

Agenda

Bencher Meeting

Date:	Friday, September 20, 2024
Time:	9:00 am – Call to Order
Location:	The Bencher Meeting is taking place as a hybrid meeting. If you would like to attend the meeting as a virtual attendee, please email BencherRelations@lsbc.org
Recording:	<i>The public portion of the meeting will be recorded.</i>

RECOGNITION

1	Presentation of the 2024 Law Society Scholarship for Graduate Legal Studies
2	Presentation of the 2024 Law Society Indigenous Scholarship

CONSENT AGENDA

Any Bencher may request that a consent agenda item be moved to the regular agenda by notifying the President or the Manager, Governance & Board Relations prior to the meeting.

3	Minutes of July 5, 2024 meeting (regular session)
4	Minutes of July 5, 2024 meeting (<i>in camera</i> session)

REPORTS

5	President's Report	15 min	Jeevyn Dhaliwal, KC
6	CEO's Report	15 min	Don Avison, KC

PRESENTATION

7	Presentation from CBABC President	30 min	Lee LMG Nevens
---	-----------------------------------	--------	----------------

Agenda

DISCUSSION/DECISION			
8	Publication of Administrative Penalties	15 min	Don Avison, KC
9	2025 Initiatives, Budgets and Fees	30 min	Brook Greenberg, KC Jeanette McPhee
10	External Appointments: Policy Revisions	15 min	Don Avison, KC
FOR INFORMATION			
11	External Appointments: BC Law Institute		
12	Timeline for 2024 By-Election in the County of Vancouver		
IN CAMERA			
13	Other Business		



Bencher Meeting: Minutes (Draft)

To: Benchers

Purpose: Approval (Consent Agenda)

Date: Friday, July 5, 2024

Present:

Jeevyn Dhaliwal, KC, President	Benjamin D. Levine
Brook Greenberg, KC, 1st Vice-President	Dr. Jan Lindsay
Lindsay R. LeBlanc, KC, 2nd Vice-President	Jaspreet Singh Malik
Simran Bains	Jay Michi
Paul Barnett	Georges Rivard
Aleem Bharmal, KC	Michèle Ross
Tanya Chamberlain	Gurminder Sandhu, KC
Nikki L. Charlton	Thomas L. Spraggs
Jennifer Chow, KC	Barbara Stanley, KC
Christina J. Cook	James Struthers
Tim Delaney	Natasha Tony
Brian Dybwad	Michael F. Welsh, KC
Ravi R. Hira, KC	Kevin B. Westell
Sasha Hobbs	Gaynor C. Yeung
James A. S. Legh	Jonathan Yuen

Absent: Cheryl D'Sa, KC

Staff present:	Don Avison, KC	Jeanette McPhee
	Avalon Bourne	Cary Ann Moore
	Barbara Buchanan, KC	Michael Mulhern
	Natasha Dookie	Doug Munro
	Su Forbes, KC	Rashmi Nair
	Vicki George	Maryanne Prohl
	Kerryn Holt	Michelle Robertson
	Jeffrey Hoskins, KC	Gregory Sexton
	Alison Kirby	Lesley Small
	Michael Lucas, KC	Christine Tam
	Alison Luke	Adam Whitcombe, KC
	Claire Marchant	Charlene Yan
	Tara McPhail	Vinnie Yuen

Guests:	Dom Bautista	Executive Director, Courts Center & Executive Director, Amici Curiae Friendship Society
	Ian Burns	Digital Reporter, The Lawyer's Daily
	Gigi Lau	Rule of Law Essay Contest Winner
	Dr. Cristie Ford	Professor, Peter A. Allard School of Law
	Freya Kodar	Dean of Law, UVic
	Derek LaCroix, KC	Executive Director, Lawyers Assistance Program of BC
	Tony Lee	Guest of Gigi Lau (Law Essay Contest Winner)
	Jamie Maclaren, KC	Executive Director, Access Pro Bono Society of BC
	Desmond MacMillan	Assistant Dean of Law, Thompson Rivers University
	Mark Meredith	Treasurer and Board Member, Mediate BC
Caroline Nevin	CEO, Courthouse Libraries BC	
Anita Pan	Rule of Law Essay Contest Runner-Up	
Josh Paterson	Executive Director, Law Foundation of BC	
Linda Russell	CEO, Continuing Legal Education Society of BC	
Kerry Simmons, KC	Executive Director, Canadian Bar Association, BC Branch	

Recognition

1. 2024 Rule of Law Essay Contest: Presentation of Winner & Runner-Up

President Dhaliwal introduced the winner and runner-up of the 2024 Rule of Law Essay Contest. Pui Chi Lau is the winner of this year's contest, and Anita Pan is the runner-up. They both wrote exemplary essays, which are posted on the Law Society website.

Consent Agenda

2. Minutes of June 1, 2024, meeting (regular session)

The minutes of the meeting held on June 1, 2024 were approved unanimously and by consent as circulated.

3. Minutes of June 1, 2024, meeting (*in camera* session)

The minutes of the *in camera* meeting held on June 1, 2024 were approved unanimously and by consent as circulated.

4. 2024 Law Society Indigenous Scholarship

The following resolution was passed unanimously and by consent:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Benchers ratify the recommendation of the Credentials Committee to award the 2024 Law Society Indigenous Scholarship to Shirina Evans.

5. 2024 Law Society Scholarship for Graduate Legal Studies

The following resolution was passed unanimously and by consent:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Benchers ratify the recommendation of the Credentials Committee to award the 2024 Law Society Scholarship for Graduate Studies to Sopuruchi Godsfriend Christian.

6. Rule Amendments: Bencher Election Rule Revisions

The following resolution was passed unanimously and by consent:

BE IT RESOLVED to amend the Law Society Rules as follows:

1. In Rule 1-20, by deleting the words “on November 15 of each” in each of subrules (2) and (3):

2. In Rule 1-25, by

(a) deleting subrule (5) and replacing it with

“(5) The Executive Director may, on an application by or with the consent of a member, place the member on the voter list for a District other than the one required by this rule where satisfied that the member has a significantly greater connection to the District in which the member wishes to vote.”

(b) adding subrule (6) as follows:

“(6) A member whose application is rejected under subrule (5) may seek a review of the decision by the Executive Committee, whose decision is final.”

3. By deleting Rule 1-27 and replacing it with

Voting period and procedure

“1-27 (0.1) Bencher elections are held by electronic means.

(0.2) Despite subrule (0.1), the Executive Committee may, where circumstances require, authorize the Executive Director to conduct a Bencher election by means other than electronic means.

(0.3) For each election, the Executive Director must establish a voting period of no less than one week closing no later than the close of business on November 14 of the year the election is held.

(0.4) Votes received for a Bencher election held must be counted and results published on November 15 of the year the election is held.

(0.5) The Executive Director

(a) must oversee the election process and procedure,

(b) may retain a contractor to assist in any part of an election,

(c) must ensure that votes cast remain secret,

- (d) must ensure that the voting process enables the voter to clearly and unambiguously record the names of the candidate or candidates voted for, and
 - (e) must take reasonable security measures to ensure that only members entitled to vote can do so.
- (1) On or before the commencement of the voting period, the Executive Director must make available to each member of the Society entitled to vote in an election
 - (a) a ballot containing, in the order determined under Rule 1-28 [*Order of names on ballot*], the names of all candidates in the district in which the member is entitled to vote and stating the number of Benchers to be elected in that district,
 - (b) instructions on submitting the ballot and returning it to the Society in a way that will preserve the secrecy of the member's vote, and
 - (c) [rescinded]
 - (d) [rescinded]
 - (e) [rescinded]
 - (f) biographical information received from the candidates.
- (2) An election is not invalidated by
 - (a) the accidental omission to make the material referred to in subrule (1) available to any member of the Society or the non-receipt of the material, or
 - (b) an error in the delivery of a ballot that results in a member voting in an incorrect district.
- (3) For a ballot to be valid, the voter must
 - (a) vote in accordance with the instructions provided with the ballot,
 - (b) not vote for more candidates than the number of Benchers to be elected in the district, and
 - (c) [rescinded],
 - (d) [rescinded]
 - (e) [rescinded]
 - (f) submit the ballot before the close of the voting period and by the means provided to the Executive Director.
- (4) [rescinded]
- (5) The Executive Director may issue a new ballot to a member entitled to vote who informs the Executive Director in writing that the original ballot sent to the member relates to a district

other than the one in which the member is entitled to vote, provided the member has not already submitted the ballot initially received.”

4. *by deleting Rule 1-27.1;*
5. *by deleting Rule 1-31;*
6. *by deleting Rule 1-32;*
7. *by deleting Rule 1-33.*

REQUIRES 2/3 MAJORITY OF BENCHERS PRESENT

7. Remote Execution of Affidavits – Proposed Amendments to Appendix A of the BC Code

This item was removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion.

James A.S. Legh raised some questions regarding paragraph 12(7) and (8), as (8) requires that the document be sent together with the exhibits, while (7) only states that the document be scanned and sent without mention of the exhibits.

Michael Lucas, KC, General Counsel/Senior Policy Counsel suggested that “together with the exhibits” be added to paragraph 12(7), so that the two sub-paragraphs are consistent.

Benchers discussed the proposed amendments to Appendix A of the *BC Code* regarding the remote execution of affidavits and practical ways of accommodating the process. Mr. Lucas advised that the new court rules will not come into effect until September 9, and the usual review would be done to accommodate any changes. Ms. Dhaliwal added that any necessary edits could be made as needed.

The following resolution was passed unanimously, subject to the addition of “together with the exhibits” to the end of paragraph 12 (7):

BE IT RESOLVED to amend Appendix A of the Code of Conduct for British Columbia as follows:

1. *In clause 1 (a), by deleting “is physically present” and replacing it with “appears personally”;*
2. *In the Commentary to Appendix A, by replacing paragraph [12] and its heading with:*

“Remote commissioning of affidavits or solemn declarations

[12] While it is preferable for the deponent to appear physically before a lawyer for the purposes of commissioning an affidavit or solemn declaration, a lawyer may discharge the lawyer's ethical and professional obligations regarding commissioning an affidavit or solemn declaration where the lawyer and deponent are not physically together through the use of electronic and video technology in the manner set out below.

Lawyers should keep in mind however that what is accepted as evidence is ultimately for a trier of fact to determine, and that complying with the process set out in this commentary is not a guarantee that an affidavit or solemn declaration commissioned using electronic and video technology will be accepted as evidence by the trier of fact. Moreover, if concerns are identified about the particular manner in which an affidavit or solemn declaration is commissioned remotely or if a remote process raises any issues, in particular the serious concerns that would arise from issues regarding the identity or capacity of the deponent, or whether coercion of the deponent is a concern, those issues may result in the affidavit or solemn declaration not being accepted, or being given less weight. Lawyers are also reminded to be cautious regarding the heightened risks of fraud and undue influence presented by engaging in virtual processes, and of their obligations under Code rule 3.2-7.

Lawyers are also reminded to ensure that there are no prohibitions to the commissioning of an oath or solemn declaration through electronic or video technology for the purposes of any particular document for which such a process is contemplated.

Where the deponent is not physically present in British Columbia, the process for remote commissioning of an affidavit or solemn declaration should not be used unless the lawyer is satisfied there is no other practical way to undertake the commissioning of the document in accordance with the procedures of the jurisdiction in which the deponent is situated.

Process

The process for remote commissioning of an affidavit or solemn declaration by a lawyer must include the following elements.

1. Any affidavit or solemn declaration to be commissioned using electronic and video technology must contain a paragraph at the end of the body of the affidavit or solemn declaration describing that the deponent was not physically present before the lawyer as commissioner, but was in the lawyer's electronic presence linked with the lawyer utilizing video technology and that the process described below for remote commissioning of affidavits or solemn declarations was utilized.

2. The affidavit or solemn declaration must contain a paragraph acknowledging the solemnity of making the affidavit or solemn declaration and acknowledging the consequences of making an untrue statement.
3. While the lawyer and the deponent are in each other's electronic and video presence, the deponent must show the lawyer the front and back of the deponent's valid and current government-issued photo identification. The lawyer must compare the video image of the deponent and information in the deponent's government-issued photo identity document to be reasonably satisfied that the name and the photo are of the same person and that the document is authentic, valid and current. The lawyer must record that these steps have been taken. The lawyer should also consider recording the session through which the affidavit or solemn declaration is made.
4. The lawyer and the deponent must both have the text of the affidavit or solemn declaration, including all exhibits, before each of them while in each other's electronic presence.
5. The lawyer and the deponent must review the affidavit or solemn declaration and exhibits together to verify that the language is identical.
6. At the conclusion of the steps outlined above, while still in each other's electronic presence, the lawyer, as commissioner, must administer the oath, the deponent will swear or affirm the truth of the facts contained in the affidavit or solemn declaration, and the deponent will affix the deponent's signature to the affidavit or solemn declaration.
7. Where it is not permissible to commission an affidavit or solemn declaration using an electronic signature, the deponent's signature must be affixed in ink to the physical (paper) copy of the affidavit or solemn declaration above, and the deponent must immediately scan the document, save a copy immediately after scanning it, and immediately forward it electronically to the lawyer.
8. Where it is permissible to commission an affidavit or solemn declaration using an electronic signature, the deponent must immediately save the document and immediately forward it, together with the exhibits, electronically to the lawyer.
9. Upon receipt by the lawyer of the sworn affidavit or of a solemn declaration that has been attested to bearing the deponent's signature and all exhibits, the lawyer should, after having taken steps to ensure that the document received is the same as the document reviewed under the steps set out above, affix the lawyer's name and signature, as commissioner, to the jurat and exhibits.

10. If an electronic process is used that allows the lawyer, as commissioner, access to the document being signed by the deponent while in video contact with the deponent, the lawyer will then affix the lawyer's signature to the document, provided such process is permitted by the tribunal or court in which the affidavit or solemn declaration is to be used.
 11. The version of the affidavit or solemn declaration that has been duly sworn or affirmed and contains the signatures of the deponent and the lawyer must then be saved by the lawyer, and may be filed with the Court or tribunal as may be required."
3. *In the Commentary to Appendix A, by renumbering clauses [12] to [20], together with their relevant associated headings, as [13] to [21]*

Reports

8. President's Report

President Jeevyn Dhaliwal, KC acknowledged Second Vice-President Lindsay R. LeBlanc, KC's and Christina C. Cook's recusals for Item 12 and confirmed that no other conflicts had been declared.

Ms. Dhaliwal began her report by announcing the results of the election for the Benchers' Nominee for the 2025 Second Vice President. She congratulated Thomas L. Spraggs, and thanked all those who put forward their names for consideration.

Ms. Dhaliwal spoke about the recent passing of Ralston S. Alexander, KC, former President of the Law Society, and P. Michael Bolton, KC, Life Bencher, and paid tribute to their service to the Law Society.

Ms. Dhaliwal then provided an overview of her recent activities, including a high volume of activity related to the single legal regulator matter; attending a call ceremony in Kelowna; presenting Gold Medal Awards to the top students at the University of British Columbia, the University of Victoria, and Thompson Rivers University; attending the Law Society of Alberta Bencher Retreat; the Trial Lawyers Association of BC's annual spring event; and the Bench and Bar dinner. Ms. Dhaliwal thanked Benchers for all their help in organizing and attending call ceremonies.

Ms. Dhaliwal spoke about Indigenous History Month, Pride Month, Juneteenth, and Multiculturalism Day, which all took place in June, and the importance of raising awareness and promoting inclusivity in the legal profession. She also spoke about how it has been a priority for her over the course of the year to highlight matters of diversity, equity, and inclusion, including the work of the South Asian Bar Association of BC and the Federation of Asian Canadian

DM4473738

Lawyers of BC, the latter of which recently held its first membership retreat. Ms. Dhaliwal then invited Gaynor Yeung, who had attended the retreat on her behalf, to speak about the presentation she gave at the retreat. Ms. Yeung provided an overview of her presentation, which she had presented along with Gurminder Sandhu, KC, and that focused on breaking barriers and navigating the path to partnership. She indicated that while the discussion was largely anecdotal, in preparation, she had reviewed a number of psychological and sociological studies on stereotypes and biases that plague Asian lawyers in North America. Ms. Yeung then highlighted one of those studies, entitled the Portrait Project, the purpose of which was to generate and compile data in an effort to provide empirical grounding for discussions on challenges facing Asian American lawyers. Ms. Dhaliwal thanked Ms. Yeung and Mr. Sandhu, and then spoke about the challenges in making evidence-based decisions without the required data.

9. CEO's Report

Don Avison, KC began his report by providing an update on the Law Society's injunction application against Bill 21 – *Legal Professions Act*. He indicated that the injunction application was heard over the course of three days in mid-June by Justice Gropper, whose decision is now on reserve. He further indicated that while it may take some time before a decision is received, he was of the view that the civil claim would proceed, and that the Society of Notaries Public of BC has made an application to be joined as a party to the litigation.

Mr. Avison spoke about a recent news article regarding anti-money laundering issues, which was focused primarily on a recent report from Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC), which alleges the involvement of lawyers in a number of cases related to money laundering. He indicated that the Law Society has not heard from FINTRAC regarding the collection of information in relation to the alleged involvement of lawyers in money laundering activity, and that he was of the view that the information chain between FINTRAC and Canada's law societies was less than what it ought to be, particularly as legal regulators act as investigative entities in anti-money laundering activities. Mr. Avison informed Benchers that he intended to pursue this matter directly with FINTRAC to open up a line of communication, and to work closely with the Federation of Law Societies of Canada, whose fall conference will focus on anti-money laundering activities and initiatives.

