



Law Society
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Barreau
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TAB 8

Human Rights Monitoring Group

Information Report: Human Rights Award Ceremony

May 27, 2021

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FOR INFORMATION

Human Rights Award Ceremony – Highlight Report

The Human Rights Award Ceremony is scheduled for June 15, 2021. The CPD accredited event will take place via Zoom Teleconference.

[Dr. Payam Akhavan](#) has been named the Law Society's 2021 Human Rights Award recipient. Dr. Akhavan is the fifth honouree to receive this award.

Nominated by Irwin Cotler, Dr. Payam Akhavan is a prominent international human rights lawyer and a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague. He is also a member of the Law Society of Ontario (2012) and the Bar of the State of New York. He is also a designated arbitrator at the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) of the World Bank Group. Dr. Akhavan also served as UN human rights officer in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia during the Yugoslav war. He has served as legal counsel in cases before the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Court, the European Court of Human Rights, and the Supreme Courts of Canada and the United States.

In addition to his practice of international law, Professor Akhavan is a world-renowned scholar. He has had a distinguished academic career as: Professor at the Faculty of Law of McGill University for two decades; visiting Professor at Université de Paris X in 2015; a Visiting Fellow at Oxford University in 2014; Fernand Braudel Senior Fellow at the European University Institute at Sciences Po Ecole de droit in 2012; Visiting Lecturer and Senior Fellow at Yale Law School from 1998 onwards; and Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Faculty of Law of the University of Toronto in 2002. He is a Senior Fellow of Massey College at the University of Toronto.

Mr. Akhavan currently acts as Senior Fellow to the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights.

The archived webcast of the award ceremony will be available online following the event on the [Human Rights Monitoring Group webpage](#).

Established in 2013 and granted biennially, The Law Society of Ontario's Human Rights Award recognizes outstanding contributions to the advancement of human rights and/or the promotion of the rule of law provincially, nationally, or internationally. The award is



granted for devotion to the advancement of human rights and the rule of law over a long term or for a single outstanding act of service.