

2025 Bencher Election – County of Vancouver

Candidate biographies and statements

The candidates were invited to submit biographical information and an election statement. The views expressed are those of the candidates and do not reflect the official policy or position of the Law Society.

Candidates are listed in order of their appearance on the ballot, as determined by drawing of lots, pursuant to [Rule 1-28](#).

Candidate information for District 1 – County of Vancouver

- MOHAN, Arun
- STRUTHERS, James
- BHULLAR, Tony
- WESTELL, Kevin B.
- ARAM, Nazanin
- BHARMAL, Aleem, KC
- COOK, Christina J., KC
- D'SA, Cheryl, KC
- ZIMMERMAN, Michael
- DELANEY, Tim
- CHAMBERLAIN, Tanya
- HIRA, Ravi, KC
- HEUCHERT, Tanya



MOHAN, Arun (he/him)

Called to the Bar: 2014

University of British Columbia

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Website: www.equity.ubc.ca/our-team/arun-mohan/

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Called to the Bar in 2014, I'm currently a non-practising member of the Law Society.

I was a practising lawyer until 2016, when due to family needs, I transitioned into non-practising status and moved to the administrative law field as an adjudicator, mediator and investigator at the Employment Standards Branch of BC.

In 2021, I became a Correctional Adjudicator with BC Corrections in their first cohort of independent decision-makers within provincial correctional facilities.

In 2023, I returned to UBC – where I previously earned multiple degrees (BA (Hons), LLB, LLM) – to become the Director of Human Rights. The Human Rights Advisors and I uphold and promote the rights and responsibilities of all UBC community members under the Discrimination Policy. We respond to every party that comes to us, provide alternative resolution processes, and work on proactive measures to ensure community members work and study in a discrimination-free environment.

I'm an active volunteer with Access Pro Bono; CBA's Policy Committee and Equity Subcommittee; CBABC's Advisory Committee to Judicial Council; Lawyers Assistance Program of BC; and UBC as an Alumni Personal Profile Reader, a member of the Allard Law Alumni Association, and as a mentor to Allard Law students.

ELECTION STATEMENT

My candidacy is summed up this way: Now is the best time for a non-practising member to be elected as a Benchers.

The Law Society understands that its "mandate to protect the public interest in the administration of justice is best served by leadership from diverse backgrounds and experience" (see the "Notice of 2025 Benchers Elections and Call for Nominations").

There are 1,633 non-practising members (see page 24 of the 2024 Annual Report), and we have unique needs that would be best served by having a non-practising Benchers. Indeed, many of us work on regulatory bodies, administrative tribunals, and in organizations where the *Legal Profession Act*, Law Society Rules, and *Code of Professional Conduct for British Columbia* come into play, and where there's a focus on equity, inclusion, and Indigenous reconciliation.

The question arises: Why should Arun represent non-practising members as a Benchers?

The answer is: I have a diverse set of experiences and skills that can help the Law Society and the Benchers fulfill their responsibilities:

- I've navigated a unique pathway in my legal career with experience as a practising lawyer; as an investigator, mediator and adjudicator with the Employment Standards Branch of BC; as a Correctional Adjudicator with BC Corrections; and now as the Director of Human Rights at UBC.
- I understand the opportunities and challenges within the legal profession, and can utilize the lessons-learned from my experience as a racialized person in our field; my research and graduate thesis on nurturing work-life balance in the legal profession; and my volunteer service in providing assistance and mentorship to lawyers and law students.
- Through my community service with Access Pro Bono; the CBA; the CBABC; the Lawyers Assistance Program of BC; and at UBC, I've been involved in matters of utmost importance to our profession, including: advancing access to justice, inclusion and reconciliation; providing assistance to lawyers, students and those in need; and standing up for the rule of law and lawyer independence in BC and across Canada.

I would bring this same service orientation to the Law Society as a Benchers.

Thank you,

Arun

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STRUTHERS, James (he/him)

Called to the Bar: 2018

Macushla Law Corporation (dba macushlaw)

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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

James Struthers is the Founder and Managing Lawyer of macushlaw, a B Corp law firm serving non-profits, charities, impact enterprises, housing providers, First Nations small and medium sized enterprises, and philanthropists. James maintains a full time governance, corporate, commercial and real estate practice, and is currently the only solicitor sitting as a bencher.

As a perennial non-profit board member, co-founder of bGuiled Debate Society and Boutique Counsel Network, probono lawyer, mentor to articling students and junior lawyers, former volunteer supervising lawyer with Everyone Legal Clinic, and frequent foster dog dad, James has a demonstrated track record of community service and leadership.

