Law Society
of British Columbia

External Appointments Guidebook

Updated October 15, 2026

1. Law Society External Appointments: Policy and Process

1.1. Law Society External Appointments Policy

The objective of the Law Society Appointments Policy is "... to ensure that well-qualified persons with the requisite character, knowledge, expertise, willingness and ability to undertake the duties of the position are appointed." The Appointments Policy outlines various selection and appointment guidelines.

1.2. Term of office

Subject to the constitutional documents of the external organization, Law Society appointments to any position will normally not exceed a total period of six years. An initial appointment to a position should not create an expectation of automatic reappointment.

1.3. Benchers or non-Benchers

A Bencher should be appointed to an outside body only if that body's legislation or by-laws require that the Law Society appointee be a Bencher. In all other cases there is a presumption against appointing Benchers to other bodies. An example of a circumstance in which that presumption might be rebutted is in the case of a newly created body, where it might be desirable to appoint a Bencher for the first one or two terms, or until the body's procedures are well established.

1.4. Geographic considerations

The Law Society considers geographical representation when making appointments to organizations which have a province-wide scope.

1.5. Diversity and Equity

The Benchers believe that the Law Society's mandate to protect the public interest in the administration of justice is best served by leadership with diverse backgrounds and experiences. Diversity that brings the skills and richness of talent reflected in the peoples of British Columbia strengthens our legal community and the community at large. All lawyers who meet the qualifications and want to contribute to the profession are encouraged to apply. We particularly encourage Indigenous lawyers, racialized lawyers, 2SLGBTQI+ lawyers, lawyers with (dis)abilities, young lawyers, solicitors, and lawyers from big firms[1] to achieve adequate representation of the talents and strengths of all British Columbians.

1.6. Appointment of judges

Where the legislation or by-laws of the body permit, judges are eligible to be appointed to positions by the Law Society.

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[1] Lawyers from big firms are included in this section, as this is often a gap on a number of the boards of external bodies to which the Law Society makes appointments, and is included on the skills matrix or other materials that these external bodies provide to the Law Society for considering in reviewing potential appointees.

2. Law Society Appointments Process

The Executive Committee considers and makes recommendations regarding all Law Society external appointments and nominations.

The Executive Committee strives to ensure that its recommendations for appointment or nomination to the Law Society's appointing authority (the Benchers, the Executive Committee or the President) are well informed, appropriately considered and timely, and in accordance with the Law Society's Appointments Policy. Additionally, the Executive Committee aims to consider candidates who meet the criteria and requirements of the external body(ies) to which they are being considered for appointment, so as to ensure that the appointees are able to contribute significantly to the board of the external body to which they are being appointed.

A list of current Law Society appointments is included as Appendix A.

3. Expectations of External Bodies

As part of the appointments process, external bodies are expected to provide to the Law Society, at least three potential candidates to be considered for each open appointment, along with a board matrix or other materials that provide clear criteria regarding the required skills and experience needed on the board. External bodies are also expected to provide information regarding how the potential candidates meet these criteria, along with a recommendation as to which candidate would best meet the requirements of that particular external body. The Law Society will contact external bodies in advance of when a new appointment is required to provide timelines and an overview of the required information.

4. Expressions of Interest

Individuals who wish to express their interest in being considered as an appointee or nominee are encouraged to submit an online application for consideration on the Law Society website: www.lawsociety.bc.ca.

The online expressions of interest form can be found under About Us > Volunteers and Appointments > Apply Online for Consideration. Applicants are requested to submit a current resume, a brief expression of interest, and an outline of related skills and experience demonstrating how they meet the criteria for a particular appointment. Applicants are also asked to indicate the organizations and appointments of particular interest to them.

We will keep each applicant's expression of interest and related information for one year from the date of submission, or until the date a resulting appointment takes effect, whichever comes first. You will be contacted if you are short-listed for an upcoming appointment or nomination.

If you have questions about Law Society appointments to other organizations, please contact BencherRelations@lsbc.org.

