



AGENDA

Benchers

Date: Thursday, December 12, 2024

Time: 12:30 p.m.

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

ITEM	TOPIC	TIME (min)	SPEAKER	MATERIALS	ACTION
1.0 PRESIDENT'S WELCOME AND TREATY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT					
	The President will welcome Jessica Schofield and Michelle Falk, President and Executive Director respectively, of the Manitoba Bar Association, as well as benchers, guests and staff to the meeting.				
2.0 IN MEMORIAM					
	Honourable Calvin Murray Sinclair , who passed away on November 4, 2024 at the age of 73. Mr. Sinclair received his call to the Bar on June 26, 1980. He practised law for eight years before being appointed Associate Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of Manitoba in 1988. From 2001 to 2016 he served as a Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench and also served as chairperson of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada from 2009 to 2015. Following his retirement from the bench, Mr. Sinclair served as a Senator from 2016 to 2021. In 2020 he joined the firm known today as Cochrane Sinclair LLP, where he practised up to the date of his death. Mr. Sinclair served as inaugural Chair of the Society's Indigenous Advisory Committee from 2021 to 2024. He was				

inducted into the Order of Canada in 2022 and the Order of Manitoba in 2024, and was appointed King's Counsel in 2024.

John Arthur McAmmond, who passed away on November 19, 2024 at the age of 70. Mr. McAmmond received his call to the Bar on June 28, 1990. He practised as an associate with Walsh, Micay & Company and also as a sole practitioner, and served as counsel with Legal Aid Manitoba. At the time of his death, Mr. McAmmond was practising as an associate with Rees Dyck Rogala Law Office.

Richard Michael Rice, who passed away on November 30, 2024 at the age of 77. Mr. Rice received his call to the Bar on June 25, 1976. He practised as a sole practitioner and also as an associate with several Winnipeg firms, most recently with Tapper Cuddy LLP. Mr. Rice retired in 2017 after 41 years of practice.

Honourable Richard Jamieson Scott, who passed away on November 21, 2024 at the age of 86. Mr. Scott received his call to the Bar on May 27, 1963. He practised law for 22 years with Thompson Dilts & Company. In June of 1985 he was appointed a Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench and three months later was promoted to Associate Chief Justice. In 1990 he was appointed Chief Justice of the Manitoba Court of Appeal, a position he held for 22 years. Following his retirement from the bench in 2013, Mr. Scott returned to practice, serving as counsel with Hill Sokalski Walsh LLP for eight years and as a volunteer to the Legal Help Centre. Mr. Scott was a Life Bencher and served as President of the Society in 1983/84. He also served as the Society's first Independent Chair of the Discipline Committee from 2014 to 2023. In 2013 the benchers established the Richard J. Scott Award, which is awarded annually in his honour. Mr. Scott was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1976, and was inducted into the Order of Manitoba in 2013 and the Order of Canada in 2015.

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3.0 CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda matters are proposed to be dealt with by unanimous consent and without debate. Benchers may seek clarification or ask questions without removing a matter from the consent agenda. Any bencher may request that a consent agenda item be moved to the regular agenda by notifying the President or Chief Executive Officer prior to the meeting.

3.1	Minutes of October 31, 2024 Meeting	5		Attached	Approval
3.2	Approval of Translated Rule Amendments – Removal of Benchers			Attached	Approval

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3.3	Report of the Complaints Investigation Committee			Attached	Briefing
3.4	Report of the Discipline Committee			Attached	Briefing
4.0 EXECUTIVE REPORTS					
4.1	President's Report	10	Gerri Wiebe, KC	Pending	Briefing
4.2	CEO Report	15	Leah Kosokowsky	Attached	Briefing
4.3	Strategic Plan Activities Update and Progress Report - December 2024	10	Leah Kosokowsky	Attached	Briefing
5.0 DISCUSSION/DECISION					
5.1	Nominating Committee - Bencher Vacancy and Committee Appointments	10	Wayne Onchulenko	Attached	Discussion/ Decision
5.2	Good Character Requirement Update	15	Rennie Stonyk/ Richard Porcher	Attached	Discussion/ Decision
5.3	Practice Check-Up Program	15	Leah Kosokowsky	Attached	Discussion/ Decision
5.4	Awards	10	Leah Kosokowsky	Attached	Discussion/ Decision
6.0 MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS					
6.1	Access to Justice Proposal	10	Leah Kosokowsky	Attached	Briefing
6.2	Status Update on Electronic Banking Initiative	5	Rennie Stonyk/ Kathy Levacque	Attached	Briefing
6.3	FLSC Council Report	10	Lynda Troup		Briefing

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7.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS					
7.1	Strategic Planning Committee	10	Gerri Wiebe, KC		Briefing
8.0 MONITORING REPORTS					
8.1	Statements of Operations - April 1, 2024 to October 31, 2024	10	Sandra Alleyne	Attached	Briefing
9.0 GUEST PRESENTATIONS					
9.1	Remarks from the President and Executive Director of the Manitoba Bar Association	20	Jessica Schofield and Michelle Falk		Briefing
10.0 IN CAMERA					
10.1	BC Single Legal Regulator and Independence	20	Leah Kosokowsky/ Lynda Troup		Briefing
11.0 FOR INFORMATION					
11.1	Invitation to Holiday Reception			Attached	Information
11.2	Media Reports			Attached	Information