He has served as a bencher since 2024, bringing a diverse perspective to the board as an early call, small firm solicitor, and impact-enterprise founder. He sits on the Practice Standards Committee, Access to Justice Advisory Committee, Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination Task Force, and Finance and Audit Committee.

James is an 8-year call, graduated from Allard Law, practiced at a national and boutique firm prior to founding macushlaw, and is grateful to live and work on the ancestral and unceded traditional territories of the x^wməθk^wəyəm, Skw̓xwú7mesh, səlilwətał Peoples.

ELECTION STATEMENT

It has been an immense privilege to serve as a bencher in Vancouver County since January 1, 2024.

I am proud to have supported the LSBC's commendable progress on mental health, access to justice, and innovation initiatives since I began my first term in 2024, which were priorities noted in my 2023 election statement. I was proud to vote, advocate, and support

the incredible work of LSBC staff and my benchers colleagues in expanding the ambit of, and securing as a permanent program, the Alternative Discipline Process, modernizing trust accounting rules, streamlining the TAF regime, and enshrining access to legal services, proportionate regulation, and modernization and innovation in the LSBC's forthcoming strategic plan, among many other meaningful initiatives.

I've also been privileged to support the wellbeing, compliance and ethics of my colleagues through benchers advice calls and articling student interviews, encourage future lawyers to give back to their communities, support proportionate regulatory response, data collection and analysis, approve justice initiative funding, and approve progressive initiatives in committee. I have also served as a panelist on a number of tribunal hearings.

I currently sit on the:

- Practice Standards Committee, bringing a diverse perspective as an earlier call and small firm owner and solicitor;
- Access to Justice Advisory Committee, assisting with better highlighting the immense community contributions made by lawyers, paralegals and other industry participants, and identifying ways to reduce barriers to meeting the most prescient public legal service needs;
- Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination Task Force, identifying ways to improve circumstances and mitigate harm; and
- Finance and Audit Committee, overseeing the LSBC's financial planning and reporting.

I am immensely grateful to the members that entrusted me with this solemn obligation, and to the members of the public, lawyers, benchers colleagues (past and present), staff, and educators that provided this opportunity, and supported my growth within it.

I believe I am well positioned, and committed, to continue to advance these and other priorities constructively, collaboratively, and in the public interest. We have made progress, have much work to do, and I would be honored to continue to serve the public in this role.

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BHULLAR, Tony

Called to the Bar: 1995

Independent lawyer

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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Tony has the following accomplishments. He attended Simon Fraser University and received a B.A. in political science, his LL.B from the University of Victoria and an LL.M (Magna Cum Laude) from the University of Notre Dame. As well, he is the recipient of 2 medals: (1) Queen's Golden Jubilee and (2) Diamond Jubilee Medals. His background is rich in farming and still works the blueberry farm that the family owns. Hence, he understands the challenges that farmers currently face and worked with a group of farmers to present their case to enact legislation to protect farmers by suburban growth. He has practiced with private law firms as well being a Federal prosecutor and a ad hoc prosecutor in Surrey, BC. Employed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Tony would represent members before a Disciplinary Board. Feeling that he needed to serve the public, he was elected the Legislature of British Columbia. As a member of the legislature, he served as a member of the standing committee on communities and safety, on the standing committee on education, the Select Standing committee on Finance and Government. The most important committee he served on was the select standing committee on Aboriginal Affairs. On this committee he learned the needs of the Indigenous community and challenges First Nations face.

ELECTION STATEMENT

Tony was born in Vancouver, BC. But his parents immigrated from India to Canada. As a South Asian, Tony speaks Punjabi fluently and has an understanding of the culture and needs of this community. Now more than ever before the community needs assistance to help our organizations such as the Law Society of British Columbia. It has now become commonplace that extortion has become rampant and uncontrollable, and members of the community live in fear. Either gunshots are fired into homes demanding monies or stones are hurled through windows. Tony sees himself acting as a bridge between the South Asian Community. The community is largely angry for taking jobs and their livelihoods from the Taxi industry. The Taxi industry feels that the judicial system let them down by ruling in favor of Uber allowing them to operate. Tony served as President of the Vancouver Taxi

Association (VTA) and served on the Passenger Transportations Board (PTB) Advisory Committee. A license for a taxi in Vancouver has a value of about 1 million dollars and overnight dropped to about \$150,000.00 dollars. Percolating in the community is a sense of injustice. But this sense of injustice is not only the province of South Asians, from all quarters there is a feeling that access to justice is out of reach for the average person. There is no easy solution, but the Society needs I believe to put more emphasis on pro bono work. Tony says that sole practitioners and small firms are unable to afford health insurance programs that the Law Society implement a plan that small firms and sole practitioners can pay into and get coverage for the firm or themselves. It is imperative that members be looked after health wise so that they can continue to serve the community. Not only is a Health Plan perhaps necessary but a pension plan should not be excluded. A pension that is paid into on a monthly basis would be wonderful so that members can retire and continue working to keep themselves because the lack of funds. These are just some of the things Tony wishes.