Appendix A

Table of Contents

1. British Columbia Law Institute Board of Directors
2. Canadian Bar Association of BC Benevolent Society Board of Directors
3. Continuing Legal Education Society of BC Board of Directors
4. Federation of Law Societies of Canada Council
5. Law Foundation of British Columbia
6. Legal Aid BC Board of Directors
7. Land Title and Survey Authority Board of Directors
8. Provincial Court of BC Judicial Council
9. Committee on Relations with the Judiciary
10. Federal Judicial Advisory Committee for British Columbia
11. Land Title and Survey Authority Stakeholder Advisory Committee
12. Vancouver Airport Authority Board of Directors
13. British Columbia Supreme Court Civil and Family Rules Committee

1. British Columbia Law Institute ("BCLI") Board of Directors	
Description	The purposes of the BCLI are to: • promote the clarification and simplification of the law and its adaptation to modern social needs, • promote improvement of the administration of justice and respect for the rule of law, and • promote and carry out scholarly legal research.
Appointee's Responsibilities	The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are: • promoting purposes of BCLI and avoiding personal gain • exercising powers of and acting on behalf of the Society • amending Constitution and By-laws
Contact Information for Inquiries	British Columbia Law Institute 1822 East Mall University of British Columbia Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1 Phone: 604.822.0142 Email: bcli@bcli.org Website
Current Appointments	**Emilie LeDuc** (appointed 6/1/2024, expires 5/31/2027) **Stacey M. Edzerza Fox, KC** (appointed 12/1/2021, expires 11/30/2027)

2. Canadian Bar Association of BC Benevolent Society ("CBABS") Board of Directors	
Description	The purposes of the Society are: • to provide assistance to lawyers or articled students who have suffered an illness or injury arising from any cause whatsoever including but not limited to alcohol, drugs, stress and physical injury; and • to provide assistance to the families of lawyers or articled students who are affected by such lawyers' or articled students' illness or injury.
Appointee's Responsibilities	The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are: • upholding the Society's Constitution and Complying with Its By-laws • exercising Powers of and Acting on behalf of the Society • indemnification of Directors • amending the Society's By-laws
Contact Information for Inquiries	Canadian Bar Association of BC Benevolent Society c/o The Canadian Bar Association, BC Branch 915 – 700 West Pender Street Vancouver, BC V6C 1G8 Phone: 604.687.3404 Toll Free: 888.687.3404 Fax: 604.669.9601 Email: cba@cbabc.org Website
Current Appointments	**Lee Ongman, KC** (appointed 5/31/2017, to be reviewed annually in conjunction with the Benevolent Society's annual general meeting)

3. Continuing Legal Education Society of BC ("CLE") Board of Directors	
Description	The objects of the Society are: • to conduct, develop and operate educational programs for the legal profession in the Province of British Columbia in order to improve and extend the knowledge of the legal profession regarding present laws and legal processes; • to conduct, develop and operate Bar admission courses and educational programs for articled students if and when requested to do so by the Law Society of British Columbia; • to direct attention of the legal profession to newly developing areas of law and legal processes; • to bring to the attention of the legal profession practices and information gained from other professional disciplines or from business which may be useful to the legal profession and to co-operate with other professional and lay groups in developing and offering education programs involving the study of law; • to encourage members of the legal profession to take further formal education in law; • to co-operate on programs involving a knowledge of law and projects for education in the law; • to publish books, manuals, articles, periodicals and written materials and to acquire and maintain the necessary plant and equipment for this object; • to conduct, develop and operate programs through the use, production and distribution of audio and audio-visual films, tapes and materials and to acquire and maintain the necessary plant and equipment for this object; • to acquire, hold, mortgage, dispose of, and otherwise deal with real and personal property for the purposes of the Society; • to report any judicial or administrative decision to the legal profession and inform them of the status of any proceedings before any judicial or administrative authority; and • to acquire, establish, operate or use any technology, means or system to carry out any purpose, activity, program or publication of the Society.
Appointee's Responsibilities	The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are: • upholding the Society's constitution and complying with its by-laws • exercising powers of and acting on behalf of the Society • indemnification of Directors

