuition over four installments.

PILOT FALL ACCELERATED PROGRAM

CPLED is also adding, on a pilot basis, a second Accelerated PREP offering in the fall of 2025. This will be of benefit to any student not able to obtain their JD or CQ by the deadlines set by CPLED to register for the Accelerated or Regular PREP sessions.

	ACCELERATED PREP FALL 2025 (PILOT)
Registration Opens	August 5, 2025
Registration Deadline	August 12, 2025

QUESTIONS? Contact Joan Holmstrom at 204-926-2017 or at jholmstrom@lawsociety.mb.ca.

NOTICE OF BENCHERS' MEETING

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

 **Thursday, May 15, 2025**

 **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 next meeting of the benchers is:

June 26, 2025



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

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

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IN MEMORIAM

Margaret Anne MacLeod, who passed away on December 23, 2024 at the age of 85. Ms MacLeod received her call to the Bar on June 24, 1982. She was a practising member of the Law Society for eight years.

Robert Allan Simpson, who passed away on January 25, 2025 at the age of 76. Mr. Simpson received his call to the Bar on June 25, 1974. He practised with D'Arcy & Deacon for five years before joining Fillmore Riley LLP where he continued to practise up to the date of his death.

Marston Welland Grindey, who passed away on January 29, 2025 at the age of 80. Mr. Grindey served as a lay bencher and public representative for the Law Society from 2010 to 2022.

Sheldon Edward Pinx, KC, who passed away on February 4, 2025 at the age of 77. Mr. Pinx received his call to the Bar on June 26, 1973. He began his career as counsel with Legal Aid Manitoba. In 1976 he joined Wolinsky & Company where he practised for five years. In 1981 he joined the firm known today as Pinx & Company, where he continued to practise up to the date of his death. Mr. Pinx was appointed King's Counsel in 1990.

Marion Lillian Ironquill Meadmore, who passed away on February 19, 2025 at the age of 89. A champion for Indigenous self-governance and economic development, Ms Meadmore was cofounder of the first Indian and Métis Friendship Centre in Canada (1959), cofounder of the organizations that are known today as the Assembly of First Nations and the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (1963), and cofounder of Kinew Housing (1970). Ms Meadmore received her call to the Bar as the first Indigenous female lawyer in Canada on June 29, 1978. She was a practising member of the Law Society for six years. In 1984 Ms Meadmore was named a Member of the Order of Canada.

Boris Alexander Hwozdulych, who passed away on February 21, 2025 at the age of 72. Mr. Hwozdulych received his call to the Bar on June 25, 1976. He practised as counsel for Legal Aid Manitoba for the entirety of his career, retiring in 2019.

Kenneth Mark Tennenhouse, who passed away on February 27, 2025 at the age of 66. Mr. Tennenhouse received his call to the Bar on June 23, 1983. He then joined Manitoba Hydro where he practised for 36 years, serving as in-house counsel, Vice-President, General Counsel and Secretary. Mr. Tennenhouse continued to practice as a sole practitioner from 2020 until his retirement in 2024.

Joseph Jean Marcel Romuald Gregoire, who passed away on February 28, 2025 at the age of 78. Mr. Gregoire received his call to the Bar on June 25, 1974. He practised for two years as an associate with Wilson & Coppleman in Russell, Manitoba and then as a sole practitioner in Roblin, Manitoba until his retirement in 2016.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES



[Member Forms Available Here](#)

Practising to Non-Practising:

March 7, 2025	Allison M. Kravetsky
March 7, 2025	Douglas E. Johnston
March 7, 2025	Christian L. Monnin
March 8, 2025	Marni A. Yasumatsu
March 10, 2025	Jenna R. Seavers
March 12, 2025	Chukwudifu I. Mbamali
March 14, 2025	Evann M. Waschuk
March 14, 2025	Marcia L. Banfield Smith
March 21, 2025	Brian E. Sharpe
March 24, 2025	Cheryl C. Labiris
March 24, 2025	Jesse H. Gardner
March 25, 2025	R. Bruce Reynolds
March 25, 2025	Nee-klu (Lance) Adjetejy
March 26, 2025	Emily C. Ferguson
March 28, 2025	Samantha S. Campbell
March 30, 2025	Roxanne M.L. Gagne
March 30, 2025	Christopher P. Belanger
March 31, 2025	James A. Cox
March 31, 2025	Guy (Joseph) Jourdain
March 31, 2025	Thomas R. Mooney
March 31, 2025	Neil F. Trenholm
March 31, 2025	Robin L. Zeiss
March 31, 2025	Suzanne M.C. Carriere
March 31, 2025	Kyla A. Pedersen
March 31, 2025	Bethany L. Friesen
March 31, 2025	G. Todd Campbell