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WESTELL, Kevin B. (he/him)

Called to the Bar: 2009

Pender Litigation

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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

It continues to be my honour to serve as Benchers for Vancouver County. I have served on the Access to Justice Advisory, Ethics, and Discipline Committees, as well as the Trust Review Task Force. I currently chair the Discipline Processes Task Force.

As a proud Vancouverite and founding principal at Pender Litigation, I practice criminal, regulatory, and administrative law. In addition to my defence work in private practice, I occasionally act as ad hoc Crown Counsel, amicus curiae, counsel for witnesses, and counsel for police agencies. I have appeared at all levels of court in BC and at the Supreme Court of Canada.

My volunteer experience includes teaching trial advocacy and ethics in various forums, including UBC's McEachern Course in Trial Advocacy and the VBA Inns of Court Program. I have also served the profession as Chair of the Advocates Club, the CBA National Criminal Justice Section, and the TLABC Criminal Committee.

I continue to seek opportunities to broaden my perspective. Outside of law, I have volunteered on the boards of both the Strathcona Community Centre and the Crisis Intervention and Suicide Prevention Centre of BC.

ELECTION STATEMENT

Over the past five years, it has been my pleasure to represent Vancouver County as Benchers. I am seeking re-election to continue this important work for the bar and in the public interest.

One of the most rewarding aspects of being a Benchers is receiving calls from lawyers and students seeking advice on difficult, often time-sensitive ethical problems. I consider it a privilege to assist colleagues in need, as each call presents an opportunity to learn and problem-solve.

Serving on the Discipline Committee for the past four years has been both challenging and fulfilling, and I hope to continue in this role. If re-elected, I intend to remain chair of the Discipline Processes Task Force, which is dedicated to ensuring the Law Society's discipline processes are principled, evidence-based, and aligned with the values and expectations of today's public. As a regulator, it is vital that the Law Society continually evaluates its processes to protect the public interest.

This is a critical time for the Law Society. The government's introduction of the *Legal Professions Act* will end the Law Society's role in regulating the profession after a transition period. I have supported the Law Society's decision to challenge the constitutionality of this legislation. If re-elected, I will continue to oppose the current conception of the *Act*, as I believe it does not uphold the public's essential interest in an independent bar.

It remains a great professional privilege to serve the public and our bar as a Bencher. I would be honoured to continue in this capacity.

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ARAM, Nazanin

Called to the Bar: 2013

Aramesh Law / Carfra Lawton

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Website: www.aramesh.law

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

I am a trial lawyer practising in the areas of personal injury, insurance claims, family law, civil and commercial litigation and strata disputes. I work as a sole practitioner providing family and civil litigation services through my firm, Aramesh Law, as well as associate counsel at Carfra Lawton in its insurance defence practice.

I was born and raised in Iran and immigrated to Canada in 2000. Educated in both civil and common law systems, I hold a Bachelor of Civil Law from Tehran University (2000) and an LLB from UBC (2004). I was called to the bar in BC in 2013.

I am a past member of the Trial Lawyers Association of BC Board of Governors and the Canadian Bar Association of BC Auto Insurance Committee.

Over the course of my career, I have done both solicitor's work and litigation in a variety of areas and I have practiced in Prince Rupert, Victoria and Vancouver. I have represented individuals from all walks of life, businesses and institutional and government clients. I have managed my own firm since 2020.

ELECTION STATEMENT

I acknowledge the important work to be done by the Law Society and incoming benchers over the next few years. As a candidate, the major issues I am especially interested in are protection of the public, improving the regulatory system, the future of the legal profession for lawyers and the public, and access to justice.