	• amending the Society's by-laws
Contact Information for Inquiries	The Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia 500 - 1155 West Pender Street Vancouver, BC V6E 2P4 Phone: 604.669.3544 Fax: 604.669.9260 Email: custserv@cle.bc.ca Website
Current Appointments	**Member Appointments:** By the President of the Law Society of BC for appointments beginning every even numbered year; by the President of the Canadian Bar Association of BC for appointments beginning every odd numbered year. **Allison Reed** (appointed 3/7/2022, expires 8/31/2027) **Kate Gunn** (appointed 9/1/2024, expires 8/31/2027) **Lana Walker** (appointed 9/1/2024, expires 8/31/2027) **Andrea Rowe** (appointed 9/1/2021, expires 8/31/2027) **Megan Volk** (appointed 9/1/2022, expires 8/31/2028) **Katelyn Crabtree** (appointed 9/1/2025, expires 8/31/2028) **Karen Tse, KC** (appointed 9/4/2025, expires 9/3/2028) **Morven Ann Sanderson Burch** (appointed 1/1/2025, expires 12/31/2028) **Polly Storey** (appointed 9/1/2023, expires 8/31/2029) **Gemma Walsh** (appointed 9/1/2026, expires 8/31/2029) **Bencher Appointments:** **James A.S. Legh** (appointed 01/25/2024, expires 01/01/2028) **Kevin B. Westell** (appointed 09/11/2026, expires 09/10/2029)

4. Federation of Law Societies of Canada ("FLSC") Council	
Description	The objects of the Council are: • to identify and study matters of essential concern to the legal profession in Canada and to further co-operation among the governing bodies of the legal profession in Canada with a view to achieving uniformity in such matters; • to operate as a forum for the exchange of views and information of common interest to the governing bodies of the legal profession in Canada and facilitate the governing bodies working together on matters of common concern; • to improve the understanding of the public respecting the work of the legal profession in Canada; and • in appropriate cases, to express the views of the governing bodies of the legal profession on national and international issues in accordance with directions of the members of the Federation.
Appointee's Responsibilities	The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are: • powers of council • voting • delegation and committees • remuneration • amending by-laws
Contact Information for Inquiries	Federation of Law Societies of Canada Constitution Square 1700 – 340 Albert, Ottawa, ON K1R 7YR Phone: 613.236.7272 Fax: 613.236.7233 Email: info@flsc.ca Website
Current Appointments	**Tanya Chamberlain, KC** (appointed 04/17/2026, expires 11/14/2028)

5. **Law Foundation of British Columbia ("Law Foundation")**	
Description	The purpose of the Foundation is to establish and maintain a fund to be used for legal education and research, legal aid, law reform and establishing and maintaining law libraries in BC.
Appointee's Responsibilities	The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are: • applying the funds of the Foundation for the Foundation's purposes • Directors' or Governors' common law duties of honesty and care • applying the Foundation's funds and employing lawyers to advance the Foundation's purposes
Contact Information for Inquiries	The Law Foundation of British Columbia 1500 - 675 West Hastings Street Vancouver, BC V6B 1N2 Phone: 604.688.2337 Fax: 604.688.4586 Email: info@lawfoundationbc.org Website
Current Appointments	**Judge Linda D. Thomas** (appointed 2/18/2022, expires 12/31/2027) **Abigail Cheung** (appointed 1/1/2022, expires 12/31/2027) **Claire E Hunter, KC** (appointed 1/1/2022, expires 12/31/2027) **Judge Nina Purewal** (appointed 1/1/2022, expires 12/31/2027) **Leah Mack** (appointed 1/20/2023, expires 12/31/2028) **Brandon L. Veenstra** (appointed 1/1/2023, expires 12/31/2028) **R. Max Collett** (appointed 1/1/2023, expires 12/31/2028) **Rajiv Gandhi** (appointed 1/22/2026, expires 12/31/2028) **Cristen Gleeson, KC** (appointed 04/02/2026, expires 04/01/2029) **Justice Ardith Walkem** (appointed 04/02/2026, expires 04/01/2029) **David Hughes** (appointed 1/19/2024, expires 12/31/2029)

