

## MINUTES OF CONVOCATION

Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2014  
9:00 a.m.

### PRESENT:

The Treasurer (Janet E. Minor), Anand, Backhouse, Banack (by telephone), Boyd, Braithwaite, Bredt, Burd, Campion, Conway, Copeland (by telephone), Corsetti, Dickson, Doyle, Earnshaw, Elliott, Epstein, Eustace (by telephone), Evans, Falconer, Ferrier, Festeryga (by telephone), Furlong, Go, Goldblatt, Gottlieb, Haigh, Hartman, Horvat, Hunter (by telephone), Krishna, Lawrie (by telephone), Leiper, Lem, Lerner, Lippa, MacKenzie, MacLean, Marmur, McDowell, McGrath, Mercer, Murchie, Murray, Pawlitza, Porter, Potter, Pustina, Rabinovitch, Richardson, Richer, Ross, Ruby (by telephone), Sandler, Scarfone, Schabas, Sheff, Sikand, Silverstein, C. Strosberg, H. Strosberg, Sullivan, Swaye, Symes, Wardlaw, Wardle, Wright (by telephone) and Yachetti (by telephone).

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Secretary: James Varro

The Reporter was sworn.

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### TREASURER'S REMARKS

The Treasurer welcomed guests from the Federation of Law Societies of Canada, Bâtonnière Marie-Claude Bélanger-Richard, Q.C., President, and Jonathan G. Herman, Chief Executive Officer.

### ELECTION OF TREASURER

The Secretary announced the results of the votes cast:

Raj Anand	9
Christopher Bredt	20
Janet Minor	31

The Secretary declared Janet Minor elected as Treasurer.

Mr. Conway congratulated the new Treasurer and addressed Convocation.

The Treasurer thanked Mr. Conway.

It was moved by Ms. Boyd, seconded by Ms. Corsetti that the vote in the Treasurer's election be made unanimous.

Carried Unanimously

Mr. Anand and Mr. Bredt congratulated the Treasurer on her election.

The Treasurer addressed Convocation.

#### MOTION – ELECTION OF BENCHER

It was moved by Ms. Doyle, seconded by Mr. Lerner, that, –

WHEREAS Janet Minor who was elected from the Province of Ontario "A" Electoral Region (City of Toronto) on the basis of the votes cast by all electors, has been elected as Treasurer; and

WHEREAS upon being elected Treasurer, Janet Minor ceased to hold office as an elected bencher in accordance with subsection 25(2) of the *Law Society Act*, thereby creating a vacancy in the number of benchers elected from the Province of Ontario "A" Electoral Region (City of Toronto) on the basis of the votes cast by all electors.

THAT under the authority contained in By-Law 3, Jeffrey Lem, having satisfied the requirements contained in subsections 43(1) and 45(1) of the By-Law, and having consented to the election in accordance with subsection 45(2) of the By-Law, be elected by Convocation as bencher to fill the vacancy in the number of benchers elected from the Province of Ontario "A" Electoral Region (City of Toronto) on the basis of the votes cast by all electors.

Carried

#### TREASURER'S REMARKS

The Treasurer advised Convocation of the launch of The Action Group on Access to Justice on June 3, 2014, and thanked the co-Chairs of the The Action Group and Grant Wedge for their work on the launch.

The Treasurer also noted discussions that have begun to update the Law Society's 2009 Aboriginal Strategy.

The Treasurer informed Convocation that the Law Society hosted its annual Pride Event on June 17, 2014.

The Treasurer thanked Diana Miles and her staff for their work in organizing the calls to the bar in June.

The Treasurer congratulated the recipients of the 2014 Honorary LL.D. degree at the calls to the bar in June: David F. Smye, Q.C. (London, June 16), The Honourable Stephen T. Goudge (Toronto, June 19), Professor Martin Friedland (Toronto, June 20), Laurie H. Pawlitzka (Toronto, June 20) and John H. Sims, Q.C. (Ottawa, June 23).

The Treasurer congratulated former bencher William J. Simpson, Q.C. who received during the call to the bar event in Ottawa a special award for his work on implementing paralegal regulation at the Law Society.