If elected as a bencher, I would strive to take a careful and considered approach to the issue of changes in the regulatory framework with a view to safeguarding the independence of the legal profession while improving the functional operation of the regulator in the public interest. I am not in principle opposed to a single regulator overseeing all those providing legal services; there are public interest benefits (eg consistent professional standards and

more consistent regulatory outcomes). To me the question is in the structure and characteristics of the regulator. I would endeavour to approach this question with objectivity and a careful balancing of the public interest on one hand and the independence of the profession on the other.

In my respectful view, whether or not our regulator changes, the way in which our regulatory system operates needs to improve. I fully recognize the hardship experienced by lawyers facing regulatory action and would want to ensure they receive fair treatment. On the other hand, in my view improvement is needed in the efficiency, effectiveness and consistency of our self-regulatory processes in order to protect the public and maintain public confidence.

If elected, I would support all measures aimed at ensuring that the legal profession provides a healthy and sustainable work environment for all participants. In my personal experience, lack of civility, respect, equity, diversity and inclusion continues to be a live issue, in particular for lawyers from minority groups, women and new lawyers. I am interested in all measures to modernize the legal profession in this regard.

As a litigator, I would support any present or potential steps that can be taken by the Law Society and other stakeholders to advocate for access to justice and practical solutions to the present crisis.

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BHARMAL, Aleem, KC (he/him)

Called to the Bar: 1995

Community Legal Assistance Society

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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

I'm a human rights lawyer with a legal non-profit where I have practiced for almost 25 years and served as Executive Director from 2007-2019.

First elected as a Bencher in 2024, I am Vice-Chair of the Ethics and Lawyer Independence Advisory Committee and serve on the: Access to Justice Advisory Committee; Bullying, Harassment & Discrimination Task Force; and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee.

I have been a presenter on human rights, social justice, access to justice, and legal ethics issues and served as President of the Canadian Bar Association, BC Branch for 2022-23.

In 2015, my co-counsel, Clea Parfitt, and I won a lengthy, high-profile racial discrimination case involving Indo-Canadian veterinarians in BC.

In 2016, I was involved with other stakeholders in the launch of an Islamophobia Legal Assistance Hotline presently administered by Access Pro Bono BC and was also awarded the CBABC President's Medal.

In 2019, I was appointed King's Counsel in recognition of my contributions to the law in BC.

In 2022, my co-counsel, Frances Rosner, and I won a lengthy, ground-breaking discrimination case involving an Indigenous mother taking on a child welfare agency, which was upheld just this year by the BC Court of Appeal.

ELECTION STATEMENT

First elected as a Bencher for Vancouver County in 2024, I presently sit as Vice-Chair of the Ethics and Lawyer Independence Advisory Committee as well as serve as a member of

the: Access to Justice Advisory Committee; Bullying, Harassment & Discrimination Task Force; and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee.

My first term was spent getting up to speed and then gradually more immersed in some very exciting projects on many of these fronts. I would very much appreciate the opportunity to contribute even more deeply to this critical work for a second term.

If re-elected, I will also continue to vigorously advocate protecting the independence of the legal profession and the rule of law in service of the public interest. I have a long track record in this regard dating back to my time as CBABC President for the 2022-23 term. I have strongly supported the Law Society's present constitutional challenge to the *Legal Professions Act* for this reason and believe it is absolutely vital that lawyers be regulated by lawyers.

As the son of first-generation South Asian Muslim immigrants, I have been a longtime advocate in the discourse promoting equity, diversity, and inclusion in the legal profession. I am further committed to bolstering the public's access to justice.

These are important aspects of maintaining confidence in our profession and the justice system. These have always been great passions of mine and I have a longstanding history of achievement in these areas, as well as in the area of Truth & Reconciliation, through both my extensive professional and volunteer legal work.

As a well-experienced human rights litigator working in the public interest legal sector and as a steadfast champion of important and timely social justice issues, I view the prospect of continuing to serve as your Benchers to be a great honour and privilege and humbly seek your support.

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COOK, Christina J., KC

Called to the Bar: 2010

BC First Nations Justice Council

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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

My name is Christina J. Cook, I am a current Benchler, elected in a by-election in July 2023 and elected again in the November 2023 general election. I humbly ask for your vote in this 2025 general election.

I am a litigator, an avid volunteer, and a 15-year call. I am First Nations, specifically I am a proud member of Brokenhead Ojibway Nation.

I work for the BC First Nations Justice Council; I previously had the pleasure of working as in-house counsel for a national insurer, and for plaintiffs in civil litigation matters, regulatory matters, and doing some corporate and solicitor's work.

I am the Founder of the CBABC Aboriginal Lawyers Forum, and I am currently on the Law Foundation's Indigenous Circle.