Mr. Avison then spoke about the Innovation Sandbox and regularizing the status of those who have received no-action letters. He indicated that with the passage of and Royal Assent to the *Legal Professions Act*, a number of amendments to the current *Act* have come into force, including sections 311 and 312, which allow the Law Society to exempt a person from the prohibition against the unauthorized practice of law if satisfied that the provision of legal services by the person will facilitate access to legal services without posing a significant risk to the public. Mr. Avison indicated that he was of the view that this could be a potentially helpful mechanism to move people out of the Innovation Sandbox into a more permanent arrangement.

However, he further indicated that he was still of the view that the Law Society has not been able to make the same kind of progress on this matter that could have been achieved had the 2018 amendments to the *Legal Profession Act* been called into force, and he recommended continuing to have these discussions with the Ministry. Mr. Avison informed Benchers that the Ministry has created a regulated paralegal working group that will be populated over the course of the coming months. He indicated that further updates would be provided later in the year.

Mr. Avison spoke about the situation regarding the funding of legal aid in Alberta, which includes an agreement between the Law Society of Alberta, the provincial government of Alberta, and Legal Aid Alberta. He indicated that the agreement with the provincial government of Alberta had expired, and he expressed some concerns about the impact of this on those who rely on legal aid. He also expressed some concerns about the level of engagement and interference being exercised by the provincial government in Alberta on matters that ought not to be in the purview of government, and how this contributed to an increasing level of threat to the rule of law and the independence of the profession. Mr. Avison indicated that the situation in Alberta would be monitored very closely.

The report of the Indigenous Engagement in Regulatory Matters Task Force was received and approved by Benchers one year ago, and Mr. Avison called upon Vicki George, Senior Advisor, Indigenous Engagement to provide an update on the implementation of the recommendations from the report. Ms. George reviewed the recommendations from the report and provided an overview of current implementation and initiatives for each, including ensuring that all staff have completed the Indigenous Intercultural Course, meeting in person with Indigenous people and communities in Northern BC and other regions of BC, rolling out Indigenous-specific trauma-informed training to a number of Law Society departments, developing apology guidelines in line with the *Apology Act* to have as a resource for the profession on the Law Society website, and launching the Indigenous library to provide resources and Indigenous-authored books to staff. Ms. George indicated that a further update would be provided later in the year.

10. Briefing by the Law Society’s Member of the Federation Council

First Vice-President Brook Greenberg, KC provided a brief overview of the written report he provided for Benchers’ information, which included an overview of the recent Federation meetings. He spoke about the numerous initiatives implemented by the Law Society to support the mental health of the profession, and expressed concerns about the lack of support for these initiatives in Bill 21 – *Legal Professions Act*. He also expressed concerns about the provisions in the new *Act* relating to compelled medical treatment and how this approach is not in keeping with the findings and recommendations of the Mental Health Task Force, as they dissuade people from using the supports that are available to them and potentially create discriminatory practices, which is not in the public interest.

Benchers spoke about the importance of the Law Society's mental health initiatives and speaking about these in the legal communities across the province.

Update

11. 2024 May Financial Report

Jeanette McPhee, Chief Financial Officer and Senior Director of Trust Regulation provided an update on the financial results and highlights to the end of May 2024. She indicated that Q2 results are quite positive to budget due to lower expenses, with revenue also quite close to budget, though this is likely due to the timing of a number of expenses that are expected to be spent by the end of the year.

Ms. McPhee then provided an overview of forecasted results and noted that revenue was projected to be ahead of budget mainly due to a slightly higher number of practising lawyers, which would result in a projected net deficit of \$238,000. She indicated that costs associated with the single legal regulator initiative and transition, if any, have not been included in the forecast and would be funded from net asset reserves. Ms. McPhee reviewed TAF-related revenue and expenses, which are projected to be below budget, as a result of the down turn in the real estate market in 2023 and the Lawyers Indemnity Fund fee revenue, which are expected to be close to budget.

Discussion/Decision

12. Law Foundation Access to Justice Fund 2024 Allocation and Future Process

Second Vice-President Lindsay R. LeBlanc, KC and Christina J. Cook recused themselves from this item.

Ms. Dhaliwal introduced the item and provided some background regarding the Law Foundation Access to Justice Fund, which is supported by a portion of the funding that the Law Society provides annually to the Law Foundation. She indicated that the Law Foundation ultimately decides how the fund is administered, following discussions with, and recommendations by, the Law Society on an annual basis, and that the Law Foundation had provided a recommendation for allocation of this year's funds. Ms. Dhaliwal spoke about how the process has worked in previous years, where the discussions of worthwhile projects and recommendations was delegated by Benchers to the Access to Justice Advisory Committee; however, this committee has not been populated for this year and that issues that might otherwise have been considered by the committee would instead come to the Bencher table as a whole.

Claire Marchant, Director of Policy and Practice provided some further information regarding the recommendation from the Law Foundation and the proposal to eliminate the need to meet with the Law Foundation annually to review how the fund is administered, and to instead, allow the Law Foundation to manage the allocation of the Access to Justice Fund independently.

Benchers discussed both the recommendation for allocation of this year's fund, as well as the proposed recommendation to eliminate the discussion component of the allocation process, and were generally of the view that there did not appear to be a need to have the Law Society involved due to the Law Foundation's history of, and experience with, funding important and worthwhile initiatives.

The following resolutions were passed unanimously:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Benchers support the Law Foundation's recommendation that the 2024 allocation of the Access to Justice Fund be applied to the Grant of Probate Applications Project operated by the Indigenous Community Legal Clinic; and

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the need to meet with the Law Foundation annually regarding the Fund be eliminated, and the Law Foundation report to the Law Society in regard to allocation of the Access to Justice Fund.

The Benchers then commenced the *in camera* portion of the meeting.

AB
2024-09-11

CEO Report

September 20, 2024

Prepared for: Benchers

Prepared by: Don Avison, KC

1. Single Legal Regulator Update

Preparation for the litigation regarding the *Legal Professions Act* (Bill 21) continues and, at this point, counsel for the Attorney General and our counsel are discussing when the matter might be heard. The Notaries Society made an application to be added as a party, and the Law Foundation has made an application to intervene. We expect that others may have similar intentions.

While that is unfolding, we continue to raise our concerns about the legislation with a number of parties including, most recently, the Green Party of British Columbia (see [attached correspondence](#) setting out the Green Party's position on the matter).

The transitional board members have now been named and the composition of the transitional Indigenous council is now substantially complete and we anticipate that meetings will begin to take place in the coming weeks.

Planning for the transition is going to be a complex exercise and I have asked Adam Whitcombe, KC to provide Benchers with an overview of that work at the September 20 Benchers meeting.

2. 2024 Annual General Meeting

This year's Annual General Meeting will take place on the afternoon of September 24 and Benchers will be aware of the fact that there are a number of "member resolutions" that licensees have been asked to consider, one of which I would characterize as both harmful and unnecessary.

Advance online voting on the member resolutions concludes at 4:30pm PDT on September 23. Those persons who are planning to attend and vote during the meeting on September 24 will need to register in advance by using the RSVP function available in the Member Portal.

3. The Provincial Election

The provincial election is set to take place on October 19 of this year and there have been a number of significant developments on that front in recent weeks.

No matter which party forms government, we are planning for implementation of a government relations initiative that will begin to unfold after the writ of election has been returned and after the cabinet has been named and sworn into office. I plan to have more to say about that during the *in camera* portion of the September 20 Benchers meeting.

4. National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

As in previous years, Law Society offices will be closed on September 30 in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

In the lead-up to September 30, I am very pleased to advise that, on the afternoon of September 20, following the Benchers meeting, we will be joined by Marie Wilson, one of the three commissioners of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada who will talk about her experience on the Commission and about her new book “North of Nowhere”.

A staff event with Phyllis Webstad, residential school survivor, community leader and the force behind the “Orange Shirt” movement, will take place in the Law Society Atrium on October 24, 2024 and any Benchers in Vancouver that day will be most welcome to attend.

I also wanted to mention that the regional outreach work we initiated following the recommendations of the Indigenous Engagement in Regulatory Matters Task Force continues. Vicki George, the Senior Advisor of Indigenous Engagement, and Jillian Currie, the Indigenous Navigator, have been leading that work and I will ask them to provide Benchers with a summary of the work they have been doing and how those efforts are being received at the community level.

5. Supreme Court of Canada Decision in *Poonian v. British Columbia (Securities Commission)*

The decision of the Supreme Court in *Poonian* was released at the end of July and, in my view, it has significant implications for the enforcement of regulatory matters in circumstances where a debtor has sought the protection of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act*.

Michael Lucas, KC, the Law Society’s General Counsel, will provide a summary of the decision. Our view at this stage is that we should invite the Federation of Law Societies to work with other interested parties in asking the Government of Canada to make amendments to the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* to address what we now see as a troubling gap.

6. 2024 Articling Survey

As part of our broader collaboration with the Western Law Societies, the Law Societies of British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and this time joined by the Nova Scotia Barristers’ Society, launched two surveys over the summer to gather feedback from articling students and new lawyers (under five years of call) as well as from principals, recruiters and those who mentor articling students or new lawyers.

A third-party consultant, Dr. Svitlana Winters, was engaged for support on survey development as well as survey analysis and reporting, and we received the results for BC last week. It is important to note that there will also be cross-jurisdictional analysis conducted to see how the articling experiences in the different provinces surveyed compare.

In the meantime, staff are reviewing the BC results and Benchers can expect to hear further on the information that has been gathered which will assist in making more informed decisions around our programs and resources, especially as they relate to lawyer competence, and how we can collectively enhance the experiences in our jurisdictions and better prepare articling students for the practice of law in the future.

7. Security Changes Coming to the Member Portal

To enhance the security of the Law Society's Member Portal, over the coming months we will be introducing two-factor authentication during the log-in process.

Changes of this nature inevitably come with what I would describe as “implementation turbulence” and, given that, we will be implementing a communications strategy to help licensees understand why these changes are necessary and how to navigate the changes. I have asked Kerryn Holt, Chief Operating Officer, to provide Benchers with an overview of the contemplated changes and the relevant timelines.

Don Avison, KC
Chief Executive Officer

Publication of Administrative Penalties

To: Benchers

Purpose: Discussion and Decision

From: Executive Committee

Date: September 20, 2024

Issue

1. When the administrative penalty regime (the “Regime”) was introduced in 2022, the Benchers approved rules mandating the publication of the resulting penalties. While staff consider the Regime successful, an issue regarding the administrative fairness of publication has arisen. Accordingly, and based on the following analysis and discussions, which took place at the September 5, 2024 Committee meeting, the Executive Committee proposes that the Law Society Rules be amended to remove the mandatory publication of administrative penalties that identify respondents. Instead, the Executive Committee recommends publishing anonymous summaries of the circumstances and amount of the penalties, in the same manner that the Law Society publishes conduct reviews.

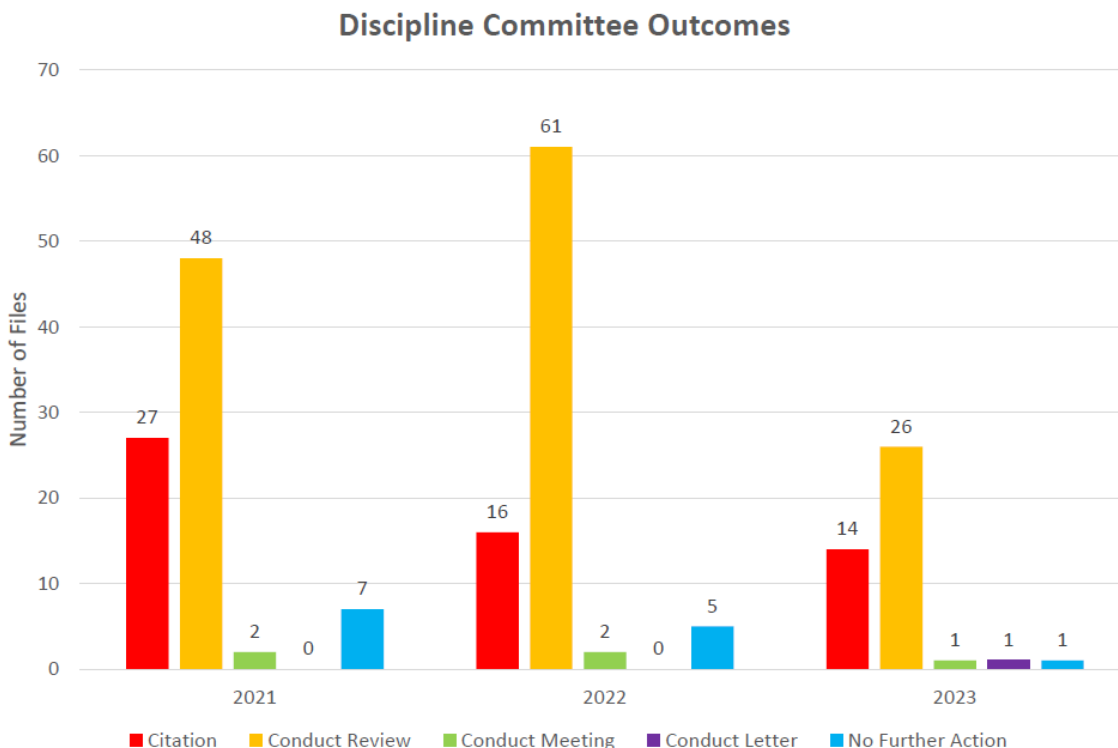
Background

2. Administrative penalties were introduced in 2022 in order to address standard breaches of the client identification and verification (“CIV”), juricert and cash transaction rules. Breaches of these rules are typically referred to Professional Conduct by the Trust Assurance Department following a compliance audit. They play a key role in establishing standards of financial responsibility to assist in anti-money laundering efforts by requiring licensees to know their clients, identify red flags and manage potential risks involved with suspicious transactions.
3. Previously, contraventions of these rules presented resource and efficiency challenges, largely due to the length of time inherent in the investigation process followed by the mandated Discipline Committee review, approval of a proposed disciplinary action (typically, a conduct review), and then completion of same.
4. Under the Regime, the breach is not referred to the Discipline Committee. Instead, where the Executive Director finds, on a balance of probabilities, that a contravention of one of the above rules has occurred, the Executive Director assesses an administrative penalty by sending a notice of penalty to the licensee. A licensee who receives a notice of penalty must either pay the amount or apply to the Chair of the Discipline Committee for a review.
5. If the penalty is paid when due, the Law Society takes no further action. If the licensee seeks a review, the Chair can confirm the penalty, reduce the penalty or extend the date for payment. The Executive Director, however, retains discretion to send the matter through the regular discipline route (i.e. repeat offenders are not permitted to ‘buy’ their way out of a referral to the Discipline Committee and possible escalation in disciplinary response).
6. Regime outcomes to date include:

- 46 files opened (34 notices of penalty issued, 12 pending);
- 38 of the 46 concern CIV breaches;
- 7 of the 46 concern breaches of the cash transactions rule;
- 1 of the 46 concerns a breach of the Juricert Rule; and
- \$108,000 has been collected in penalties¹, with an additional \$43,000 outstanding.

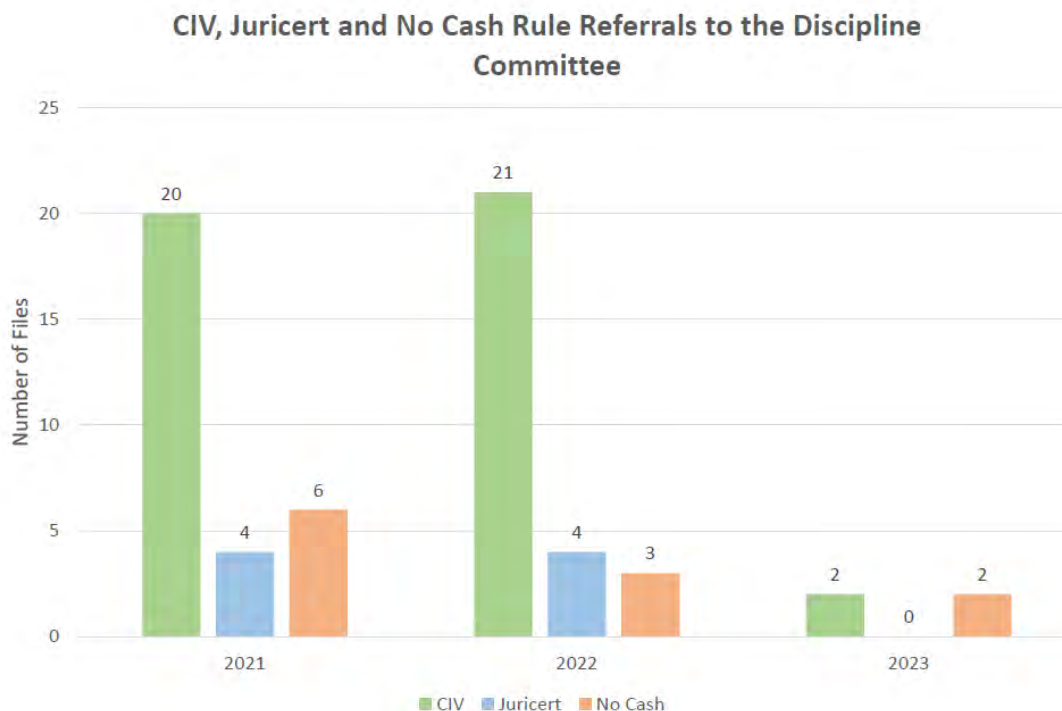
7. Advantages of the Regime to date include:

- Fewer referrals to the Discipline Committee with a marked reduction in number of conduct reviews ordered:



¹ First offence results in penalty of between \$3,000 and \$5,000 and a second or subsequent offence, \$10,000.
DM4541735

- Specific reduction in referrals of these types of rule breaches to the Discipline Committee has resulted in a reduction of workload for the Committee, freeing up time for more serious matters:



- The files are processed much faster. When the Regime was proposed, the Benchers reviewed statistics explaining that the average time from start of investigation to conduct review was 353 days for a cash transaction file, and 416 days for a CIV file. In contrast, the average time from start of investigation to the issuance of notice of administrative penalty is approximately 200 days.