March 31, 2025
March 31, 2025
March 31, 2025
March 31, 2025
April 1, 2025
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April 9, 2025
April 11, 2025
April 11, 2025
April 15, 2025
April 16, 2025
April 19, 2025
April 21, 2025
April 22, 2025
April 23, 2025
April 24, 2025

Glen D. Wilson
Gary R. Gilmour
P. Michael Sinclair
David L. Wood
Ronald B. Zimmerman
Lillian T.N. MacKenzie
Tracy L. Morrow
Jeffrey E.D. Kitchen
Nata L. Spigelman
Sheldon D. Rosenstock
Kent A. Strang
Dana J. Nelko
Cydney J. Ross
Sarah S. Murdoch
Amy J. Motluk
Lauren A. Vrsnik
Dianna R. Nesbit
Hannah M. Cameron
Patrice K. Miniely
Heidi M. Dyck
Douglas G. Ward, K.C.
Erin M. Dunsmore
Chad R. Sutherland
Rohit Gupta
Dharsan Siriskantharajan
Daniel S. Gange

Non-Practising to Practising:

March 17, 2025	K. Mark Lafreniere
March 31, 2025	Sydney C. Ramsay
April 8, 2025	Thomas B. Dobson
April 14, 2025	Sarah K. Davis

New Admissions:

March 13, 2025	Alisen M.M. Kotyk
April 2, 2025	Samuel Pau
April 10, 2025	Tamara R. Prince

Suspended to Practising:

March 31, 2025 David H. Davis

Happy RETIREMENT

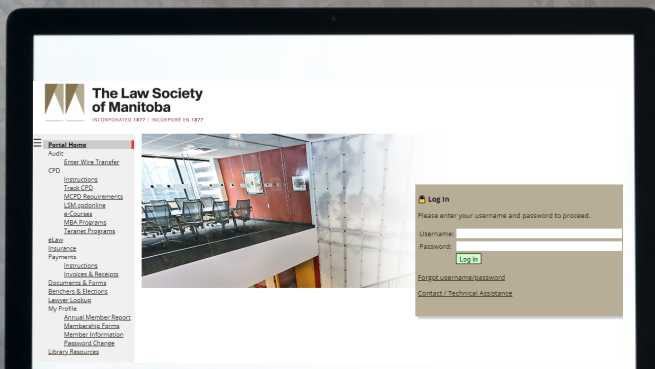
JIM COX

Those of you who read the 'Gossip' section of Communiqué first (officially titled Membership Changes) will already know that Jim Cox has gone non-practising. Jim, long-time claims counsel at the Law Society's Professional Liability Claims Fund, has retired from that role after 10+ years to become a full-time suburban backyard farmer. Jim always brought a practical, thoughtful and intelligent approach to every file, with just a touch of dry, often self-deprecating humour. He is also, possibly, the nicest man in the whole world. We miss him around here already.

Enjoy your retirement, Jim. We are all cheering for you in your battle against the deer.



Practising Fees - Receipts



*Receipts for the
April 2025 practising fee
payments are available
in the
Member Portal.*

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May 6 | 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. | Hybrid

[Register](#)

Legal Research Skills

May 21 | 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. | Online

[Learn More](#)

Legal Writing Skills

May 22 | 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. | In-person

[Learn More](#)

Northern Bar CPD

June 13 | 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. | In-person

[Register](#)

Electronic Documents at the Court of Appeal

June 17 | 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

[Save the Date](#)

Western Bar CPD

September 5 | In-person

[Save the Date](#)

Central Bar CPD

September 12 | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | In-person

[Save the Date](#)

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MAY 15
BENCHER MEETING
12:30 p.m.

MAY 16
BENCHER BY-ELECTION
NOMINATION DEADLINE

MAY 21
BENCHER BY-ELECTION
VOTING OPENS

JUNE 10
BENCHER BY-ELECTION
VOTING CLOSSES AT 5:00 P.M.

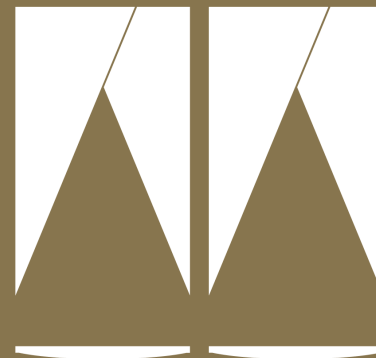
JUNE 20
CALL TO THE BAR
RBC Convention Centre
9:00 a.m.

JUNE 26
ANNUAL MEETING
AND
BENCHER MEETING
12:30 p.m.

JULY 2

PAYMENT DUE:
2025-2026 Insurance Payment

FILING DEADLINE:
2025-2026 Insurance Exemption Application



PRESIDENT
Gerri Wiebe, K.C.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Leah Kosokowsky

DEPUTY CEO
Rennie Stonyk

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