I am a past volunteer with the CBABC Judicial Advisory Committee, Women Lawyers Forum, Young Lawyers, and Insurance Law Section. I am also the past chair of the National Canadian Defence Lawyers Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

I am also the former President of the Kamloops Bar Association.

I have presented at CLEBC Conferences, UBC Law, and TRU Law, and recently I engaged with the Federation of Law Societies on a National Code of Conduct.

ELECTION STATEMENT

The Law Society is currently undergoing massive changes as it contemplates a transition to the single legal regulator. The governance of our profession and makeup of the legal regulator is going to change as a single governor is created to oversee lawyers, notaries, and paralegals.

We need ensure that any changes made maintain the independence of the Bar and the vital role that lawyers play in our society, while achieving the change and embracing the innovation within this new regulator.

During this transition period between the LSBC and the new regulator, the LSBC continues its work and its governance of lawyers, and articling students.

I believe I have an important perspective to add to the Benchers table. I have strong community ties with young lawyers, women lawyers, Indigenous lawyers, insurance defence lawyers, civil litigators and among others. In this time of change we need to ensure that all of these voices are included in the governance of our profession.

In addition to the governance structure, our profession is seeing ever increasing reporting requirements being imposed on lawyers.

Lawyers' roles in our communities are evolving, as is the way we do business and practice law. There are technological changes, demographic changes, a shift to increasingly collaborative practice, and issues with access to justice. We need to be diverse and collaborative.

I believe we need Benchers that can work to address these issues for the betterment of the profession and the community at large. And to further ensure that all lawyers are able to make a living wage within the practice of law. I am committed to supporting the work of the LSBC Mental Health Task Force, as we need to ensure that our profession supports a balanced and healthy practice of law and does not harm our professionals.

In the two years that I have been able to attend Benchers meetings and committee meetings; I have undertaken to provide my unique perspective to the discussions and decisions.

I ask for the opportunity to continue, and I humbly ask for your vote for Benchers (Vancouver County).

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D'SA, Cheryl, KC (she/her)

Called to the Bar: 2008

Narwal Litigation LLP

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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

A first generation Canadian, born and raised in East Vancouver, I attended law school at UBC and was called in 2008. I summered, articulated and practiced at a mid-sized firm before joining a plaintiff-only firm. In 2013 I joined my partner to start our own firm, Narwal Litigation LLP, where I remain today as the Managing Partner. The firm is devoted to criminal defence, professional regulation, and securities litigation.

A Bencher since May 2020, I have been a member of, chaired and vice-chaired various LSBC committees and task forces.

I am in my second term as one of two Benchers appointed to the Board of CLEBC. I will soon conclude my two-year term on the FACL BC Advisory Committee and have recently been appointed to the Board of JES.

I was the first visible minority female president of the VBA. For several years, I chaired the CBABC Solo & Small Firm Section and have held appointments to CBABC Committees.

I received the CBABC WLF Debra Van Ginkel, QC Mentoring Award (2023), Business in Vancouver Top Forty Under 40 (2019) and a Canadian Lawyer Magazine Excellence Award in the Female Trailblazer of the Year category (2021).

ELECTION STATEMENT

I have been a Bencher for over five years and am seeking re-election for my final term.

I am a female racialized lawyer with a child under 10 and a small firm owner. The LSBC must regulate in the public interest; I am a voice for many groups that need continued representation at the table while this work is carried out.

I have current and firsthand knowledge about the issues facing women in law and have been an active voice for the retention of women lawyers. I was the Bencher who led the returning to practice rule changes.

Prior to the rule changes, any lawyer who had not engaged in the practice of law for more than 3 of the past 5 years, could not resume practice without passing examinations or obtaining the permission of the Credentials Committee. This had a disproportionate impact on lawyers who had taken a series of parental leaves, who took time away to address health issues whether their own or to care for someone else, and lawyers who pursued opportunities outside traditional legal practice. The rules were also changed for absences of more than 5 but less than 7 years.

At a past Benchers meeting, a practice review pilot project for 2-5 year calls in solo or small firm environments only, was presented to the Benchers. I spoke against the project as presented for multiple reasons, one being the random selection proposed - I was concerned it could allow for bias and I believe in transparency and fairness in the regulatory process.

I was the only BC Benchers representative on the Competency Development Task Force and devoted many hours to it. Now in the implementation stage, I would like to continue this work.