Discussion

- One challenge arising from the Regime concerns publication. This issue consistently arises in licensees' disputes of administrative penalties. The main argument is, if the Regime operates as a substitute for referrals to the Discipline Committee (which typically resulted in conduct reviews), why should a licensee who receives an administrative penalty be publicly named, whereas a licensee subject to a conduct review is not? Conduct review summaries are published anonymously. The Law Society has consistently maintained that this nonetheless achieves specific and general deterrence.

9. There are a variety of approaches with respect to publication of administrative penalties across the various regulatory programs in BC that have implemented such programs, ranging from explicitly mandatory publication of penalties (*Securities Act*), explicitly discretionary publication (*Real Estate Services Act*), to silence on the issue of publication (*Administrative Penalties Regulation, Environmental Management Act*).
10. The administrative penalty process enhances the Law Society's ability to meet our public interest mandate by addressing rule breaches more expediently. Limited resources are diverted to other serious misconduct, and the subject licensee benefits from a shortened timeline between occurrence of misconduct and disciplinary response. Unfortunately, the issue of publication is now detracting from the Regime's efficient operation.
11. Given the obvious parallels with conduct reviews, staff believes the concerns about publication have merit. Specific and general deterrence is achieved by including the conduct review on the licensee's professional conduct record, and through anonymous publication of the relevant circumstances. Arguably, the same applies for administrative penalties. The Executive Committee considered proposed amendments to the Rules governing the publication of administrative penalties to replace them with rules identical to those applicable to the publication of conduct reviews and was in agreement with these amendments. Following these discussions, the Committee resolved to put forward the below resolution for Benchers approval.

Decision

12. Red-lined and clean versions of the Rules are attached.
13. The Executive Committee proposes the following resolution for Benchers consideration and decision:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Benchers approve the proposed revision to Rules 4-48 and 4-49, in the form attached.

LAW SOCIETY RULES

Publication of discipline decisions

- 4-48** (1) The Executive Director must publish and circulate to the profession a summary of the circumstances and of any decision, reasons and action taken by a hearing panel, a motions adjudicator or a review board.
- (1.1) The Executive Director must publish and circulate to the profession a summary of the circumstances and of an admission of a discipline violation accepted by the Discipline Committee under Rule 4-29 [*Conditional admission*].
- (1.2) The Executive Director ~~must~~may publish and circulate to the profession a summary of the circumstances of the rule breach deemed admitted under Rule 4-59 [*Administrative penalty*] and the administrative penalty imposed.
- (2) Despite subrules (1) and (3), but subject to Rule 4-47 [*Public notice of suspension or disbarment*], the Executive Director must not make public any decision, reasons or action taken as follows:
- (a) a decision not to accept an admission under Rule 5-6.5 [*Admission and consent to disciplinary action*];
 - (b) any decision under Rule 3-10 [*Interim suspension or practice conditions*] or 3-11 [*Medical examination*]
- before the matter is concluded and any prescribed period to initiate an appeal or review has expired.
- (3) When a publication is required or permitted under this rule, the Executive Director may also publish generally all or part of
- (a) [rescinded]
 - (b) the written reasons for the decision,
 - (c) an agreed statement of facts, or
 - (d) admissions made in response to a Notice to Admit.
- (4) This rule must not be interpreted to permit the disclosure of any information subject to solicitor and client privilege or confidentiality.

Anonymous publication

- 4-49** (1) Except as allowed under this rule, a publication under Rule 4-48 [*Publication of discipline decisions*] must identify the respondent.
- (2) The publication of a decision dismissing all allegations in the citation and any subsequent decision in the matter must not identify the respondent unless
- (a) the respondent consents in writing, or
 - (b) an allegation is held to be proven on a review or appeal.

LAW SOCIETY RULES

(2.1) The publication of the circumstances of a rules breach deemed admitted under Rule 4-59 [Administrative Penalty] must not identify the respondent unless the respondent consents in writing.

- (3) An individual affected, other than the respondent, may apply to the panel for an order under subrule (4) before the written report on findings of fact and determination is issued or oral reasons are delivered.
- (4) On an application under subrule (3) or on its own motion, the panel may order that publication not identify the respondent if
 - (a) the panel has imposed a disciplinary action that does not include a suspension or disbarment, and
 - (b) publication of the identity of the respondent could reasonably be expected to identify an individual, other than the respondent, and that individual would suffer serious prejudice as a result.
- (5) If a panel orders that a respondent's identity not be disclosed under subrule (4), the panel must state in writing the specific reasons for that decision.

LAW SOCIETY RULES

Publication of discipline decisions

- 4-48** (1) The Executive Director must publish and circulate to the profession a summary of the circumstances and of any decision, reasons and action taken by a hearing panel, a motions adjudicator or a review board.
- (1.1) The Executive Director must publish and circulate to the profession a summary of the circumstances and of an admission of a discipline violation accepted by the Discipline Committee under Rule 4-29 [*Conditional admission*].
- (1.2) The Executive Director may publish and circulate to the profession a summary of the circumstances of the rule breach deemed admitted under Rule 4-59 [*Administrative penalty*] and the administrative penalty imposed.
- (2) Despite subrules (1) and (3), but subject to Rule 4-47 [*Public notice of suspension or disbarment*], the Executive Director must not make public any decision, reasons or action taken as follows:
- (a) a decision not to accept an admission under Rule 5-6.5 [*Admission and consent to disciplinary action*];
 - (b) any decision under Rule 3-10 [*Interim suspension or practice conditions*] or 3-11 [*Medical examination*]
- before the matter is concluded and any prescribed period to initiate an appeal or review has expired.
- (3) When a publication is required or permitted under this rule, the Executive Director may also publish generally all or part of
- (a) [rescinded]
 - (b) the written reasons for the decision,
 - (c) an agreed statement of facts, or
 - (d) admissions made in response to a Notice to Admit.
- (4) This rule must not be interpreted to permit the disclosure of any information subject to solicitor and client privilege or confidentiality.

Anonymous publication

- 4-49** (1) Except as allowed under this rule, a publication under Rule 4-48 [*Publication of discipline decisions*] must identify the respondent.
- (2) The publication of a decision dismissing all allegations in the citation and any subsequent decision in the matter must not identify the respondent unless
- (a) the respondent consents in writing, or
 - (b) an allegation is held to be proven on a review or appeal.

LAW SOCIETY RULES

- (2.1) The publication of the circumstances of a rules breach deemed admitted under Rule 4-59 *[Administrative Penalty]* must not identify the respondent unless the respondent consents in writing.
- (3) An individual affected, other than the respondent, may apply to the panel for an order under subrule (4) before the written report on findings of fact and determination is issued or oral reasons are delivered.
- (4) On an application under subrule (3) or on its own motion, the panel may order that publication not identify the respondent if
 - (a) the panel has imposed a disciplinary action that does not include a suspension or disbarment, and
 - (b) publication of the identity of the respondent could reasonably be expected to identify an individual, other than the respondent, and that individual would suffer serious prejudice as a result.
- (5) If a panel orders that a respondent's identity not be disclosed under subrule (4), the panel must state in writing the specific reasons for that decision.

ADMISTRATIVE PENALTY PUBLICATION

RESOLUTION:

BE IT RESOLVED to amend the Law Society Rules as follows:

1. *In Rule 4-48 (1.2), by deleting “must” and replacing it with “may”.*
2. *By inserting the following between Rules 4-49 (2) and 4-49 (3):*

“(2.1) The publication of the circumstances of a rules breach deemed admitted under Rule 4-59 [Administrative Penalty] must not identify the respondent unless the respondent consents in writing.”

REQUIRES 2/3 MAJORITY OF BENCHERS PRESENT

2025 Initiatives, Budgets and Fees

To: Benchers

Purpose: Discussion and Decision

From: Finance and Audit Committee

Date: September 20, 2024

Background

1. Please see attached the Law Society of British Columbia - 2025 Fees and Budgets Report.
2. The External Organization 2025 Funding Submissions in the **2024-06-19 Finance and Audit Committee – Agenda Package** and the **Eckler Actuarial Report - 31 Dec 2023** are also available to download from the Benchers Resources section of the Law Society website (under Benchers meeting materials).

Discussion

3. The 2025 Fees and Budgets were reviewed in depth by the Finance and Audit Committee, and the committee is recommending adoption of the following Benchers resolutions, as included in the Report.

Decision

4. The Benchers are asked to approve the following resolutions:

BE IT RESOLVED that:

Effective January 1, 2025, the practice fee be set at \$2,321, pursuant to section 23(1)(a) of the *Legal Profession Act*.

Effective January 1, 2025, the trust administration fee be set at \$20 for each client matter, pursuant to Rule 2-110 (1).

BE IT RESOLVED that:


The indemnity fee for 2025 pursuant to section 30(3) of the *Legal Profession Act* be set at \$1,800;

The part-time indemnity fee for 2025 pursuant to Rule 3-40(2) be set at \$900; and

The indemnity surcharge for 2025 pursuant to Rule 3-44(2) be set at \$1,000.

2025 FEES AND BUDGET REPORT

Presented to:
Benchers
September 20, 2024



THE LAW SOCIETY OF BC

2025 Fees and Budget Report

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Law Society of BC - 2025 Fees & Budget Report Overview	4
General Fund Budget Vision & Approach	5
2021 - 2025 Strategic Plan	5
2025 Key Operational Goals	6-8
Budget Process & Timeline	9
Financial Considerations	10
Key Budget Assumptions	11-12
Budget Risks	13
General Fund - Fees & Budget Overview Revenue & Expense Summary	14
2025 Operating Revenue Summary	14
2025 Operating Expense Summary	14
Operating Revenues	15
2025 Operating Revenues	15-16
Practising Lawyer History	17
Non-Practising & Retired Lawyer History	17
PLTC Student History	18
2025 Operating Expenses	19-20
General Fund Working Capital	21
Net Assets - General Fund Working Capital	21
Use of Working Capital Reserves	21
Capital Plan	22
General Fund - Operating Budget	23
General Fund - Detailed Revenue & Expenses	24-25
2025 Practice Fee - Fee Recommendation	26

THE LAW SOCIETY OF BC

2025 Fees and Budget Report

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Practice Fee Comparison	27
General Fund - Departmental Cost Summaries	28
Governance & Benchers Relations	28
Corporate Services	29-30
Education & Practice	31-32
Communications & Information Services	33
Policy & Legal Services	34-35
Professional Conduct, Investigations & Discipline	36-37
845/839 Building	38
Trust Assurance Program & Fee	39
External Organization Funding	40
2025 Fee Recommendations	41
Mandatory Fee Comparison	42
Lawyers Indemnity Fund - 2025 Fee Recommendation & Budget Report	43
Overview and Recommendation	44
Frequency and Severity of Claims – Parts A, B, and C	45
Part A (errors & omissions)	46
Part B (trust protection for lawyer theft)	47
Part C (trust shortages for social engineering)	48
Cyber and Privacy Breach Insurance and Claims	49
Future Practice Risks	50
The Pandemic	50
Real estate	50-51
Tax	52

THE LAW SOCIETY OF BC

2025 Fees and Budget Report

TABLE OF CONTENTS

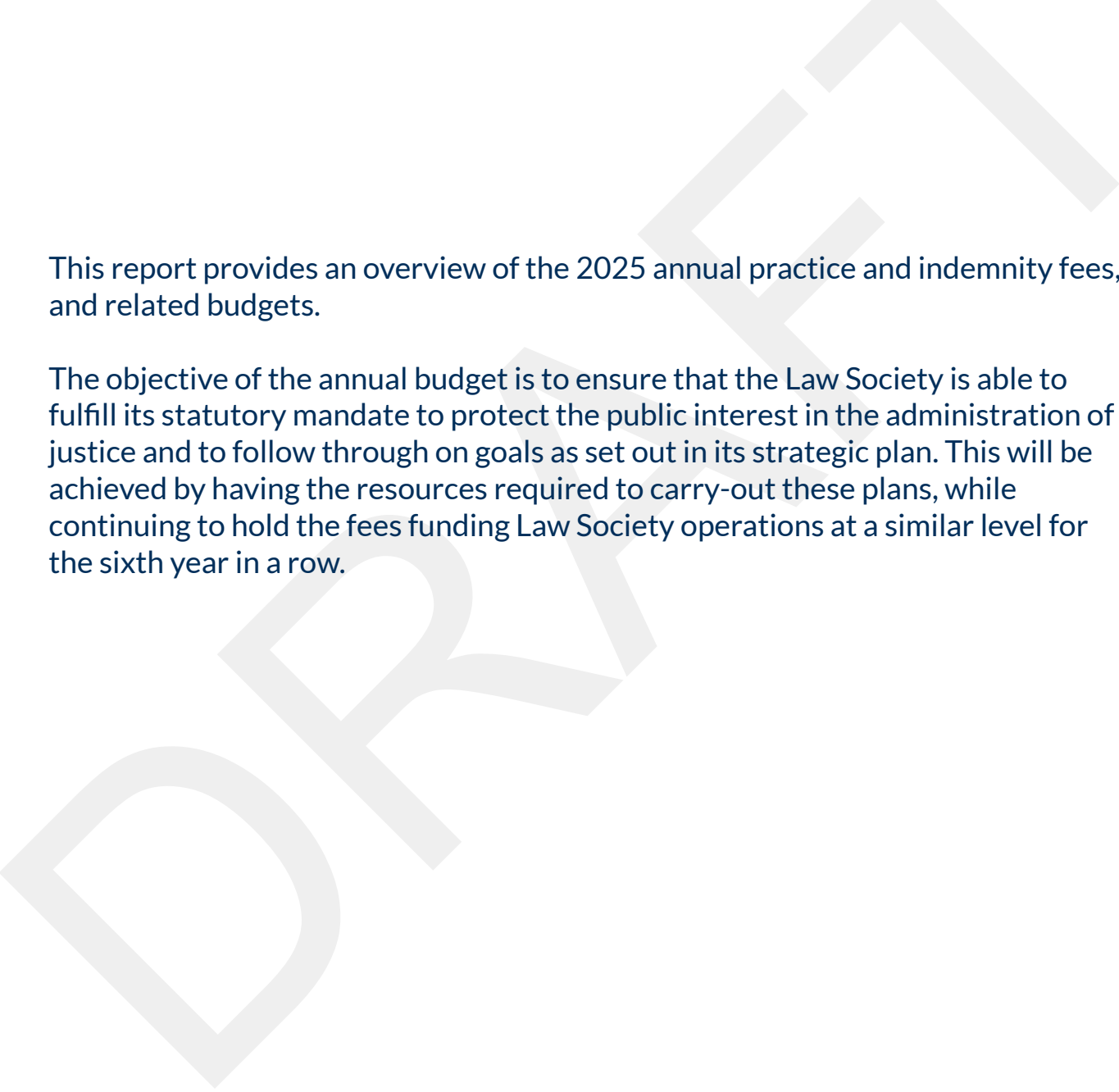
Future Practice Risks	49
Family Law	53
Civil Litigation - Plaintiff	54
Motor Vehicle - Plaintiff	55
Wills and Estates	56
Criminal	57
Financial Strength	58
Net Assets	58
Minimum Capital Requirements	58
2025 Budget	59
Revenue	59
Expenses	59
2025 Fee Recommendation	60
Resolution	60
Lawyers Indemnity Fund - Operating Budget	61

OVERVIEW



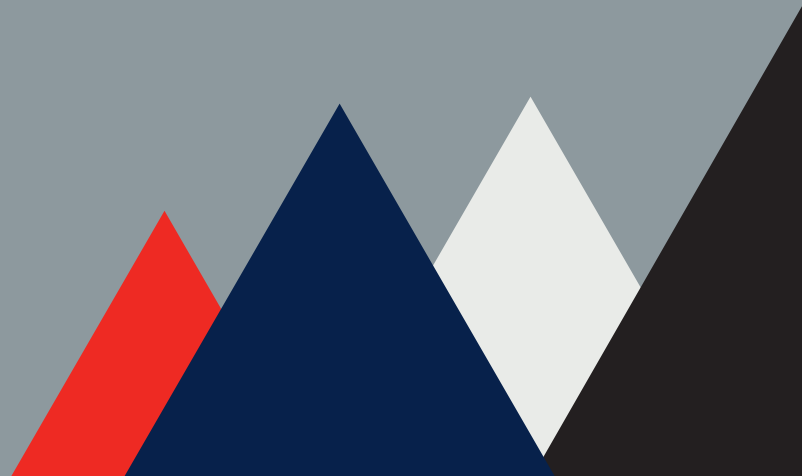
This report provides an overview of the 2025 annual practice and indemnity fees, and related budgets.

The objective of the annual budget is to ensure that the Law Society is able to fulfill its statutory mandate to protect the public interest in the administration of justice and to follow through on goals as set out in its strategic plan. This will be achieved by having the resources required to carry-out these plans, while continuing to hold the fees funding Law Society operations at a similar level for the sixth year in a row.