6. **Legal Aid BC**	
Description	The objects of the Society are: • to assist individuals with their legal problems and facilitate their access to justice; • to establish and administer an efficient and effective system for providing legal aid to B.C. individuals; and • to provide advice to the Attorney General respecting legal aid and access to justice for individuals in B.C.
Appointee's Responsibilities	The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are: • board responsibilities • Director's role and responsibilities • Director's limitations • conflict of interest policy and principles • indemnification of Directors, Officers and others • amending the by-laws
Contact Information for Inquiries	Legal Aid BC 400 – 510 Burrard Street Vancouver, BC V6C 3A8 Phone: 604.601.6000 Fax: 604.601.6293 Email: info@legalaid.bc.ca Website
Current Appointments	**Thomas Arbogast, KC** (appointed 12/11/2023, expires 12/10/2026) **Jill Kot** (appointed 04/11/2025, expires 04/10/2028) **Nancy Carter, KC** (appointed 02/12/2026, expires 02/11/2029) **Sarf Ahmed** (appointed 09/25/2023, expires 09/24/2029)

7. Land Title and Survey Authority ("LTSA") Board of Directors	
Description	In accordance with the *Land Title and Survey Authority Act* the mandate/purposes of the LTSA are: • to manage, operate and maintain the land title and survey systems of British Columbia, • to facilitate the execution of Crown grants, • to manage, operate and maintain a land title system for a first nation under an FNCIDA agreement, • to carry on other necessary or advisable activities related to land title or survey systems, and • to carry on necessary or advisable activities contemplated under the *Land Owner Transparency Act* related to the administration of that Act and the regulations under that Act
Appointee's Responsibilities	The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are: • board powers • Directors' and Officers' duties • Directors' remuneration • Director's duty to manage • indemnification of Directors • discloser of conflicts of interest
Contact Information for Inquiries	Land Title and Survey Authority Corporate Office 200-1321 Blanshard Street Victoria, BC V8W 9J3 Phone: 604.630.9630 Toll Free: 877.577.5872 Website
Current Appointments	**Patrick Julian** (appointed 4/1/2018, expires 3/31/2027) **Salman Manki** (appointed 4/1/2026, expires 3/31/2029)

8. Provincial Court of BC Judicial Council	
Description	The object of the Council is to improve the quality of judicial service, and its functions including the following: • considering proposed Lieutenant Governor in Council appointments of judges and justices; • conducting inquiries respecting judges and justices; • considering proposals for improving the judicial services of the court; • continuing the education of judges and organizing conferences of judges; • preparing and revising, in consultation with the judges, a code of ethics for the judiciary; and • reporting to the Attorney General on the matters the Attorney General considers necessary.
Appointee's Responsibilities	The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are: • Council members' remuneration: • exercising powers of and acting on behalf of the Council
Contact Information for Inquiries	Provincial Court of British Columbia 337 – 800 Hornby Street Vancouver, BC V6Z 2E1 Phone: 604.660.2864 Fax: 604.660.1108 Email: info@provincialcourt.bc.ca Website
Current Appointments	**Thomas L. Spraggs, KC** (appointed 1/1/2026, expires 12/31/2029)

9. Committee on Relations with the Judiciary	
Description	The objects of the Committee include that: • The services of an independent panel of senior and respected barristers should be available to judges in such circumstances to provide advice and assistance to the lawyer, in accordance with the 1997 protocol; • No judge or lawyer is bound to avail themselves of the services of the CRJ – participation is voluntary; and • The special panel is also available to give advice and assistance to a lawyer who feels that a judge's conduct has been inappropriate. The panel may advise on whether or not to proceed to a complaint and may canvass the options of making a complaint to the appropriate judicial council, raising as a legal issue in the trial whether the judge's actions manifest a bias against the lawyer's client or asking the Law Society to raise the matter informally with the appropriate Chief Justice or Chief Judge.
Appointee's Responsibilities	The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are: • CRJ members act independently of the Law Society in carrying out the terms of the 1997 Protocol • CRJ members should expect to be requested to report to the Law Society from time to time on the general effectiveness of the 1997 Protocol and the CRJ, but not on specific cases.
Contact Information for Inquiries	c/o Law Society of British Columbia Attn: Avalon Bourne Manager, Governance & Board Relations 845 Cambie Street Vancouver, BC V6B 4Z9 Phone: 604.443.5706 Fax: 604.669.5232 Email: ABourne@lsbc.org
Current Appointments	**Ian Donaldson, KC** (appointed 9/27/2011) **J. Kenneth McEwan, KC** (appointed 9/27/2011) **Dinyar Marzban, KC** (appointed 9/27/2011)