I would be grateful to be re-elected for a final term and be afforded an opportunity to continue working hard to ensure we have a strong, healthy profession that reflects the diversity of British Columbians, an independent bar and judiciary, an accessible justice system, and that we continue moving forward on truth & reconciliation, to best protect and serve the public.

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ZIMMERMAN, Michael

Called to the Bar: 2020

Society for Children and Youth of BC & Lindsay Kenney LLP

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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Michael was called to the BC bar in 2020. Since 2021 he has been the Managing Lawyer (Roster) at the Child and Youth Legal Centre, where he has built a roster of over 60 children's lawyers. In 2022, Michael joined Lindsay Kenney LLP, where he also practices family law with a focus on international parenting matters.

He co-developed the first ever child interview training program delivered in Canada using child actors and has delivered that program to over 100 professionals in BC and Ontario. He has authored numerous legal publications and, since 2023 has been an instructor and examiner for the LSBC PLTC course. As an active member of the CBABC, Michael chairs the Children's Law Section and is Past Chair of CBA National Children's Law Section.

Prior to moving to BC, Michael practiced in PEI, where he oversaw the operations of provincial family justice services and the development and implementation of the Office of the Children's Law Program. He spear-headed changes in legislation along with the corresponding reform of impacted policies and programs.

Michael lives on Bowen Island with his husband and their three cats. He loves to travel and has visited over 34 different countries.

ELECTION STATEMENT

The role of benchers is an important one and I approach this election with humility. If elected, I will bring a unique perspective to the benchers table that is reflected in my legal experience in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. Bridging those areas of practice is a privilege; I get to work with individuals advocating for their needs while also recognizing trends of how systemic barriers can impede individuals who are trying to achieve a fair resolution to their legal problems. When I represent children, I see the barriers that can impede child participation and the magic that happens - not just for the child but for the family and society as a whole - when the child's voice is included in decisions that are being made about them.

I am a staunch supporter of the principle of nothing about us without us. When drafting the Child and Youth Advocate Act in PEI, for example, I conducted numerous public stakeholder consultations with First Nations and children in care before making any recommendations. I wanted to understand their perspective on what was necessary to achieve meaningful access to justice.

A great deal is said about diversity. To me, it starts by ensuring that those with diverse backgrounds actually sit at the decision-making table and have a real voice at that table. Ensuring diversity means engaging with impacted groups at the outset rather than “consulting” at the end stage.

The Law Society is currently experiencing a period of uncertainty as the government seeks to establish a single regulator with broad powers through Bill 21. I maintain that an independent bar is fundamental to a free and democratic society; we have seen recently how easily constitutional rights can be eroded through political interference.

If elected, I will use my skills and experience in private and public organizational governance to ensure that marginalized populations are included in Law Society decisions and operations. I will add my voice to the call for an independent bar. And I will ensure that I devote my time, energy, and passion to the important role of Bencher.

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DELANEY, Tim (he/him)

Called to the Bar: 1989

Lindsay Kenney LLP

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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Tim Delaney has a civil litigation practice with Lindsay Kenney LLP in Vancouver. He was called to the Bar in 1989. He is a former managing partner of his firm.

Tim was first elected a Bencher for 2023. He is Chair of the Complainants' Review Committee and a member of the Finance and Audit Committee. He has served on the Practice Standards and the Access to Justice Advisory Committees. He sits on panels considering lawyer discipline matters and conduct reviews.

He has served in numerous volunteer positions for the CBABC Branch: as a member of the Provincial Council; the Audit Committee; the Advisory Committee to the Judicial Council; past Chair of the Legislation and Law Reform Committee; and, as National and Provincial Chair of the Law Week Planning Committee.

Tim is a former member of the TLABC Executive Committee, President of the Law Courts Inn Society, and President of the Vancouver Bar Association. He has lectured for CLEBC, served a volunteer judge to the UBC Moot Court program, and a volunteer to Access Pro Bono clinics.

He was a former Director of Act II Child & Family Services Society. He is currently a Director of the I'm a HIPpy Society.

ELECTION STATEMENT

I am grateful to have served the past three years as a Bencher in Vancouver County. This has been both challenging and rewarding work. There is important work ahead and it is my hope to continue to make a worthwhile contribution to the profession.

As we are all well aware, the Provincial government's legislative changes to the regulation of the legal profession are currently being challenged by the Law Society in the courts. The

independence of the Bar cannot be compromised by these legislative changes. I also believe it is critical that lawyers continue to be the primary group overseeing lawyers on issues of competence and ethics.

If re-elected these are issues on which I will continue to advocate.