GENERAL FUND

BUDGET VISION & APPROACH



2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

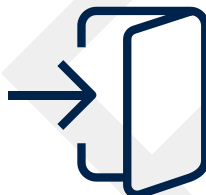
5 MAIN OBJECTIVES 2021-2025 Strategic Plan



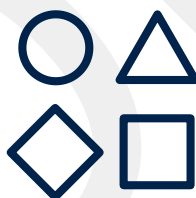
Leading as an innovative regulator of legal service providers



Working toward reconciliation



Taking action to improve access to justice



Promoting a profession that reflects the diversity of the public it serves



Increasing confidence in the Law Society, the administration of justice and the rule of law

In support of the strategic plan, some of the key operational goals that the 2025 fees and budget support follow.

2025 KEY OPERATIONAL GOALS

Single Legal Regulator (SLR)

The Law Society has encouraged government to ensure that the legislation it developed to provide for a single legal regulator protected the public and continued to recognize the fundamental importance of the independence of lawyers. Bill 21 – the Legal Professions Act was brought to the legislature on April 10th and proceeded to Royal Assent on May 16th despite encouragement by the Law Society, other legal organizations and stakeholders to take the time to get the legislation right and in particular, to ensure that it did not compromise the independence of lawyers. Because Bill 21 did not do this, the Law Society of British Columbia initiated litigation to challenge the constitutionality of the new Legal Professions Act which fails to ensure the independence of the legal professions and their regulator – a fundamental democratic principle. There will be legal costs related to the litigation, and any associated costs with transitional provisions, if any, which will be funded from net asset reserves.

Lawyer development and licensing

The Law Society continues to review the current lawyer development and licensing programs and to explore new pathways for licensing lawyers – including ways to enhance the role of technology, remote learning and mentorship.

In addition, with the approval of the Western Canada Competency Profile work will begin on the evaluation of the bar admission program to evaluate which competencies are currently addressed and where they could be adjusted, as well as an evaluation of the current articling system/experiential learning activities to understand which competencies should be acquired during this term and to develop better guidance for principals about the competencies students are expected to obtain. Alternative experiential learning options will also be explored. Costs associated with alternative pathways to licensing and evaluation of current programs will be funded out of net asset reserves.

2025 KEY OPERATIONAL GOALS

Innovation sandbox initiatives to improve access to legal services

The innovation sandbox was established to pilot the provision of legal advice and assistance by individuals, businesses and organizations that are, for the most part, not lawyers or law firms. The Law Society's innovation sandbox provides a structured environment that permits lawyers and other individuals and organizations to pilot their proposals for providing effective legal advice and assistance to address the public's unmet legal needs. This work continues into 2025.

Professional regulatory operations

The Professional Regulation departments will continue to review processes with the goal of ongoing improvement. New regulatory programs introduced in the last few years include consent agreements, administrative penalties, and the alternative to discipline process. Now fully operational, these programs assist with the effective and efficient management of the professional regulation caseload.

Enhanced professional development and practice support

Continue to offer new and existing online courses through the online learning platform Brightspace from D2L including principal training, anti-money laundering, trust assurance, practice management, practice refresher, communication toolkit, legal research, and mental health support.

2025 KEY OPERATIONAL GOALS

Continued focus on anti-money laundering initiatives

Continue to focus on anti-money laundering initiatives to enhance our rules, regulatory processes, and education to improve our efforts to fight money laundering in the province.

Indigenous engagement regulatory matters task force report

Review and implementation of the recommendations to review regulatory processes with respect to investigations and hearings.

Diversity action plan items

Will continue work on the Diversity Action Plan, which includes action items to foster diversity within the Law Society, support diversity in the legal profession, identify and remove discriminatory barriers, enhance intercultural competence education, improve outreach and collaboration, and track and report progress.

Information technology strategic plan

Develop a comprehensive roadmap for advancing the information technology infrastructure. This encompasses an assessment of our current state, gap analysis and the strategic utilization of artificial intelligence, cloud platforms, and a clear transition plan from our current IT environment to the future state envisioned by this strategy.

BUDGET PROCESS & TIMELINE

April 2024

- Budget templates distributed to managers
- Funding application templates distributed to external organizations



June 2024

- Funding applications due from external organizations
- SLT review of department budgets and plans
- Presentation of budget assumptions
- Development of draft budget



September 2024

- Approval of fees by Benchers



May 2024

- Meetings with all management to review detailed budgets



July 2024

- Presentation of draft fees & budgets to the Audit and Finance Committee



FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS



No increase in the 2025 practice fee for Law Society operations and no increase in the 2025 indemnity fee

The allocation of the 2025 practice fee to Law Society operations will remain the same as 2024, and is the same fee that has been in place since 2020 (6 years).

The allocation the 2025 practice fee to fund external organizations will increase \$18 to fund increased operating expenses.

The indemnity fee will remain the same as 2024, and is the same fee that has been in place since 2018 (8 years).



2024 Forecast

The 2024 budget projected a deficit of \$640,000 and the latest forecast is a \$238,000 deficit.



Net asset reserves deficit funding

To allow the practice fee to be kept at the current level, \$1,568,390 of the net assets reserve will be used to fund the operating budget deficit. One-time projects are not included in the 2025 operational budget, and will use further net asset reserves when incurred.



Interest rates and inflation

Financial and real estate markets have seen a great degree of volatility. This budget uses available estimates with regard to inflation rates, interest rates, investment returns and real estate market unit sales.

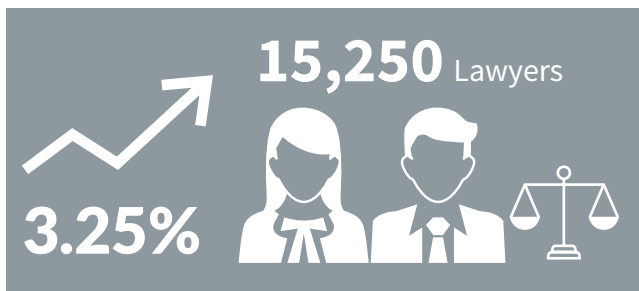


Meeting and travel expenses

The 2025 budget is funding a mix of both hybrid and fully virtual meetings providing cost savings and reducing our environmental impact

KEY BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

Revenues



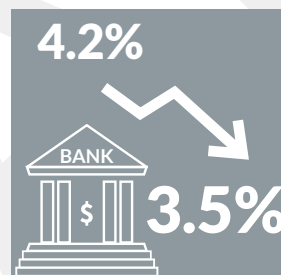
Projecting a 3.25% increase in net lawyer growth in 2025 from forecasted 2024 levels, budgeting 15,250 lawyers, up from 14,770 forecast for 2024.



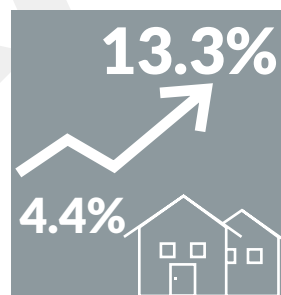
Registration and licensing fees are mainly set at the past two year average.



PLTC attendance is projected to decrease to 646 in 2025 from the 2024 forecast of 650. A total of 644 students enrolled in 2023.



Interest income is expected to decrease due to projected declining interest rates from 4.2% in 2024 to 3.5% in 2025.



Based on BC Real Estate Association projections for real estate unit sales, electronic filing and TAF revenues are forecast to increase 4.4% in 2024 from 2023 levels and then rise 13.3% in 2025.

KEY BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

Expenses

Salaries include contracted and non-union wage increases based on market projections and 2025 reflects a benchmarking year.

Modest addition of staff resources to deliver core functions.

Bencher and committee meetings are budgeted to be half in-person hybrid and half fully virtual.

Technology upgrades
With the digitization of the workplace, technology upgrades and cyber security initiatives, computer software costs have increased to support effective operations.

External counsel fees
reduced from 2024 budget levels due to lower expected costs for Discipline files.

Net Asset Reserves

Net Asset Reserves
With a projected deficit of \$1,568,390 budgeted for 2025, net asset reserves will decrease, representing 5.8 months of operating expenses.

Costs associated with the following will be funded from net asset reserves:

- SLR transition and litigation
- Lawyer development
- Online course development
- Building capital project replacement of cladding and windows
- The information technology strategic plan.

The exact costs of these one-time projects is not known yet.

BUDGET RISKS

NUMBER OF LAWYERS

The revenue received from the practice fee and registration and licensing fees is over 80% of the budgeted revenues. As such, any variation in the actual number of lawyers from the budget projection could result in a need to draw further on net assets reserves

INFLATION

As staff salaries and benefits comprise 80% of the total expenses, salary market levels may cause unpredictability in costs.

EXTERNAL COUNSEL FEES

External counsel fees represent 6% of total expenses. While these costs are managed and tracked rigorously, they can be unpredictable in nature. These costs are typically driven by three factors: conflicts, work load, and the requirement of special skills. The complexity and number of new cases can have an impact on costs and resource demand.

ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING EFFORTS (AML)

The additional costs relating to AML efforts, identifying misuse of trust accounts, and file costs related to investigations and discipline are hard to predict. The actual costs incurred could vary from what has been estimated.

STAFF VACANCY SAVINGS

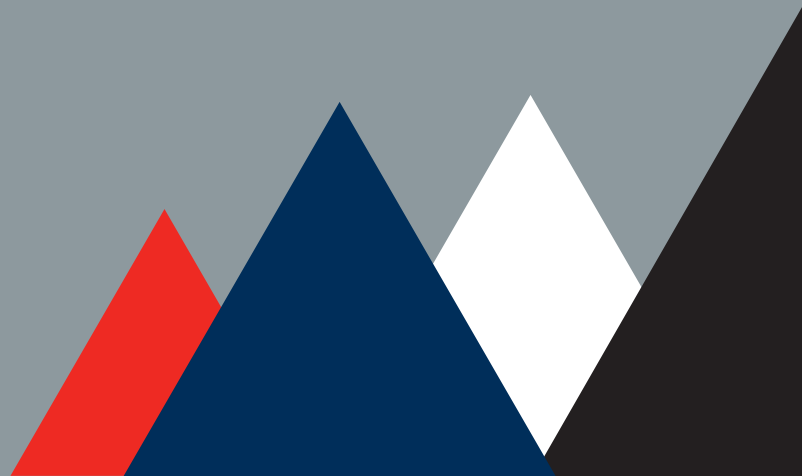
In any given year, there are staff vacancies due to staff turnover. The time to recruit, and other factors, result in vacancy savings against expected staff costs and we develop an estimate of the vacancy savings each year based on past experience. If there are lower or higher vacancies than estimated, staffing costs will be different than budgeted

E-FILING REVENUES & TRUST ADMINISTRATION FEES

These revenues correlate closely with real estate unit sales in BC. Expected revenue from these sources has been set based on available forecasts from the British Columbia Real Estate Association and actual results could vary from these forecasts.

GENERAL FUND

FEES & BUDGET OVERVIEW



REVENUE & EXPENSE SUMMARY



2025 OPERATING REVENUE SUMMARY

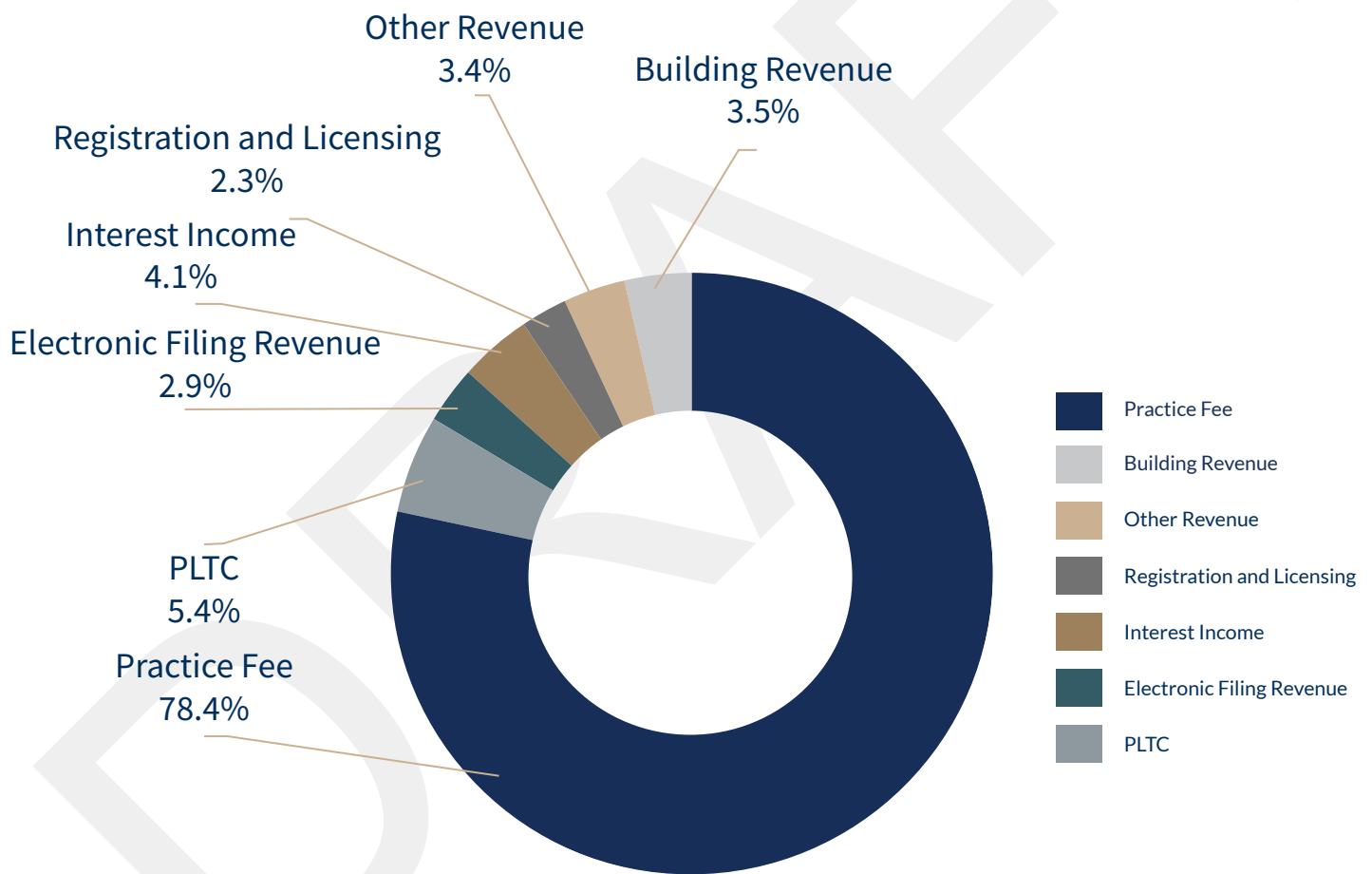
General Fund revenues are projected to be \$35.6 million, \$0.6 million (1.6%) higher than the 2024 budget, primarily due to an increase in the number of practising lawyers year over year. The budgeted revenue is based on estimates of 15,250 full-time equivalent practising lawyers and 646 PLTC students. Interest income is still higher than prior years, although it will be lower than the 2023 actuals and 2024 forecast. Electronic filing revenue is projected to be higher than 2023 levels, with some recovery in the real estate market. Registration and licensing revenue, along with fines and penalties, are budgeted based on historical trends. Other income is higher with an increase in Law Foundation grant income.

2025 OPERATING EXPENSE SUMMARY

General Fund operational expenses are expected to be \$37.1 million, \$1.75 million (5%) increase over 2024 budget. Expense increases are primarily related to general wage increases, salary increases due to market benchmarking in 2025, inflation and the addition of targeted staff resources. Other areas that have increased include costs relating to public adjudicator lawyer per diems, and information technology costs.

2025 OPERATING REVENUES

The chart below provides details by type of operating revenue for the General Fund.



2025 OPERATING REVENUES

Practice fee revenues

are budgeted at \$27.9 million, a 2.9% increase over the 2024 budget. From 2021 to 2023, the number of practising lawyers has risen an average of 3.5% annually. It is projected that the number of practicing lawyers will increase 3.24% in 2024, with another 3.25% in 2025. The 2025 budget assumes an estimate of 15,250 full-time equivalent lawyers.

PLTC revenues are budgeted at \$1.9 million, based on 646 students, a similar number to the 2024 forecast of 650 students.

Electronic filing revenues

are budgeted at \$1.0 million, 26% decrease from 2024 budget, adjusted for real estate projections over 2024 and 2025.

