



MINUTES

Special Benchers

Date: Thursday, May 31, 2022

Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: Law Society Offices and Via Videoconference

Present:	Sacha Paul, President Wayne Onchulenko, Vice President Grant Driedger, Past President Miriam Browne, Officer-at-Large Susan Boulter Mason Broadfoot Kyle Dear Blair Filyk Sharyne Hamm	Kameron Hutchinson Leah Klassen Patricia Kloepfer Tyler Koshowski Kenneth Mandzuik Brian McLeod Christian Monnin Kelli Potter Gerri Wiebe
Regrets:	Tehani Jainarine Dr. Richard Jochelson Anthony Kavanagh Mathieu Lafreniere	Anu Osborne Joëlle Pastora Sala Jessica Saunders
Guests:	Lynda Troup	Erin Wilcott
Staff Present:	Leah Kosokowsky Rennie Stonyk Pat Bourbonnais Natasha Brown Eileen Derksen	Sharon Kravetsky Sean Rivera Alissa Schacter Betta Wishart

1.0 PRESIDENT'S WELCOME AND TREATY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mr. Paul, President, called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Treaty territories 1, 2 and 5 were acknowledged with gratitude.

2.0 NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms Troup referred benchers to the report of the Nominating Committee dated May 26, 2022. Benchers were advised that the committee had met on May 19, 2022 to: (a) identify the candidates for appointment as practising benchers and lay benchers; (b) to populate the membership of all Law Society standing and special committees; and (c) to identify candidates to serve as Law Society representatives on external committees and boards.

With respect to the appointed practising bencher positions, Ms Troup confirmed the recommendation of the committee that in addition to Mr. Paul (who had been appointed a bencher at the April 2022 meeting), Ms Pastora Sala and Ms Potter be reappointed as practising benchers and that Serena Ehrmantraut be appointed to fill the fourth practising bencher position.

With respect to the lay bencher positions, Ms Troup confirmed the recommendation of the committee that Ms Browne, Ms Boulter, Mr. McLeod and Ms Jainarine be re-appointed as lay benchers, and that Carmen Nedohin and Teresa Jaenan be appointed to fill the other two lay bencher positions. Benchers were reminded that once the lay bencher appointments were endorsed by benchers, their formal appointment would be made by a special committee chaired by the Chief Justice of Manitoba.

Benchers were advised that the committee had also agreed to recommend that David Rondeau, a lay bencher applicant, be appointed to fill the public representative position currently held by Ms Nedohin.

Ms Troup invited benchers to consider the Report of the Nomination Committee which set out the proposed membership of all standing and special committees and also identified the candidates who would serve as the Society's representatives to external boards and committees.

Benchers were invited to provide comment on the recommendations of the committee. It was requested that a lay bencher be added to the membership of the Practice and Ethics Committee. Ms Troup confirmed that the committee had considered this request and was recommending that Ms Nedohin be added to this committee.

Mr. Hutchinson expressed interest in serving as a member of the Indigenous Advisory Committee. Benchers were advised that this request would be raised with the IAC as the Terms of Reference provide direction on the composition of the committee.

Motion: That the recommendations of the Nominating Committee be approved as follows:

1. Ms Pastora Sala, Ms Potter and Ms Ehrmantraut be appointed to join Mr. Paul as practising benchers;
2. Ms Browne, Ms Boulter, Mr. McLeod, Ms Jainarine, Ms Nedohin and Ms Jaenan be recommended to the special committee chaired by the Chief Justice of Manitoba for appointment as lay benchers;
3. Mr. Rondeau be appointed a public representative; and
4. The Report of the Nominating Committee, dated May 19, 2022, be approved as presented, subject to the addition of Ms Nedohin to the Practice and Ethics Committee.

MOVED: Mr. McLeod
Seconded: Ms Boulter
Carried.

Ms Kloepfer was recognized by Ms Troup for the contributions she had made to the Law Society during her tenure as a lay bencher. It was noted that she would continue to serve the Society in the role of representative on the board of the Manitoba Law Foundation.

3.0 MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

3.1 Complaints Review Commissioner

Benchers considered a memorandum prepared by Ms Kosokowsky, dated May 30, 2022, which reported on the Society's efforts to identify a candidate to fill the Complaints Review Commissioner position. Ms Kosokowsky advised that following the completion of interviews of several qualified applicants, she was pleased to recommend that Tom Vowell be appointed to fill this position.

Motion: That Mr. Vowell be appointed to serve as Complaints Review Commissioner for a two year term, effective immediately.

MOVED: Ms Browne
Seconded: Mr. Broadfoot
Carried.

There being no further business, Mr. Paul adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.