In addition to the work that needs to be done regarding regulation of the legal profession, I am passionate about ensuring the lawyers of British Columbia are held to the highest standards of ethics and competence. Having said that, I believe issuing a citation should be a last resort and the Law Society should work with lawyers to improve the professional standards.

In my time as a Bencher I am involved with various committees and activities, including:

- reviews of complaints against lawyers;
- practice standards reviews;
- the access to justice advisory committee;
- the audit committee;
- conduct reviews; and,
- panels reviewing citations against lawyers.

It is my sincere belief that I bring an experienced and balanced approach to these issues.

As a Bencher I have enjoyed meeting with articulated students. On many occasions, I have assisted members of our profession navigate ethical and practice issues.

It has been a privilege to serve for the past three years and I ask for your consideration in re-election as a Bencher for Vancouver County.

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CHAMBERLAIN, Tanya (she/her)

Called to the Bar: 1995

Tanya Chamberlain Family Law

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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Tanya was called to the Bar in British Columbia in 1995. She began her career as a criminal defence lawyer but now practices primarily family law. Tanya is a sole practitioner whose practice is focused on consensual dispute resolution processes. She was first elected as Benchers for the County of Vancouver in 2021. She chairs the Access to Justice Advisory Committee, and has served on the Discipline, Practice Standards, Complainants' Review, and Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committees. She is a Collaborative Lawyer, Family Law Mediator and Arbitrator, Parenting Coordinator and prepares Hear the Child Reports.

Tanya is a member of the Health Justice Alliance Steering Committee, a collaboration working to reduce the harm which British Columbians experience when going through relationship breakdown. She serves on the Supreme Court Civil and Family Rules Committee and the Supreme Court Family Rules Sub-committee. She is a Board Member of the British Columbia Collaborative Roster Society, and Chair of the Pro Bono Collaborative Committee. She is a past President of BC Sailing, and the former Secretary and Board member of the Canadian Optimist Dinghy Association. She enjoys her time away from the law with her family, friends and 3 Labrador Retrievers.

ELECTION STATEMENT

It has been my privilege to serve the public and profession as an elected Benchers of the Law Society of British Columbia for the county of Vancouver since 2022. I am seeking re-election to continue to uphold the independence of our profession, ensuring it remains effectively regulated in the public interest, and to stand firm against unwarranted government interference.

I remain committed to addressing issues of bullying, harassment and discrimination in the profession. We will be leaders by addressing this pervasive societal problem. I am proud that the Benchers established a Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination Task Force which will consider how best to reform our policies, processes and procedures.

I am proud that the legal profession in British Columbia has become as diverse as the citizens it serves. I am committed to taking steps to ensure that our profession is welcoming and inclusive to all, free from discrimination. It is in the public interest that lawyers have the equitable accommodations they need to help their clients access justice.

In my work as the Chair of the Access to Justice Advisory Committee, I continue to look for ways to improve access to justice by advocating for innovations such as a universal Triage Hub for legal problems, greater funding to Legal Aid BC, legal education to the community and other initiatives that will make access to legal services less expensive and courts more accessible and easier to navigate. It is important that we understand the barriers that the public face in accessing justice so that we can try to advocate to government to remove those that are in their exclusive jurisdiction.

I am committed to learning the truth about the impact of the colonization of Indigenous people in Canada. I am privileged to be able to work on de-colonizing the policies, procedures and practices of the Law Society.

I have worked hard at the Benchers table with my wonderful colleagues since being elected. I hope to be able to continue to regulate our independent profession in the public interest.

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HIRA, Ravi, KC

Called to the Bar: 1982

Hira Rowan LLP

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Website: www.hirarowan.com

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

I bring over 43 years of diverse legal experience. I served as Crown Counsel, Special Prosecutor, criminal defence counsel, commercial litigator, and advocate for many professionals. I participated in numerous public inquiries, appeared before administrative tribunals, and appeared in all levels of court, including the Supreme Court of Canada. In 1998, I was appointed Queen's Counsel.

My commitment to the Profession extends far beyond the courtroom. I served six elected terms—18 years—on both the National and Provincial Councils of the Canadian Bar Association. I was a Commissioner of the BC Securities Commission, a director of the British Columbia Law Institute and the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform, and a member of the UBC Senate. I have written and presented extensively at legal conferences and co-authored a text on British Columbia criminal procedure and practice. Elected as a Bencher in 2024, I continue to contribute to the governance of our profession with the same dedication that has guided my entire career.