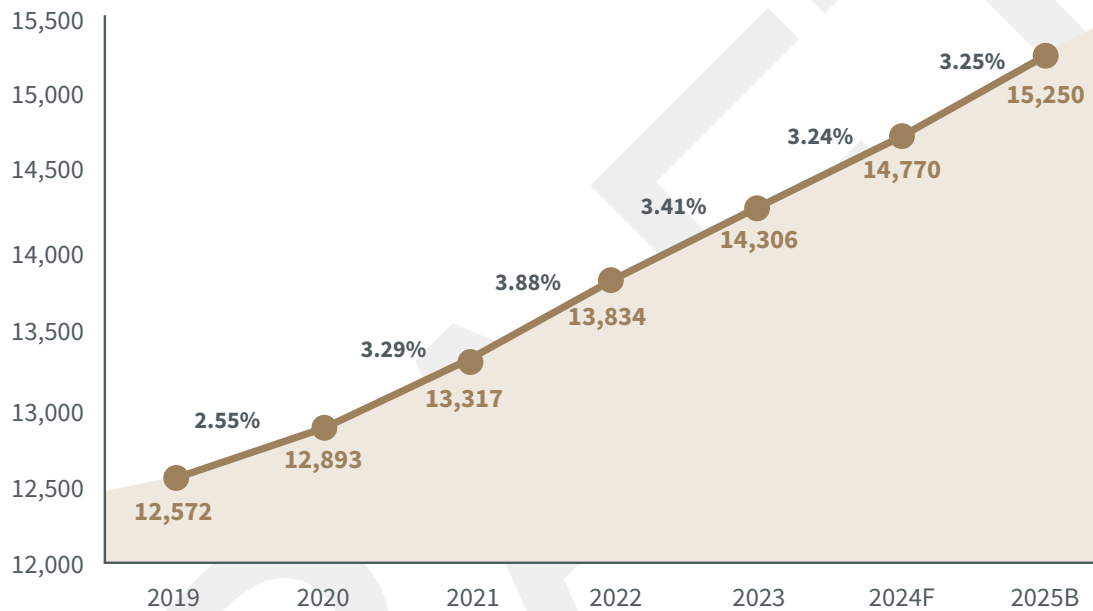
Other revenues, which include registration and licensing fees, fines, penalties and cost recoveries, and interest income are budgeted at \$3.5 million, \$0.6 million less than 2024, due mainly to lower interest revenue from lower bank rates.

Building revenue and

recoveries are budgeted at \$1.2 million, \$67,000 higher than the 2024 budget due to an increase in market rates for the internal rent allocation. The Law Society owns the 845/839 Cambie building and occupies the majority of space, and the space that is not occupied by the Law Society is leased out to external tenants. In 2025, external lease revenues are budgeted at \$650,000. Also included in lease revenues is an inter-fund market rent allocation of \$526,000 charged for space occupied at 845 Cambie by the Lawyers Indemnity Fund and the Trust Assurance Program.

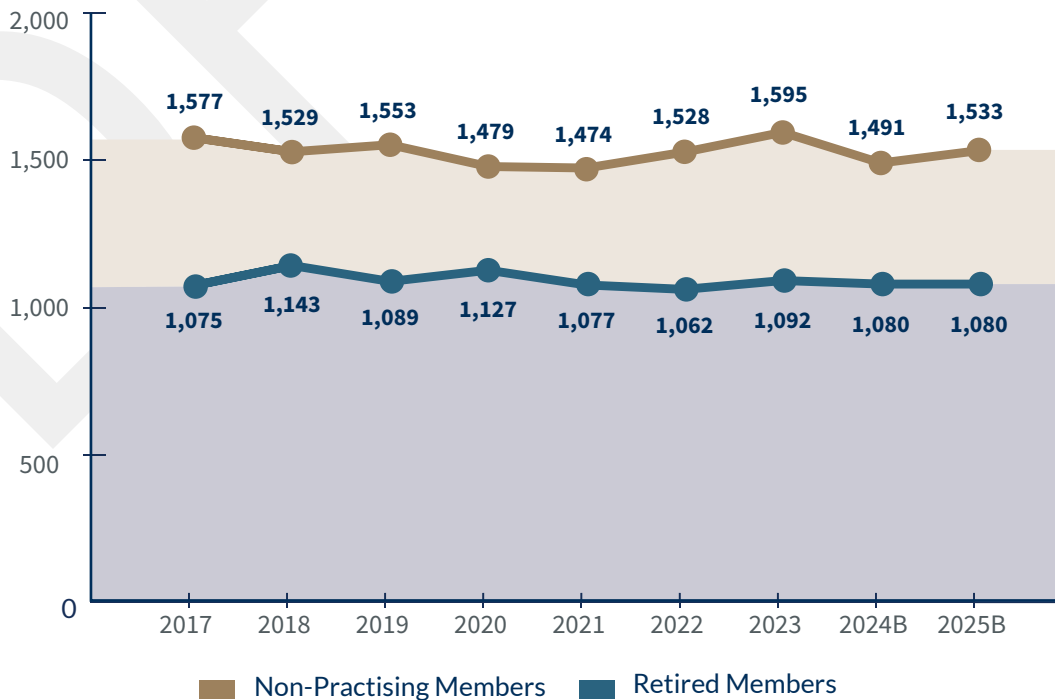
2025 OPERATING REVENUES

PRACTISING LAWYER HISTORY

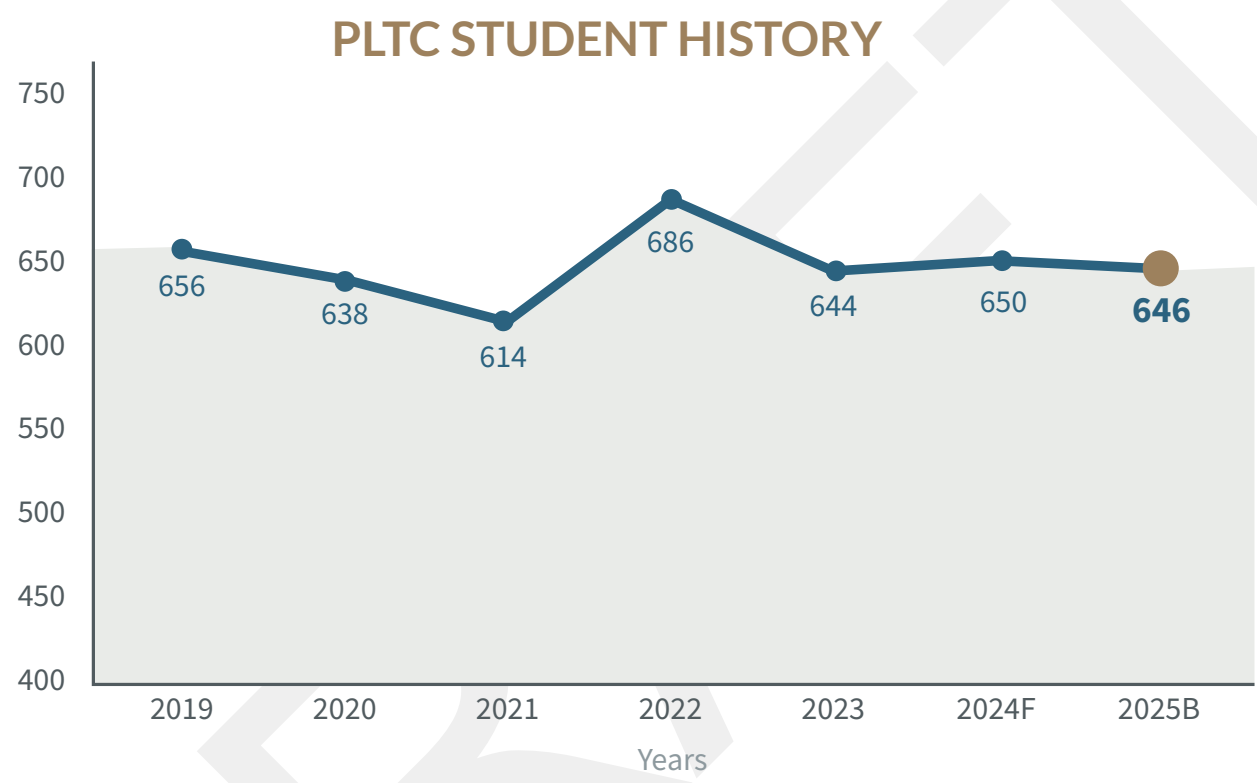


NON PRACTISING AND RETIRED LAWYERS

Year 2017 - 2025B

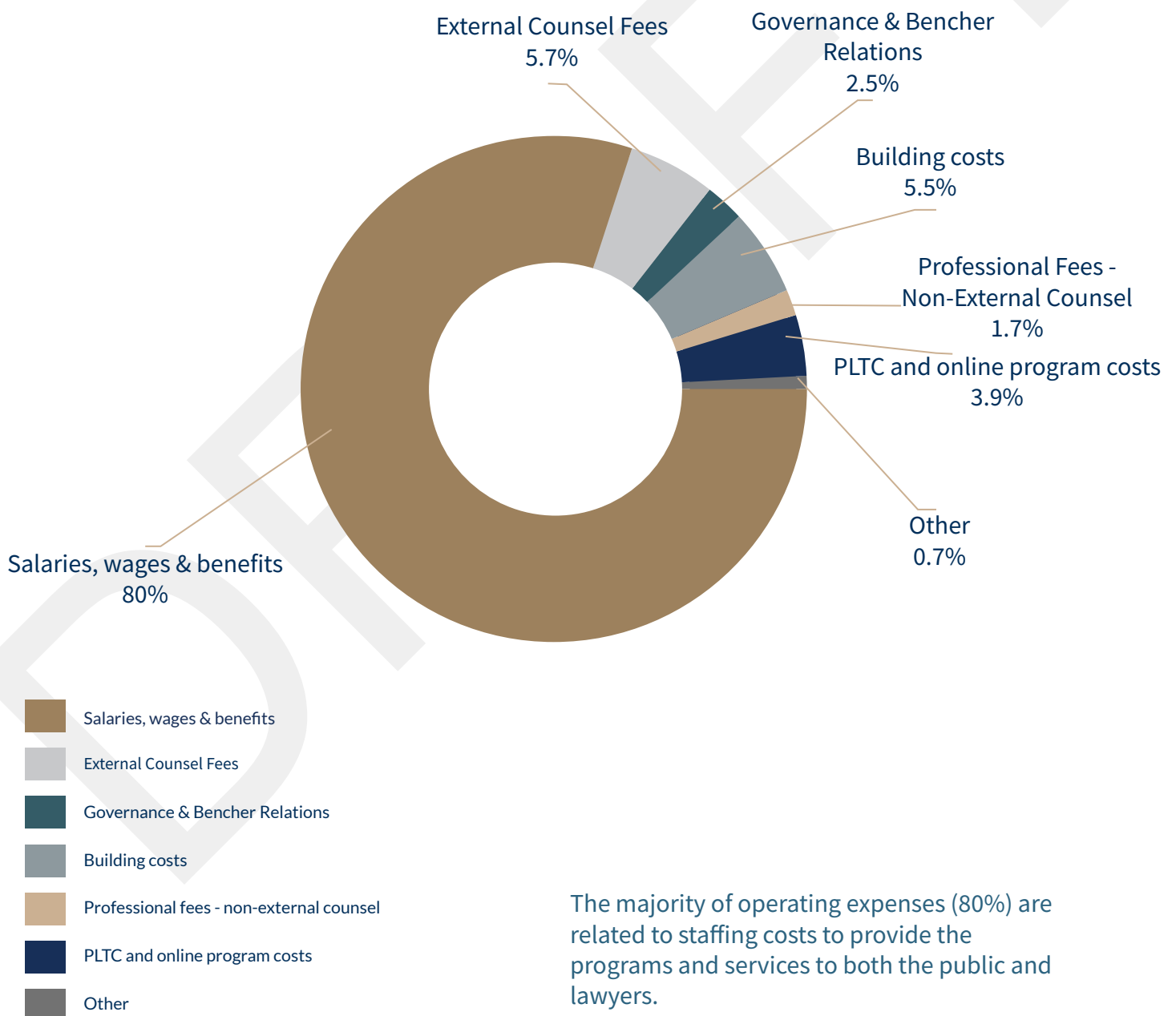


2025 OPERATING REVENUES



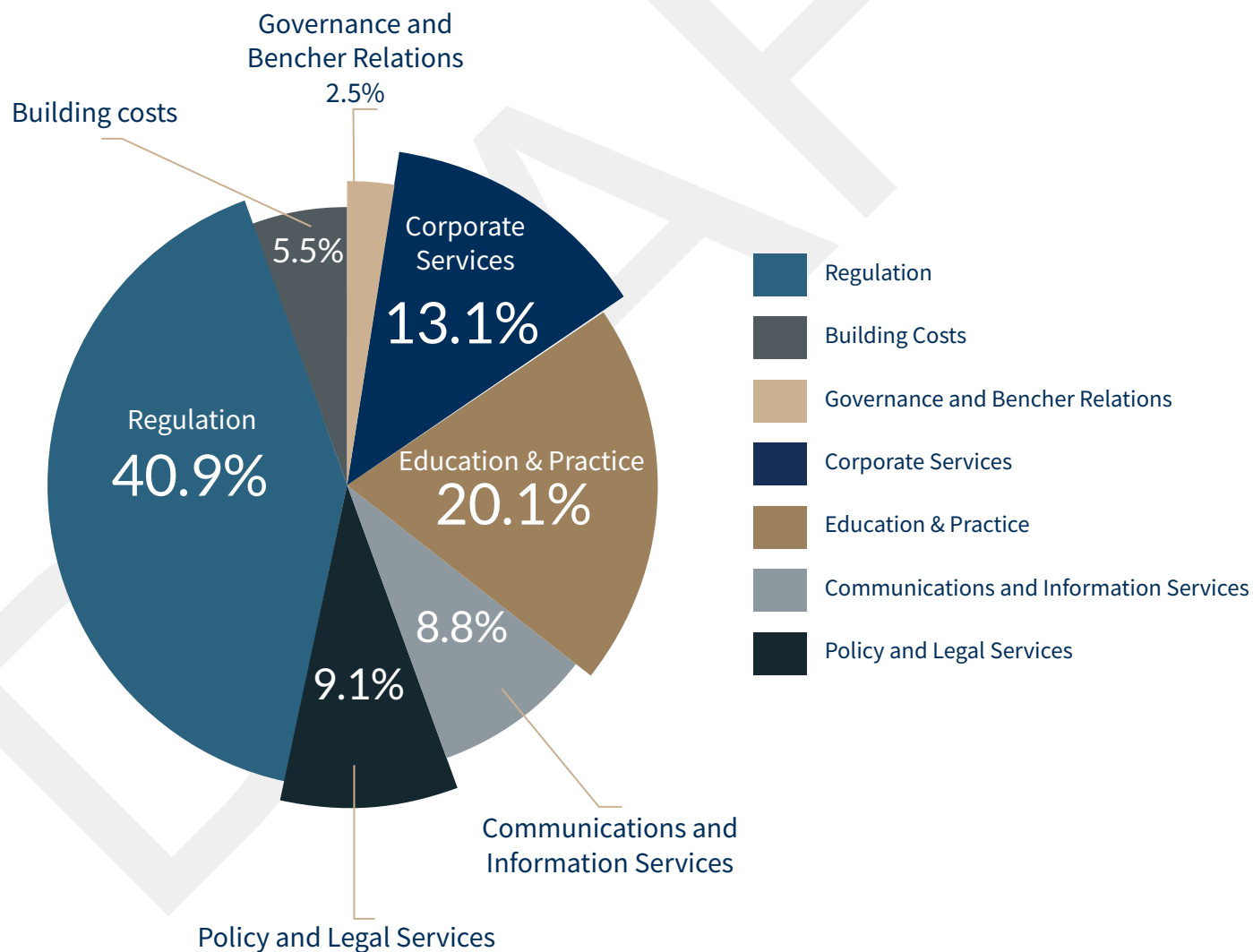
2025 OPERATING EXPENSES

The chart below provides information on the type of operating expenses for the General Fund.



2025 OPERATING EXPENSES

The operating costs by program area as a percentage of the 2025 budget.



GENERAL FUND WORKING CAPITAL

NET ASSETS - GENERAL FUND WORKING CAPITAL

To keep the 2025 practice fee the same, net asset reserves will be used to fund some of the Law Society operational budget, with a deficit of \$1,568,390 funded from reserves (not including one-time projects).

There are a number of initiatives ongoing and continuing into 2025. These one-time projects will be funded from net assets reserves and include the work on Lawyer Development, Trust, AML and Principal Training programs, the implementation of the Information Technology strategic plan, building capital project replacement of cladding and windows and the costs related to the SLR transition and litigation. The exact costs for the one-time projects are not known at this time.

The projected net asset working capital position based on the 2024 forecast is shown below. The costs of these one-time projects are not included in the 2025 operational budget, or the table below.

USE OF WORKING CAPITAL RESERVES

Current Year and Budget Year

2024

Working Capital Balance - per 2023 audited financial statements	\$19,828,000
Forecasted 2024 Results - Q2	\$(238,000)

Projected 2024 Working Capital Closing Balance	<u>\$19,590,000</u>
---	----------------------------

2025

Budgeted Deficit	\$(1,568,390)
------------------	---------------

Projected 2025 Working Capital Closing Balance	<u>\$18,021,610</u>
---	----------------------------

Number of months of expenses	5.8
------------------------------	-----

CAPITAL PLAN

The Law Society maintains a rolling 10-year capital plan to ensure that capital funding is available for capital projects required to maintain the 839/845 Cambie building and to provide capital for operational requirements, including computer hardware and software, furniture and workspace improvements. The amount of the practice fee allocated to the capital plan is set at \$126 per lawyer.

In the 2025 capital plan, \$2.4 million is budgeted for capital projects. Projects include entrance and plaza waterproofing, isolation valves replacement, and future window and cladding repairs. In addition, the operational capital includes computer hardware and software, furniture, and office renovations.

The costs associated with the IT Strategic Plan are not included in the capital budget at this time.