The Treasurer advised that former Treasurer Conway had congratulated Ontario Premier Wynne on her successful re-election, and noted Premier Wynne's commitment to the same funding for legal aid in the provincial budget to be tabled this summer.

The Treasurer welcomed guests from the Federation of Law Societies of Canada, Bâtonnière Marie-Claude Bélanger-Richard, Q.C., President, and Jonathan G. Herman, Chief Executive Officer.

#### MOTION – CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Ms. Leiper, seconded by Ms. Corsetti, that Convocation approve the consent agenda set out under Tab 2 of the Convocation Materials.

Carried

#### DRAFT MINUTES OF CONVOCATION – Tab 2.1

The draft minutes of Convocation of May 22, 2014 were confirmed.

#### MOTION – APPOINTMENTS – Tab 2.2

THAT the following be reappointed to the Proceedings Authorization Committee for a one year term:

Paul Schabas (Chair)  
Michelle Haigh  
Jacqueline Horvat  
Gerald Sheff  
Alan Silverstein  
Peter Wardle

Carried

#### REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPETENCE – Tab 2.3

THAT the Report of the Director of Professional Development and Competence listing the names of the call to the bar candidates be adopted.

Carried

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EQUITY AND ABORIGINAL ISSUES COMMITTEE/COMITÉ SUR L'ÉQUITÉ ET LES  
AFFAIRES AUTOCHTONES REPORT

Mr. Schabas presented the Report.

Re: Human Rights Monitoring Group Requests for Intervention

It was moved by Mr. Schabas, seconded by Mr. Falconer, that Convocation approve the letters and public statements in the following cases:

- a. lawyer Mahienour El-Massry – Egypt – letters of intervention and public statement presented at Tab 3.1.1 of the Report;
- b. lawyer Rashid Rehman – Pakistan - letters of intervention and public statement presented at Tab 3.1.2 of the Report.

Carried

Mr. Lerner abstained.

Ms. Ross presented the Human Rights Monitoring Group Report, Facilitating International Access to Justice through Intervention, for information.

Ms. Murchie presented the report on The Justicia Project – Overview and Next Steps for information.

*For Information*

- Report on the Justicia Project
- Report on the Status of the Parental Leave Assistance Program
- Development of a Law Society Aboriginal Strategy
- Public Education Equality and Rule of Law Series Calendar 2014

PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Mercer presented the Report.

Re: Amendment to By-Law 11 to Enforce Payment of Costs

It was moved by Mr. Mercer, seconded by Ms. Leiper, that Convocation approve an amendment to By-Law 11, as set out in the motion at Tab 4.1.1 of the Report, to support the Law Society's authority to enforce the payment of costs under section 45.1 of the *Law Society Act*.

Carried

*For Information*

- Update on Work of the Alternative Business Structures Working Group
- Analysis of Complaints Received by the Professional Regulation Division in 2013

## BENCHER ELECTION WORKING GROUP REPORT

Ms. Leiper presented the Report.

### Re: Matters Related to the Bencher Election Process

It was moved by Ms. Leiper, seconded by Ms. Richer, that Convocation amend voting procedures for the lawyer and paralegal bencher elections, as follows:

- a. Make the date for the Elections Officer's preparation of the polling list for the lawyer bencher election on or shortly after the second Friday in April in an election year, and
- b. Make the date for the Elections Officer's preparation of the polling list for the paralegal bencher election on or shortly after the second Friday in March in an election year.

Carried

## ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION OF LAW SOCIETIES OF CANADA

Bâtonnière Marie-Claude Bélanger-Richard, Q.C. addressed Convocation.

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APPOINTMENT TO THE LAW SOCIETY TRIBUNAL

The Treasurer announced that Convocation appointed Stephen T. Goudge to the Hearing and Appeal Divisions of the Law Society Tribunal for a term of two years.

*REPORTS FOR INFORMATION*

ACCESS TO JUSTICE COMMITTEE REPORT

- Report on Next Steps on the Law Society's Access to Justice Initiative

AUDIT & FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

- Other Committee Work

PRIORITY PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

- Convocation's Priority Planning - Status of Work on Convocation's Priorities

CONVOCATION ROSE AT 12:34 P.M.