

## MINUTES OF CONVOCATION

Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2014  
9:00 a.m.

### PRESENT:

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

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Secretary: James Varro

The Reporter was sworn.

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### TREASURER'S REMARKS

The Treasurer reported on the November 10, 2014 Remembrance Day ceremony to mark the centenary of World War I, including the honorary call of students who died in the war and were never called. The Treasurer thanked Patrick Shea of Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP for his work on this ceremony.

The Treasurer also reported on the dinner recognizing the Front Runners of the 1967 Pan Am Games hosted by the Law Society, the Truth and Reconciliation Committee and Missaussauga's at New Credit First Nation on November 18, 2014.

The Treasurer thanked Mary Shena, Amy Costanzo and the catering staff for their assistance in organizing these events.

The Treasurer advised that she was pleased to participate in the Ministry of the Attorney General's Access to Justice Symposium entitled Better Justice Together on November 18, 2014.

The Treasurer also advised that she participated in the County and District Law Presidents' Association Plenary earlier in November.

The Treasurer updated Convocation on other activities in which she engaged in November.

The Treasurer updated Convocation on the move of the Tribunal Office from Osgoode Hall to larger space in offices on University Avenue. The Treasurer thanked Harvey Strosberg for raising this issue last Convocation.

The Treasurer noted the opening of nominations for the 2015 Bencher Election.

The Treasurer reminded benchers of nominations for the Law Society Awards.

The Treasurer announced the retirement of Roy Thomas, Director of Communications, at the end of 2014. The Treasurer thanked Mr. Thomas for his tremendous efforts and contributions to the Law Society and wished him well in his retirement.

The Treasurer acknowledged Dow Marmur's attendance at his last Convocation as an appointed bencher and how much Convocation has benefited from his wisdom for many years.

MOTION – CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Ms. Horvat, seconded by Mr. Schabas, that Convocation approve the consent agenda set out at Tab 1 of the Convocation Materials.

Carried

DRAFT MINUTES OF CONVOCATION – Tab 1.1

The draft minutes of Convocation of October 30, 2014 and November 11, 2014 were confirmed.

MOTION – APPOINTMENTS – Tab 1.2

That the appointments set out in the motion at Tab 1.2 be approved.

Carried

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPETENCE – Tab 1.3

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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### LAW FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO REPORT

The Treasurer welcomed Elizabeth Goldberg, Chief Executive Officer of the Law Foundation of Ontario, to Convocation.

Mr. Sandler presented the Law Foundation of Ontario's Annual Report for information.

The Treasurer thanked Mr. Sandler for his outstanding leadership at the Law Foundation.

Mr. Schabas paid tribute to Mr. Sandler on behalf of the trustees of the Law Foundation.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPETENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Goldblatt presented the Report.

#### Re: Deemed Call to the Bar Process

It was moved by Mr. Goldblatt, seconded by Mr. Wardle, that Convocation expand the deemed call to the bar process to allow candidates to select their preferred call format either by way of a deemed call or attendance at a live call ceremony to begin in May 2015 for candidates registered in the 2014-15 Licensing Process year.

Lost

ROLL-CALL VOTE

Backhouse	Against	MacLean	Against
Boyd	For	Marmur	For
Braithwaite	Against	McDowell	For
Bredt	For	McGrath	For
Callaghan	For	Mercer	Against
Campion	Against	Murchie	Against
Dickson	Against	Potter	Against
Doyle	For	Pustina	For
Earnshaw	For	Rabinovitch	Against
Elliott	For	Richardson	Against
Epstein	Against	Richer	Against
Eustace	Against	Rothstein	Against
Evans	Against	Sandler	For
Ferrier	Against	Scarfone	Against
Festeryga	For	Schabas	For
Go	Against	Sheff	Against
Goldblatt	For	Sikand	Against
Haigh	Abstain	Silverstein	For
Hartman	For	C. Strosberg	Against
Horvat	Against	H. Strosberg	Against
Lawrie	Abstain	Sullivan	For
Leiper	For	Symes	Against
Lerner	Against	Wardle	For
Lippa	Against		

Vote: 19 For; 26 Against; 2 Abstentions

Re: Licensing Process Financial Assistance

Mr. Goldblatt presented the Report respecting the repayable allowance program for information.

*For Information*

- Licensing Process Financial Assistance

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 Ms. Go, that Convocation approve the letters and public statements in the following cases:

- a. lawyer Nasrin Sotoudeh – Iran – letters of intervention and public statement presented at Tab 4.1.1;
- b. lawyers Abdulrahman Al Rumaih, Abdulrahman Al Sobaihi and Bander Alnogaithan – Saudi Arabia - letters of intervention and public statement presented at Tab 4.1.2.

Carried

*For Information*

- Equity Advisory Group Appointment of Truth and Reconciliation Commission Representative
- Public Education Equality and Rule of Law Series Calendar 2014 - 2015

PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Mercer presented the Report.

Re: Amendments to the Rules of Professional Conduct

It was moved by Mr. Mercer, seconded by Ms. Richer, that Convocation approve two amendments to the Rules of Professional Conduct as set out at Tab 5.1.1 of the Report.

Carried

Mr. Mercer updated Convocation on the Committee's work on entity and compliance-based regulation.

*For Information*

- Professional Regulation Division Quarterly Report, July to September 2014

AUDIT & FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Bredt presented the Report.

Re: J. S. Denison Fund

Mr. Bredt presented the report on the end of the J. S. Denison Fund for information.

Re: Law Society of Upper Canada Financial Statements for the Nine Months ended September 30, 2014

Mr. Bredt presented the third quarter Law Society financial statements for information.

Re: Introduction of Electronic Fee Billing

Mr. Bredt presented the report for information.

*For Information*

- Law Society Financial Statements for the nine months ending September 30, 2014
- Electronic Fee Billing
- J. S. Denison Fund
- Investment Compliance Reporting
- Other Committee Work

FEDERATION OF LAW SOCIETIES OF CANADA REPORT

Ms. Pawlitzka presented the report for information.

LIBRARYCO INC. UPDATE

Ms. Elliott updated Convocation on the developments at LibraryCo Inc. following the release of the Report of the Legal Information Support Services (LISS) Working Group.

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*REPORTS FOR INFORMATION ONLY*

HERITAGE COMMITTEE REPORT

- Historic Discipline Data Project

LIBRARYCO INC. UPDATE

REPORT NOT REACHED

Chief Executive Officer's Report (R. Lapper) (in camera)

CONVOCATION ROSE AT 12:44 P.M.