	2025	2024
Computer hardware – Laptops, monitors, printers, and UPS battery replacements	\$452,500	\$498,000
Computer software	\$96,750	\$10,000
System upgrades – LSIS programming	\$105,000	\$278,000
Phone system	\$8,000	\$158,000
Equipment, furniture and fixtures replacement	\$98,000	\$98,000
Building and Workspaces – Windows, Isolation Valves and Renovations	\$1,631,683	\$990,000
Total	\$2,391,933	\$2,032,000

GENERAL FUND - OPERATING BUDGET

THE LAW SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA OPERATING BUDGET (Excluding capital/depreciation) FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025 GENERAL FUND SUMMARY

	2025 Budget	2024 Budget	2023 Actual	2025B vs 2024B Variance	%	2025B vs 2023A Variance	%
GENERAL FUND REVENUES							
Practice fees	27,885,679	27,108,846	26,078,945				
PLTC and enrolment fees	1,907,250	1,774,250	1,949,225				
Electronic filing revenue	1,017,000	1,372,000	859,971				
Interest income	1,472,550	1,668,000	1,733,234				
Registration and Licensing services	832,309	886,208	801,751				
Fines & penalties	585,635	638,135	530,660				
Program cost recoveries	140,000	141,000	9,362				
Insurance recoveries	20,000	20,000	24,359				
Other revenue	464,400	220,500	451,628				
Building revenue and recoveries	1,235,467	1,168,317	1,322,120				
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	35,560,289	34,997,256	33,761,256	563,033	1.6%	1,799,034	5.3%
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES							
Governance and Events	915,824	1,035,984	1,129,581				
Corporate Services	4,874,489	4,602,297	4,286,967				
Education & Practice	7,455,423	7,167,767	5,744,740				
Communications and Information Services	3,278,639	3,122,937	2,559,631				
Policy and Legal Services	3,392,641	2,947,157	3,006,616				
Regulation	15,176,071	14,233,183	13,350,459				
Building costs	2,035,591	2,264,700	2,131,394				
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	37,128,679	35,374,025	32,209,388	1,754,654	5.0%	4,919,291	15.3%
External Organization Funding	-	263,231	-	(263,231)			
GENERAL FUND NET CONTRIBUTION	(1,568,390)	(640,000)	1,551,868	(928,389)	145%	(3,120,257)	-201%
Trust Assurance Program							
Trust Administration Fee Revenue	4,924,000	4,531,000	3,123,698				
Trust Administration Department	4,047,068	3,753,000	3,541,272				
Net Trust Assurance Program	876,932	778,000	(417,575)	98,932		1,294,507	
TOTAL NET GENERAL FUND & TAP CONTRIBUTION	(691,458)	138,000	1,134,293	(829,457)		(1,825,751)	

GENERAL FUND - DETAILED REVENUE & EXPENSES

THE LAW SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA OPERATING BUDGET (Excluding capital/depreciation) FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025 GENERAL FUND SUMMARY

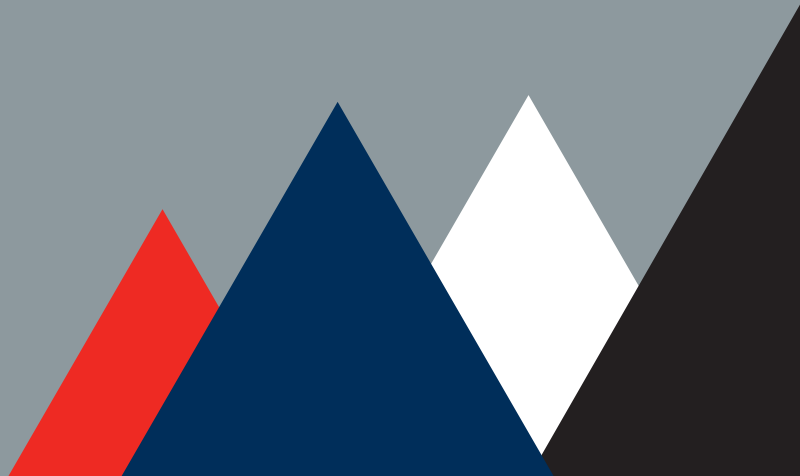
	2025 Budget	2024 Budget	2023 Actual	2025 vs 2024 Budget Var	2025 vs 2023 Actual Var
REVENUES					
Practice fees	27,885,679	27,108,846	26,078,945	776,833	1,806,733
PLTC and enrolment fees	1,907,250	1,774,250	1,949,225	133,000	(41,975)
Electronic filing revenue	1,017,000	1,372,000	859,971	(355,000)	157,029
Interest income	1,472,550	1,668,000	1,733,234	(195,450)	(260,684)
Registration and Licensing	832,309	886,208	801,751	(53,899)	30,558
Fines & penalties	289,635	288,135	276,900	1,500	12,735
Program cost recoveries	436,000	491,000	263,122	(55,000)	172,878
Subscriptions	3,000	2,000	3,742	1,000	(742)
Insurance recoveries	20,000	20,000	24,359	-	(4,359)
Other cost recoveries	7,000	7,000	13,504	-	(6,504)
Other revenue	454,400	211,500	434,382	242,900	20,018
Building revenue and recoveries	1,235,467	1,168,317	1,322,120	67,150	(86,653)
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUES	35,560,289	34,997,256	33,761,256	563,033	1,799,034
EXPENSES					
Governance Meetings	168,050	168,800	271,419	(750)	(103,369)
Office of the President	270,650	260,850	297,338	9,800	(26,688)
Governance Retreat	195,500	128,850	207,638	66,650	(12,138)
Life Bencher Dinner	34,000	-	-	34,000	34,000
Certificate Luncheon	-	-	3,908	-	(3,908)
LS Award/Bench & Bar Dinner	4,000	2,000	3,419	2,000	581
Federation of Law Societies Mtgs	37,500	30,000	34,531	7,500	2,969
General Meetings	1,100	1,600	660	(500)	440
QC Reception	22,000	14,200	16,219	7,800	5,781
Welcome / Farewell Dinner	29,300	26,470	21,532	2,830	7,768
Gold Medal Award	8,700	10,200	6,700	(1,500)	2,000
Single Legal Regulator	-	192,974	159,444	(192,974)	(159,444)
Executive Committee	10,400	10,200	3,675	200	6,725
Finance & Audit Committee	2,500	2,500	690	-	1,810
Equity & Diversity Advisory Committee	1,500	1,500	-	-	1,500
Access to Justice Advisory Committee (formerly	-	2,500	2,207	(2,500)	(2,207)
Access to Legal Services Advisory Committee	-	-	41	-	(41)
Rule of Law & Lawyer Independence Advisory Commit	1,500	1,500	-	-	1,500
Truth and Reconciliation Advisory Committee	-	17,500	-	(17,500)	-
Rule of Law and Lawyer Independence Lecture	-	-	4,143	-	(4,143)
Indigenous Engagement In Regulatory Matters Task fo	392,423	388,565	351,981	3,858	40,442
Executive Support	4,600	5,000	4,587	(400)	13
Elections	(168,492)	(133,756)	(182,291)	(34,736)	13,799
Governance allocated funds recovery	(99,407)	(95,469)	(78,262)	(3,938)	(21,145)
Board relations and events funds recovery					
	915,824	1,035,984	1,129,580	(120,160)	(213,756)

GENERAL FUND - DETAILED REVENUE & EXPENSES

THE LAW SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA OPERATING BUDGET (Excluding capital/depreciation) FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025 GENERAL FUND SUMMARY CONTINUED

	2025 Budget	2024 Budget	2023 Actual	2025 vs 2024 Budget Var	2025 vs 2023 Actual Var
Corporate Services					
General Office	844,972	832,939	739,203	12,034	105,769
Office of the CEO	1,292,839	1,119,146	1,181,716	173,693	111,122
Finance	1,471,019	1,335,023	1,348,449	135,996	122,570
Human Resources	902,260	963,908	682,011	(61,647)	220,249
Records Management	363,399	351,283	335,587	12,116	27,812
	4,874,490	4,602,297	4,286,967	272,192	587,523
Education & Practice					
Licensing and Admissions	2,453,503	2,236,550	1,844,085	216,953	609,418
PLTC and Education	4,144,397	4,069,578	3,455,537	74,819	688,860
Practice Standards	857,523	861,639	445,119	(4,116)	412,404
	7,455,423	7,167,767	5,744,740	287,656	1,710,683
Communications and Information Services					
Communications	670,869	641,296	597,754	29,573	73,115
Information Services	2,607,771	2,481,641	1,961,877	126,130	645,894
	3,278,639	3,122,937	2,559,631	155,702	719,009
Policy and Legal Services					
Policy and Legal Services	1,875,546	1,751,619	1,787,622	123,927	87,924
Tribunal & Legislative Counsel	1,209,597	866,844	911,687	342,753	297,911
External litigation & Interventions	-	24,377	-	(24,377)	-
Unauthorized Practice	307,498	304,315	307,307	3,183	191
	3,392,641	2,947,157	3,006,616	445,485	386,026
Regulation					
CLO Department	1,129,681	989,102	940,753	140,579	188,929
Intake & Early Assessment	3,007,399	2,716,771	2,561,039	290,628	446,360
Discipline	2,809,390	2,972,105	2,901,965	(162,715)	(92,575)
Forensic Accounting	1,176,077	1,141,999	823,340	34,078	352,737
Investigations, Monitoring & Enforcement	4,867,878	4,294,263	4,024,567	573,615	843,311
Custodianships	2,185,645	2,118,942	2,098,795	66,703	86,851
	15,176,071	14,233,183	13,350,459	942,888	1,825,612
Building Occupancy Costs	2,035,591	2,264,700	2,131,394	(229,110)	(95,803)
External Organization Funding	-	263,231	-		
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES	37,128,680	35,637,256	32,209,388	1,491,424	4,919,292
GENERAL FUND INCOME/(LOSS)	(1,568,390)	(640,000)	1,551,868	(928,390)	(3,120,258)
TAF Revenue	4,924,000	4,531,000	3,123,698	393,000	1,800,302
Trust Administration Department	4,047,068	3,753,000	3,541,272	294,068	505,795
Net Trust Assurance Program	876,932	778,000	(417,575)	98,932	1,294,507
TOTAL GENERAL FUND & TAP INCOME (LOSS)	(691,458)	138,000	1,134,293	(829,458)	(1,825,750)

PRACTICE FEE



2025 PRACTICE FEE FEE RECOMMENDATION

The 2025 practice fee will be as noted below:

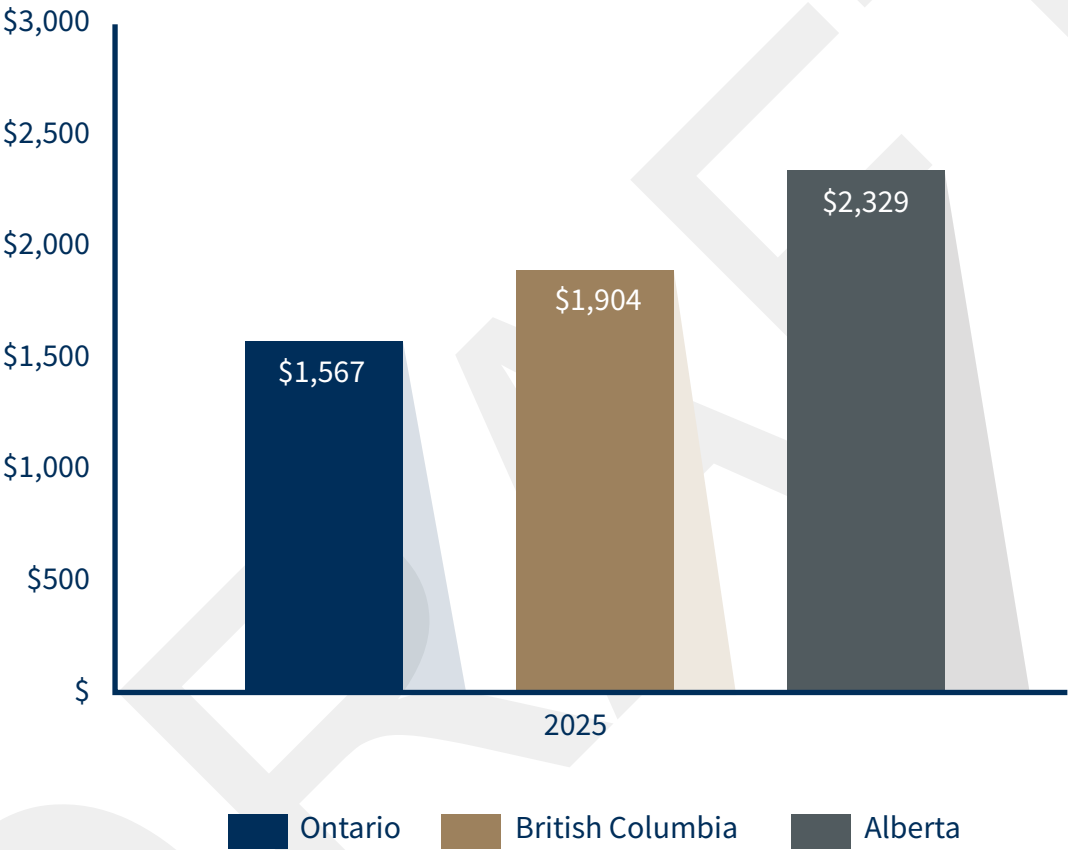
The Law Society of BC 2025 Fee Recommendation

	Funding (in 000's)				Per Lawyer			
	2025	2024	Change (\$)	Change (%)	2025	2024	Change (\$)	Change (%)
Law Society Operating Expenses	\$ 37,129	\$ 35,374	1,754,975	5.0%	\$ 1,904.00	\$ 1,904.00	\$ -	0.0%
Federation of Law Societies ¹	450	448	2	0.4%	30.00	24.00	6.00	25.0%
CanLII ¹	605	585	20	3.4%	40.00	42.00	(2.00)	-4.8%
CLBC ¹	3,315	3,191	124	3.9%	218.00	204.00	14.00	6.9%
The Advocate ²	430	440	(10)	-2.6%	24.00	25.00	(1.00)	-4.0%
LAP ¹	1,190	1,140	50	4.4%	78.00	77.00	1.00	1.3%
Pro bono/Access ¹	420	404	16	4.0%	27.00	27.00	-	0.0%
Annual Practice Fee					\$ 2,321.00	\$ 2,303.00	\$ 18.00	0.8%

1 - 2025 full fee paying equivalent members projected at 15,250

2 - 2025 practicing, non-practicing, and retired members projected at 17,863

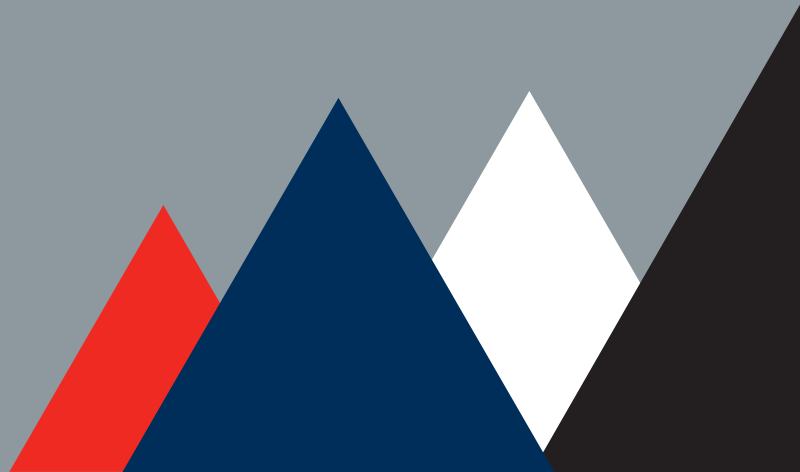
PRACTICE FEE COMPARISON



2025 LSBC practice fee compared to 2024 LSO & LSA fees as their 2025 fees are not yet available.

GENERAL FUND

DEPARTMENTAL COST SUMMARIES



DEPARTMENTAL COST SUMMARIES

Governance and Bencher Relations

Includes the costs of:

- Bencher and committee meetings
- Travel and meeting costs
- Law Society meetings and events
- New initiatives related to the Bencher Strategic Plan
- The Board Relations and Events department
 - Coordinates and organizes the Bencher and Executive meetings
 - Coordinates external appointments
 - Plans and provides administrative and logistical support for Law Society events
- Annual general meeting and Bencher elections.

The 2025 Governance and Board Relations operating expense budget is \$916,000, a decrease of \$120,000 (12%) from the 2024 budget. This decrease is mainly due to the reduced staff resources budgeted for the Single Legal Regulator project, as these costs will be funded from net asset reserves. Bencher and committee meetings will continue to be held half in-person hybrid and half fully virtual during 2025.