In 1997, I joined colleagues on the CBA Provincial Council in opposing the elimination of tort rights in motor vehicle cases, an initiative that was ultimately withdrawn. I helped establish committees promoting diversity and equality within the Profession.

ELECTION STATEMENT

Why I seek re-election as a Bencher of the Law Society.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as a Bencher over the past two years. We are at a defining moment for our Profession. Legislative encroachments and regulatory pressures increasingly threaten the independence of the Bar and the Rule of Law itself. Now, more than ever, the Law Society needs experienced, principled, and balanced leadership.

As a Benchers, my focus has been to preserve and enhance the independence, integrity, and competence of our Profession. The Law Society's core function must remain the protection of the public interest through responsible self-regulation and by assisting lawyers in upholding the highest standards of practice. Our regulatory framework should support—not impede—lawyers in maintaining excellence, ethics, and access to justice.

I have never shied away from taking a principled stand. In 1997, I joined colleagues on the CBA Provincial Council in opposing the elimination of tort rights in motor vehicle cases, an initiative that was ultimately withdrawn. I helped establish committees promoting diversity and equality within the Profession—issues that were rarely discussed when I began my career over four decades ago. The Profession has since evolved: we have made real progress in areas such as diversity, Indigenous reconciliation, collegiality, and continuing education. These gains must be preserved.

In pursuing progress, we must never lose sight of the fundamental pillar of our Profession: independence. That independence is not only the bedrock of our democracy but also a vital safeguard against governmental encroachment and the erosion of individual rights. Benchers must not be passive observers when such threats arise.

I will continue to advocate for a Law Society that defends the independence of the Bar and the Rule of Law with courage. I will promote transparent and effective governance, meaningful diversity and inclusion, and practical regulation that helps lawyers strengthen their standards of practice.

With experience, judgment, and independence of mind, I will continue to serve both the public and the Profession faithfully. With your vote, we can together ensure that our Profession remains strong, self-governing, and steadfast in defending the Rule of Law.

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HEUCHERT, Tanya (she/her)

Called to the Bar: 1994

Retired

Email: heuchert.tanya@gmail.com

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

I am recently retired after more than 30 years of practice in British Columbia. I obtained my Bachelor of Laws at the University of Saskatchewan in 1993 and was called to the BC Bar in 1994. I articulated at Lindsay Kenney in Vancouver and worked there as an associate for three years.

I continued as a litigator at the Insurance Corporation of BC for more than 20 years before moving into management roles. My position when I retired was Director of Claims Legal and Strategy. I acted as solicitor of record and led the in-house legal and strategy teams. In addition, I was responsible for the direction and oversight of legal contracts with numerous law firms across British Columbia.

Outside of work, I am married and have two sons (and a rescue dog from Mexico). In the community, I served on the Education Committee at St. Pius X school and have been a supporter and fundraiser for Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (now Breakthrough T1D), Alzheimer's Society of Canada and the Canadian Cancer Society.

ELECTION STATEMENT

After a career that has extended more than 30 years, I am looking for an opportunity to continue to contribute and share some of what I learned from my experiences as a lawyer in BC.

I have had opportunity to appear at Provincial and Supreme Courts as well as the Court of Appeal. More recently, I also gained some experience with the Civil Resolution Tribunal (CRT).

As a litigator, I have not only appeared in court but also provided legal and technical advice to internal and external clients regarding risk assessment, appeals, jurisprudence, legislative changes, and strategic planning. I have worked with many external stakeholders including experts (doctors, engineers, economists, accountants), mediators, Public Guardian and Trustee, Worksafe, etc. At the time of the 2010 change to the Supreme Court Civil Rules, I authored two articles for the BC Medical Journal on changes relating to expert evidence.

I have prepared knowledge assets and communications for lawyers and non-lawyers on many topics relating to practice and procedure. My experience as counsel, as well as Director of Claims Legal and Strategy at ICBC, has provided me with understanding of sensitive and complex legal issues including conflicts of interest, limitations, undertakings, and questions regarding ethics and privacy concerns.

I have also spent much of my career as a coach and mentor for young lawyers as well as a principal for summer and articulated students. I prepared training curriculums and was involved in setting practice standards for legal work, including the development and implementation of a mock trial for junior counsel.

I feel my legal career has provided me with skills and knowledge that align with the roles and duties of a Benchers. I am also looking for an opportunity to continue to stretch and grow my personal experience. It would be a true privilege to continue to offer some contribution to the profession that gave me so much over the course of my career. If elected, I would bring a fresh perspective and deep commitment to my role as Benchers.

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