10. Federal Judicial Advisory Committee for British Columbia		
Description	The object of the Committee is to assess the qualifications of the lawyers who apply for federal judicial appointments. Candidates are assessed by the regional advisory committee established for the judicial district of their practice or occupation, or by the committee judged most appropriate by the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs	
Appointee's Responsibilities	The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are to assess the qualifications of the lawyers who apply for federal judicial appointments.	
Contact Information for Inquiries	Judicial Appointments Secretariat Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs Canada 99 Metcalfe Street, 8th floor Ottawa, Ontario K1A 1E3	Phone: 613.992.9400 Toll Free: 877.583.4266 Fax: 613.941.0607 Email: jacs-snm@fja-cmf.gc.ca
Current Appointments	**M. Louise Mandell, KC** (appointed 08/17/2023)	

11. Land Title and Survey Authority Stakeholder Advisory Committee	
Description	The object of the Committee is to provide advice or recommendations to the board and the chief executive officer on the operations of the LTSA, including advice or recommendations on the effectiveness of and improvements to the activities, programs, services and special projects of the LTSA and on any other matter requested by the board or the chief executive officer.
Appointee's Responsibilities	The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are to provide advice or recommendations to the board and the chief executive officer on the operations of the LTSA.
Contact Information for Inquiries	Land Title and Survey Stakeholder Advisory Committee c/o Land Title and Survey Authority Corporate Office 200 - 1321 Blanshard Street Victoria, BC V8W 9J3 Phone: 604.630.9630 Toll Free: 877.577.5872 Website
Current Appointments	**Edward Wilson** (appointed 8/1/2013)

12. Vancouver Airport Authority Board of Directors	
Description	The objects of the Board are: • to acquire all of or an interest in property comprising the Vancouver International Airport and other airports of the lower mainland, by lease or other form of transfer; • to undertake the management and operation of YVR et al. in efficient manner and safe manner for the benefit of the public; • to undertake the development of the land at YVR et al. to make them compatible with air transport activities; • to generate, suggest and participate in economic development projects etc. intended to expand B.C.'s transportation facilities and generate economic activity in all areas compatible with air transportation; and • to assemble information, advise on and otherwise contribute to the advancement of air transportation
Appointee's Responsibilities	The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are: • promoting objects of Vancouver Airport Authority and avoiding personal gain • exercising powers of and acting on behalf of the Authority • amending constitution and by-laws
Contact Information for Inquiries	Vancouver Airport Authority PO Box 44638 YVR Domestic Terminal RPO Richmond, BC V7B 1W2 Phone: 604.207.7077 TTY (TTD): 604.207.7070 Email: customercallcentre@yvr.ca Website
Current Appointments	**Suromitra Sanatani** (appointed 06/03/2024, expires 06/02/2027)

13. British Columbia Supreme Court Civil and Family Rules Committee	
Description	The objects of the Committee are: • To provide advice and make recommendations on changes to the Supreme Court Rules that are fair, sustainable and have the public's confidence; • To evaluate court rules changes proposed by members of the judiciary, the legal profession, government ministries and the public; • To engage the legal profession, members of the public and other users of the courts; and • To advise the Attorney General on issues affecting access to justice that might be addressed through the court rules.
Appointee's Responsibilities	• Identifying and recommending specific areas for Rules revision consideration; and • Conducting analysis and consultation of proposed changes to the Rules with the objective of implementing the Justice and Public Safety sector's Vision and Guiding Principles, including creation of efficiencies that support self- represented litigants.
Contact Information for Inquiries	Deputy Attorney General PO Box 9290 Stn Prov Govt Victoria, BC V8Q 9J7 Phone: 250.356.0149 Fax: 250.387.6224 Email: AGSupremeCourtRulesCommittee@gov.bc.ca Website
Current Appointments	**Tanya Chamberlain, KC** (appointed 08/07/2024, expires 12/31/2029)