Governance

Bencher Relations

67.5%

32.5%



Governance



Bencher Relations

DEPARTMENTAL COST SUMMARIES

Corporate Services

Office of the CEO

General Office - Operations

Finance

Human Resources

Records Management

- Office of the CEO
- Operations
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Records Management

- Office of the CEO

- Operations - General administrative services:
 - Reception
 - Office services
 - Office renovation services
 - Building management oversight

Provides oversight over all the financial affairs of the Law Society:

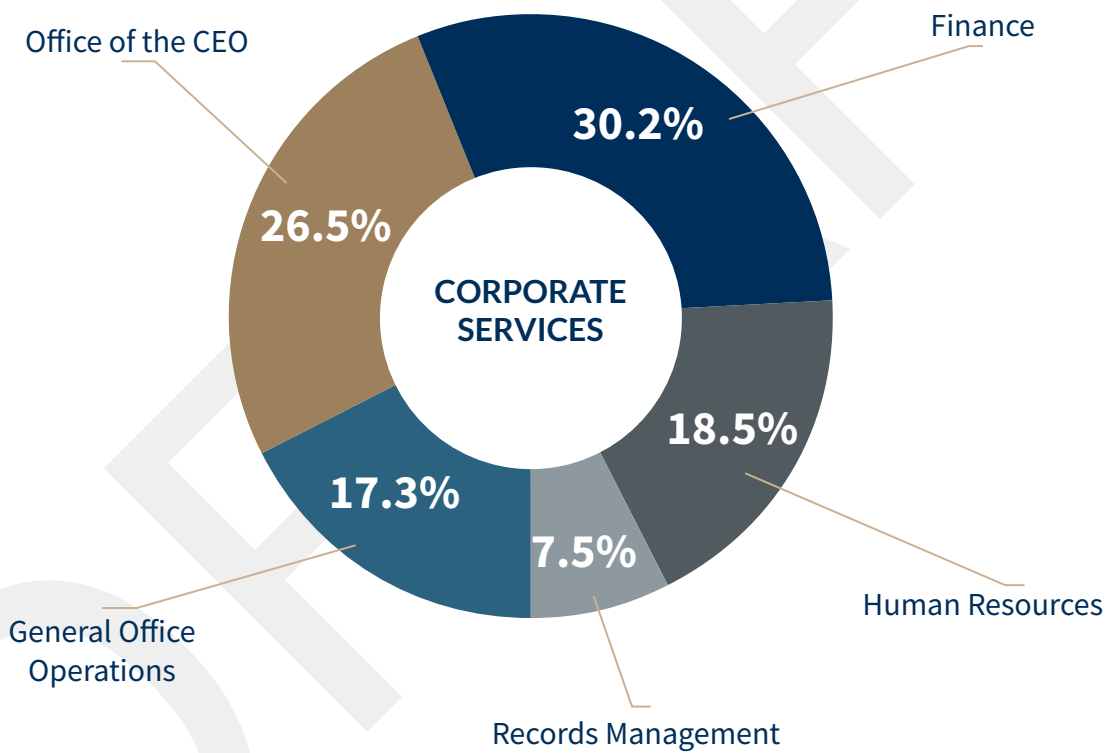
- Financial reporting
- Operating and capital budgeting
- Audit
- Payroll and benefits administration
- Cash and investment management
- Internal controls

- Develops and maintains the human resource policies & procedures
- Provides services related to:
 - Recruiting
 - Compensation
 - Performance management
 - Employee and labor relations
 - Training

- Records management
- Library and archives program
- Oversight of the electronic document management system.

DEPARTMENTAL COST SUMMARIES

The 2025 Corporate Services operating expense budget is \$4.9 million, \$272,000 (6%) higher than the 2024 budget, with increases primarily related to market-based salary adjustments, credit card processing costs and system costs associated with the HRIS, Payroll and Finance systems.



DEPARTMENTAL COST SUMMARIES

Education & Practice

Registration and Licensee Services

Credentials

PLTC, Professional Development & Practice Support

Practice Standards

Practice Advice

- Registration and Licensee Services
- Credentials
- PLTC
- Professional Development
- Practice Support
- Practice Standards
- Practice Advice

- Provides Registration and licensing services to lawyers:

- Lawyer Applications
- Lawyer status changes
- Fee billings
- Unclaimed trust funds
- Juricert registration

- Administers the law student admission program.

- Ensures new and transferring lawyers are properly qualified to practice law in BC:

- Preparing and assessing applicants for call and admission to the Law Society
- Licensing applicants to practice
- Call ceremonies

- PLTC Helps articulated students make the transition from law school to legal practice.

- Professional Development and Practice Support provides lawyer resources and online courses for the profession.

- Administers the annual continuing professional development program for all lawyers

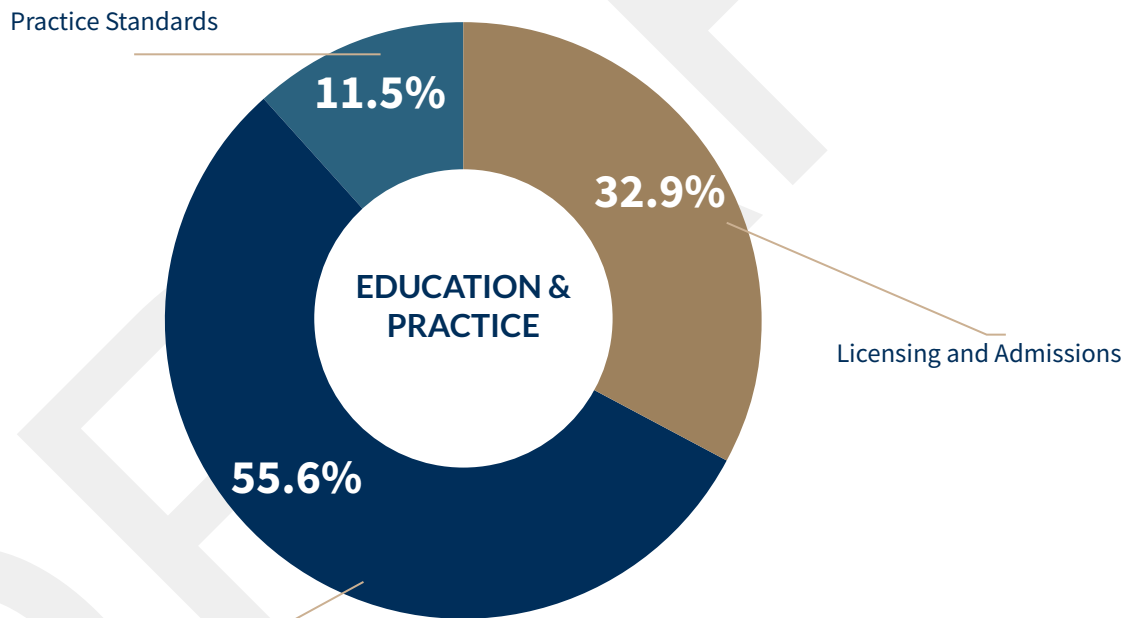
- Assists lawyers who have difficulty in meeting core competencies
- Assists lawyers who exhibit practice concerns, which may include issues of client management, office management, personal matters, and substantive law.
- Conducts practice reviews of lawyers whose competence is in question
- Recommends and monitors remedial programs

- Helps lawyers serve the public effectively by providing advice and assistance on ethical, practice and office management issues.

- The costs of this department are allocated to the Lawyers Indemnity Fund.

DEPARTMENTAL COST SUMMARIES

The 2025 Education & Practice operating expense budget is \$7.4 million, an increase of \$288,000 (4%) from the 2024 budget. Increases in this area are primarily related to market-based salary increases, costs to support a higher number of PLTC students, staffing resources to implement online applications and system improvements, as well as two term articling positions. This is offset by cost savings related to fewer online learning platform licenses and online member cards.



DEPARTMENTAL COST SUMMARIES

Communications and Information Services

Communications

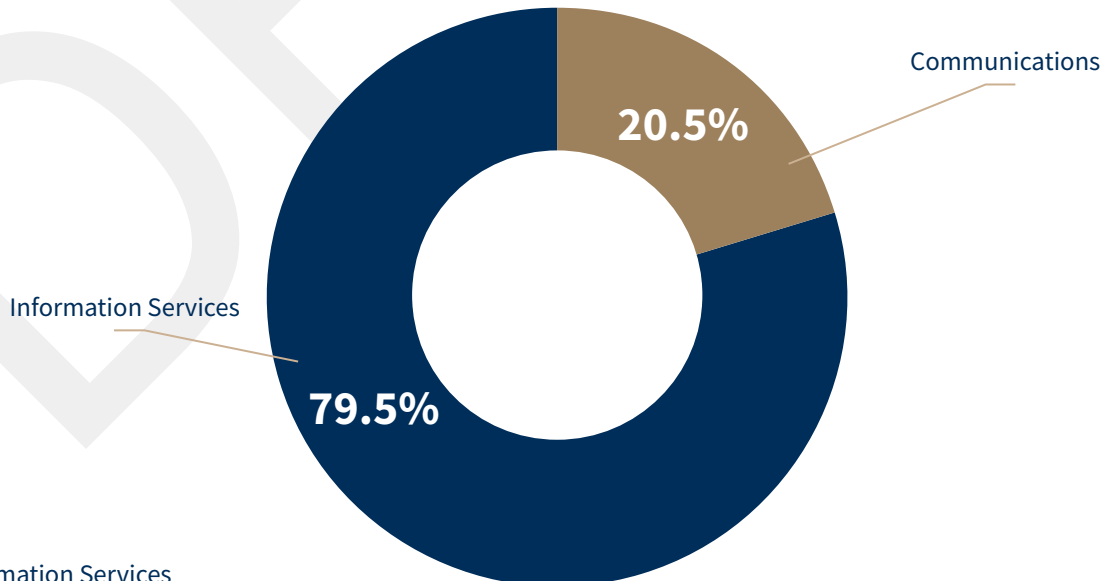
Information Services

- Communications
- Information Services

- Responsible for all lawyer, government and public relations
- Provides strategic communication advice to all areas of the Law Society.
- Manages and maintains the Law Society website, electronic communications and regular publications

- Responsible for information technical services
- Computer systems and databases
- Networks
- Websites
- Cyber security
- Data storage

The 2025 Communications and Information Services operating expense budget is \$3.3 million, an increase of \$156,000 (5%). This increase is related market-based salary increases and the addition of staff resources to support information technology initiatives. Other cost increases relate to computer software subscriptions and cybersecurity needs.



Information Services

Communications

DEPARTMENTAL COST SUMMARIES

Policy & Legal Services

Policy and Legal Services

- Policy, legal services
- External litigation and interventions
- Ethics, tribunal and legislation
- Information and privacy
- Unauthorized practice

Tribunals

- Develops policy advice, legal research and rules drafting
- Monitors developments involving professional regulation
- Independence of the Bar and Judiciary, access to justice, and equity and diversity in the legal profession
- Supports the Ethics Committee.
- External counsel fees providing services for legal defence cases and interventions on behalf of the Law Society
- Drafts new rules and proposed amendments to the Legal Profession Act

Supports the work of Law Society hearing and review tribunals

Information & Privacy

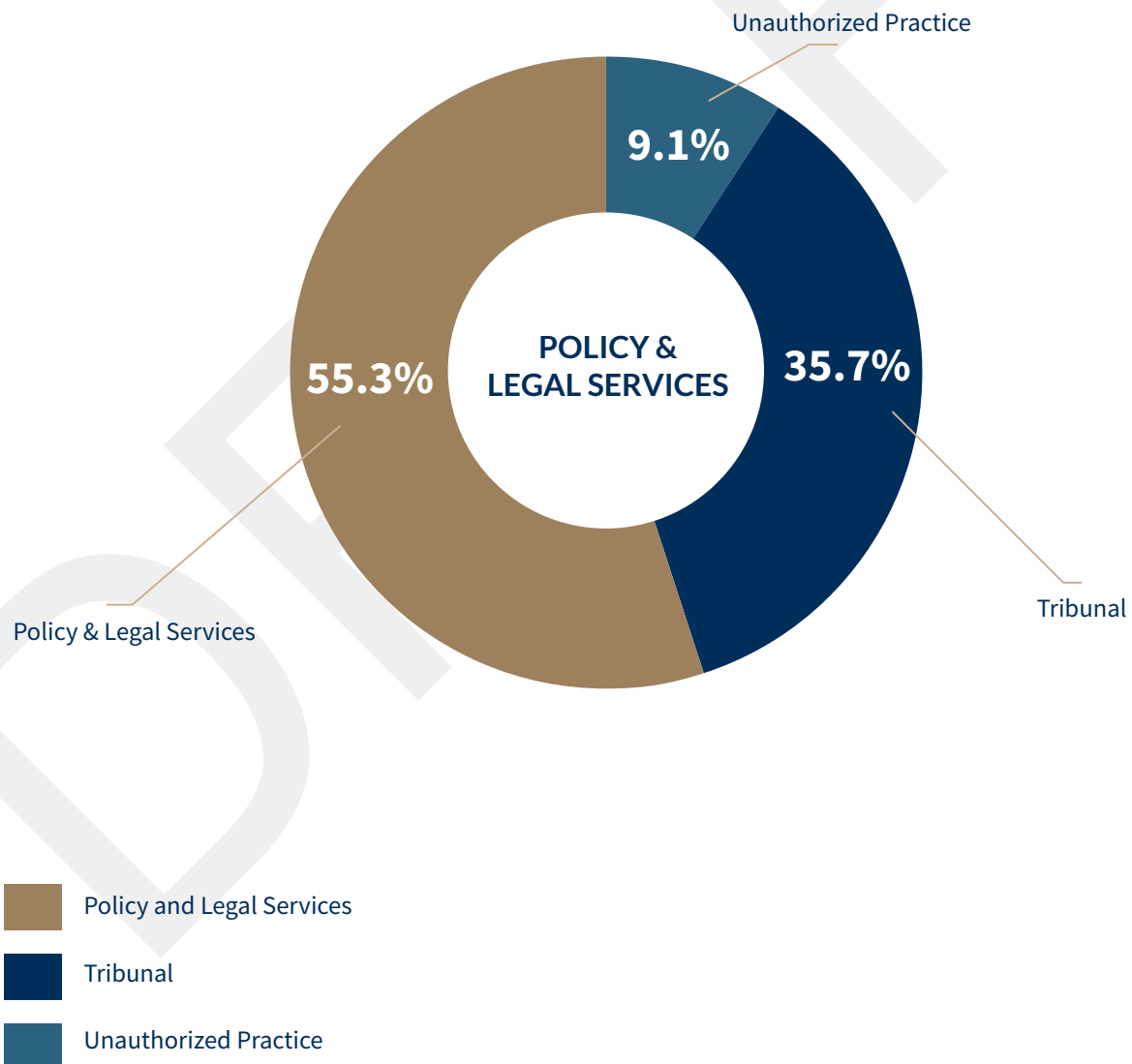
Handles requests made of the Law Society and maintains compliance of the Law Society data and training under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA)*

Unauthorized Practice (UAP)

Investigates complaints of unauthorized practice of law

DEPARTMENTAL COST SUMMARIES

The 2025 Policy and Legal Services operating expense budget is \$3.4 million, an increase of \$445,000 (15%) from the 2024 budget. This is due to market-based salary increases, and additional staff resources in Policy and Information and Privacy.



DEPARTMENTAL COST SUMMARIES

Professional Conduct, Investigations & Discipline

CLO department

Professional Conduct

Discipline

Forensic Accounting

Custodianships

- CLO Department
- Professional Conduct
- Discipline
- Forensic Accounting
- Custodianships

- Providing oversight of all of the programs in Professional Regulation
- Support to the Discipline Committee
- Conducts reviews of the professional regulation programs in order to ensure the effective utilization of Law Society resources

- Intake and Early Resolution and the Investigations, Monitoring and Enforcement groups
- Receive and investigate complaints about lawyers' conduct
- Recommend disciplinary action where appropriate

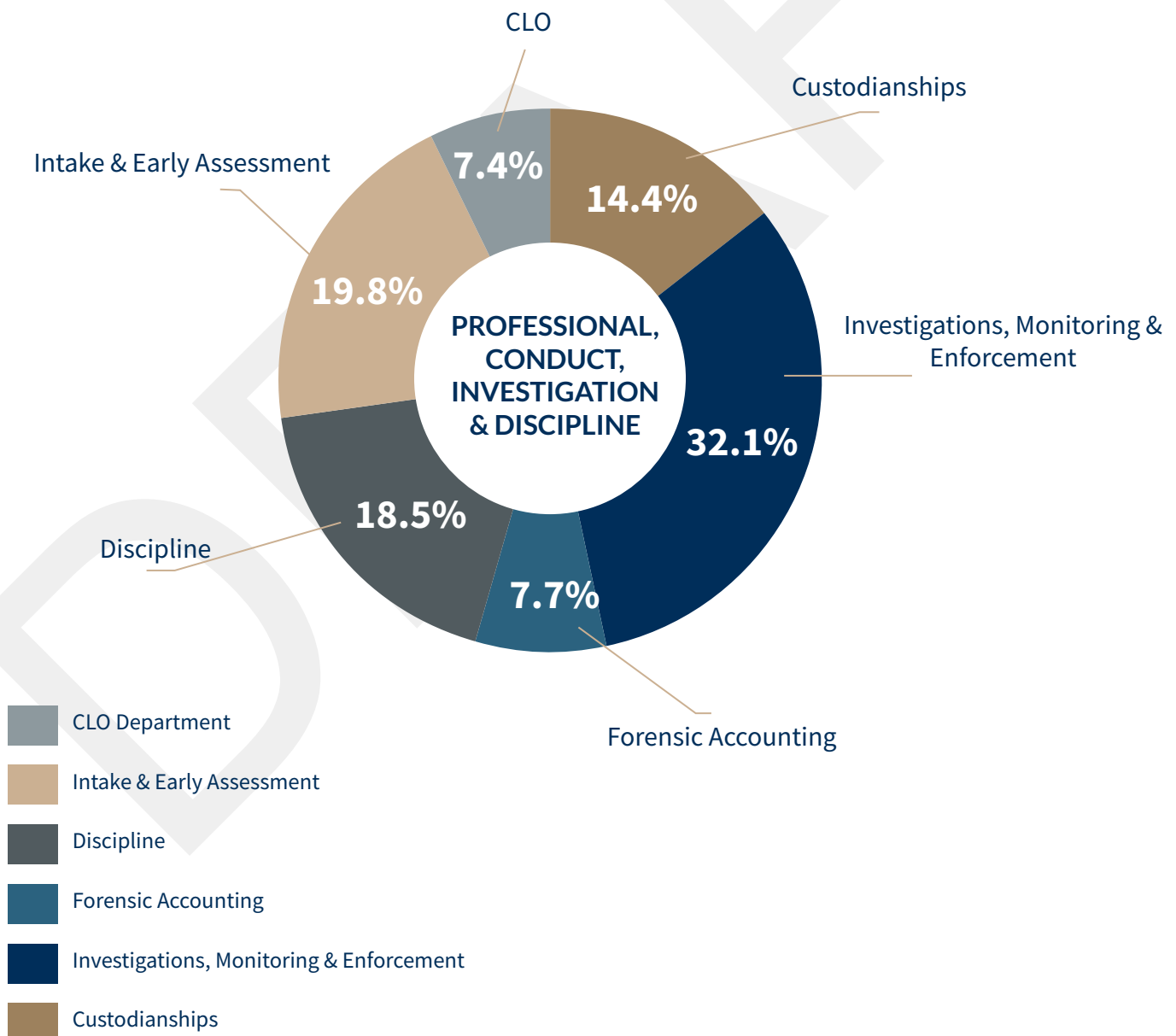
- Manages the conduct meeting and conduct review processes
- Represents the Law Society at discipline hearings
- Provides legal advice on investigations

- Forensic investigation services
- Support the regulatory process

- Arrangement of locum agreements or custodians to manage
- Where appropriate, wind-up legal practices when lawyers cannot continue to practice due to illness, death, or disciplinary actions

DEPARTMENTAL COST SUMMARIES

The 2025 Professional Conduct, Investigations and Discipline operating expense budget is \$15.2 million, an increase of \$943,000 (7%) from the 2024 budget. This is primarily related to market-based salary increases, in addition to additional staff resources in Professional Conduct and Investigations, including the addition of an Indigenous Navigator role. These are offset by lower external counsel fees with the implementation of consent agreements and alternate discipline processes.



DEPARTMENTAL COST SUMMARIES

845/839

Cambie Street

85%
Occupied



\$2 2025 Budget
Million

\$229,000

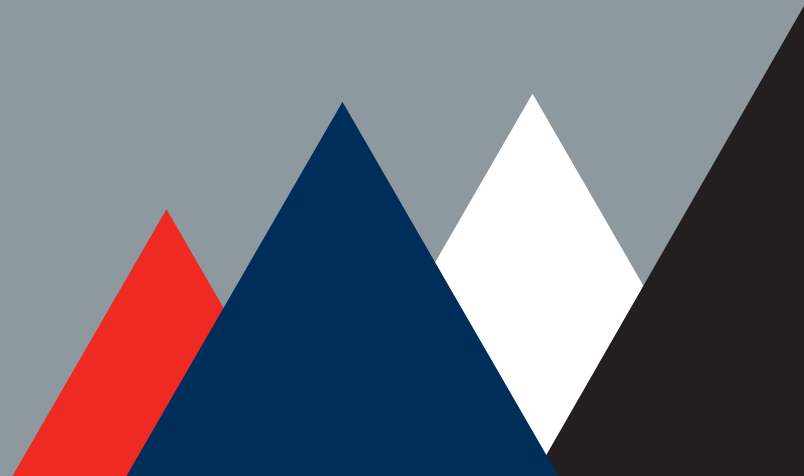
10% decrease
over 2024 Budget

The Law Society owns the 845/839 Cambie Street building and occupies 85% of the available space. The cost of occupying and maintaining the building is partially offset by lease revenues from tenants.

The property management department provides services in relation to tenant relations, leasing, building maintenance and preservation, fire and safety, energy management, and minor and major capital project management.

The 2025 building operating expense budget is \$2.0 million, a decrease of \$229,000 (10%) from the 2024 budget. Property taxes and recoverable amortization decreased, and were partially offset by increases in security and janitorial costs.

TRUST ASSURANCE



TRUST ASSURANCE PROGRAM AND FEE

The goal of the Trust Assurance program is to ensure that law firms comply with the rules regarding proper handling of clients' trust funds and trust accounting records. This is achieved by conducting trust accounting compliance audits at law firms, reviewing annual trust reports, and providing lawyer advice and resources. The program is funded by the Trust Administration Fee (TAF).

The compliance audit program ensures that all firms are audited at least once within a six-year cycle. In addition, real estate and wills & estate firms are audited every four years, along with more frequent audits in higher risk practices. The program also develops and delivers webinars and trust accounting courses, and other resources for the profession.

The TAF is currently set at \$15 per transaction, and has been at this level for the past 10 years. In order to fund the Trust Assurance program, and to provide excess revenues to the Part B indemnity program to help cover theft claims, the Trust Administration Fee will be increased to \$20 per transaction. The number of real estate unit sales has continued to decrease from past years, bringing in less revenue. It should be noted that when the Part B indemnity program was implemented, the Lawyers Indemnity Fund fee did not increase.

The 2025 TAF revenue is budgeted at \$4.9 million, an increase from the 2024 budget. The TAF revenue budget is based on BC Real Estate Association real estate unit sales forecasts, which forecast a 4.4% increase in unit sales from 2023 to 2024 and a further 13.3% increase from 2024 to 2025.

The Trust Assurance operating expense budget is \$4 million, an increase of \$294,000 (8%) from 2024. Increases are primarily related to market-based salary adjustments and staffing resources.

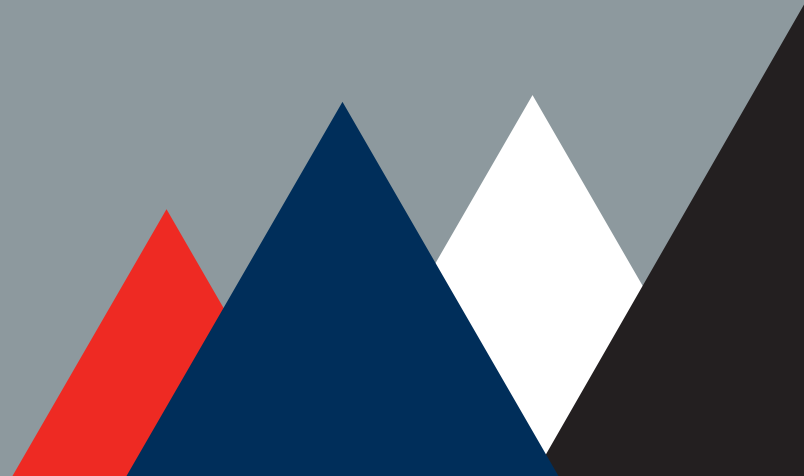
The TAF reserve at December 31, 2023 was \$1.9 million. The TAF reserve policy sets the TAF reserve at 6 months of operating expenses, with any excess transferred to Part B indemnity funding.

Trust Assurance Program Projections

	TAF		Total		Net	Transfer from(to)	
	Matters	Rate	Revenue	Expense	Income/ (Deficit)	LIF	Net Asset Balance
2023 Actuals	208,247	\$ 15	\$ 3,123,698	\$ 3,240,232	\$ (116,534)	\$ 430,000	\$ 1,880,000
2024 Projections*	224,490	\$ 15	\$ 3,367,346	\$ 3,622,000	\$ (254,654)	\$ -	\$ 1,625,346
2025 Budget	246,200	\$ 20	\$ 4,924,000	\$ 4,047,068	\$ 876,932	\$ -	\$ 2,502,279

*Actual results will determine the amount of the transfer in 2024.

EXTERNAL ORGANIZATION FUNDING



EXTERNAL ORGANIZATION FUNDING

The Law Society collects funding for a number of external programs, which are included in the annual practice fee.



With the support from the Law Society of British Columbia, the Law Foundation of British Columbia, and the Ministry of Attorney General, CLBC provides lawyers and the public in BC with access to legal information, as well as training and support in accessing and using legal information. Through its information services, curation of print and digital collections, website content and training, the library provides practice support for lawyers and access to justice support to the public across the province, through its 31 physical locations. CLBC has requested \$3,315,413 to support the operating budget. The allocation of the practice fee to CLBC will need to increase to \$218 per lawyer in 2025, in order to fully fund the CLBC operating costs.

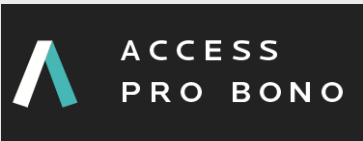


Federation of Law Societies of Canada

Over the past three years, Law Society funding to the Federation has been at a lower level as the Federation utilized net asset reserves to fund operations. As the Federation net asset reserves have returned to normal levels, the funding to the Federation will need to increase to fund the operating budgets. For 2025, the allocation in the practice fee to the Federation will increase to \$30 per lawyer in order to meet their funding requirements.



LAP provides confidential outreach, education, support and referrals to lawyers and other members of British Columbia's legal community. LAP has requested funding of \$1,190,000 for 2025, similar to the funding for 2024, and the allocation of the practice fee to LAP will increase to \$78 per lawyer from \$77 to meet the funding request.



With an increase for CPI, the contribution to pro bono and access to legal services funding will be set at \$419,722 for 2025, and the per lawyer fee will remain at \$27. This funding is sent to the Law Foundation for distribution to pro bono and access to justice organizations



The CanLII funding will be similar to last year, and the fee can be reduced from \$42 to \$40 per lawyer to fund the CanLII operating budget. CanLII is a not-for-profit organization initiated by the Federation of Law Societies of Canada. CanLII's goal is to make primary sources of Canadian Law accessible for free on its website at www.canlii.org. All provincial and territorial law societies have committed to provide funding to CanLII.



The Advocate funding requested \$430,000 for the 2025-2026 operating budget, a similar amount to last year. The allocation of the practice fee will be reduced from \$25 to \$24 per lawyer in order to fund the 2025-2026 operating budget. The Advocate publication is distributed bi-monthly to all BC lawyers, including practising, non-practising and retired lawyers.

2025 FEE RECOMMENDATIONS



Resolutions

Be it resolved that the Finance and Audit Committee recommend to the Benchers that:

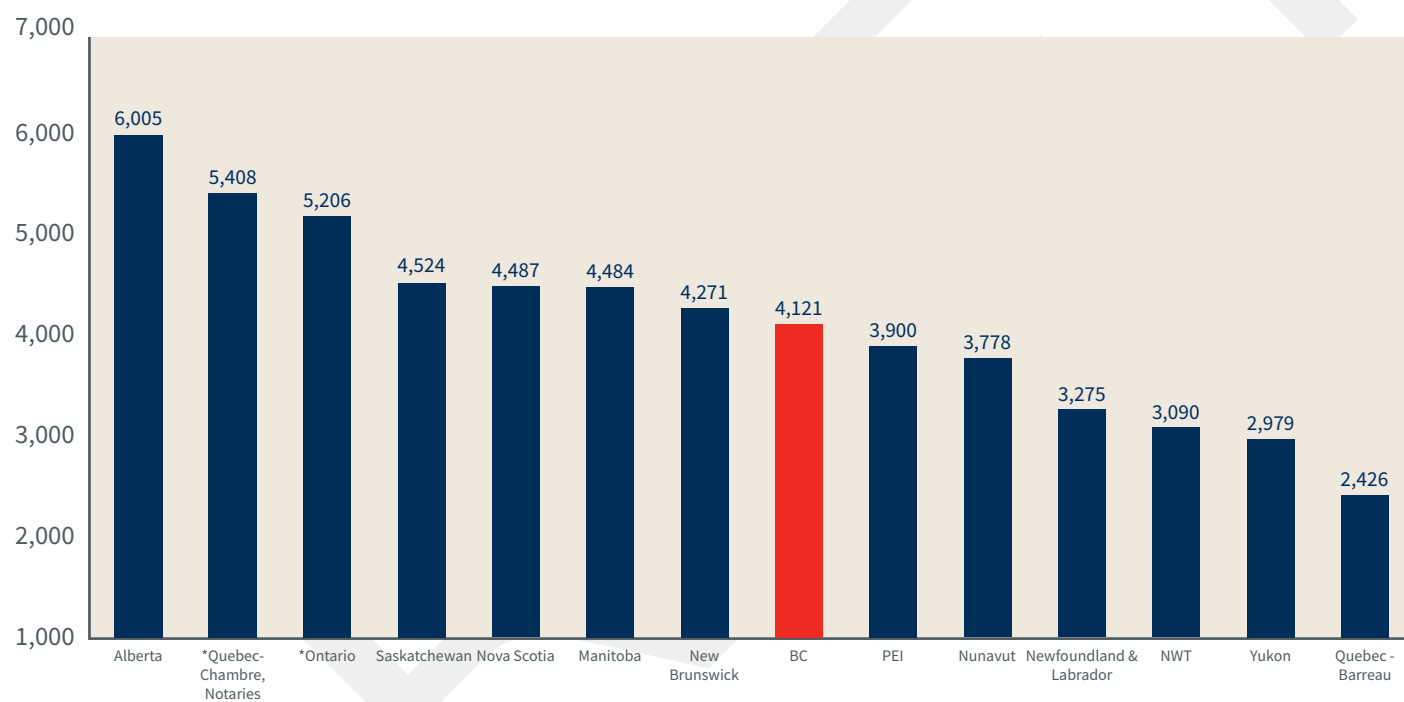
- Effective January 1, 2025, the practice fee be set at \$2,321, pursuant to section 23(1)(a) of the Legal Profession Act.

Be it resolved that:

- Effective January 1, 2025, the trust administration fee be set at \$20 for each client matter, pursuant to Rule 2-110 (1).

MANDATORY FEE COMPARISON

MANDATORY FEE COMPARISON - 2025
(Practice and Indemnity Fee)



The fees are based on readily available information, and may include 2024, not 2025, due to timing of fee setting processes.

See LIF report for Indemnity Fee information.



LAWYERS INDEMNITY FUND

Expertise • Service • Results

2025 FEE RECOMMENDATION & BUDGET REPORT

OVERVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION

The goal of the Lawyers Indemnity Fund (LIF) is to maintain a professional liability indemnification program for BC lawyers that provides the following:

- broad coverage,
- reasonable limits,
- an affordable cost, and
- exceptional underwriting, claims, and risk management advice and service.

This goal is within the overarching objective of sustaining a financially stable program over the long term, firmly grounded in the interests of both the public and the profession.

Several factors influence the financial performance of our program. Claims activity and development comprise a majority of the operational risk, while the experience, expectations, and actuarial advice that result give guidance to the annual fee recommendation.

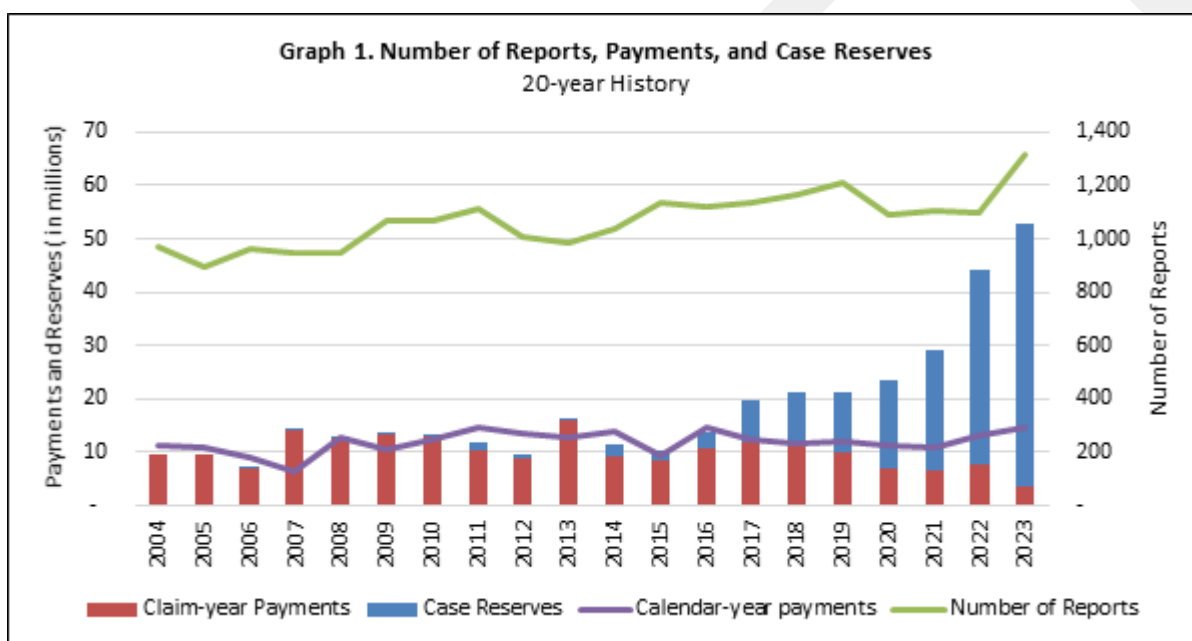
Graph 1 (below) shows that the number of claims reported in 2023 was higher than the prior three years. Despite the uptick in count – which has accelerated in 2024 – we anticipate that claim frequency trends will be manageable within the normal course of business.

Regarding severity, LIF supports potential claim liabilities with conservative reserves that tend to overestimate future costs but are constructive for identifying trends and anomalies. Consequently, preliminary reserves are expected to reduce as the claims develop over time.

As to LIF's cash flow, the aggregate amount of claim payments made in a given year normally fluctuates within a range between \$11 million and \$14 million, and payments in 2023 fell slightly in excess of the range. However, most reports do not develop into claims, while others take several years to resolve, with payments made long after the claim is reported. Consequently, payments on a *calendar* year basis, which are categorized according to when they are made regardless of when the claim was reported, can materially differ from the same data presented on a *claim* year basis, which attaches payments to the report year of each claim.

We aim to settle claims quickly and fairly but also with an eye to creating helpful precedents and avoiding bad ones that may increase future risks for the profession. Sound legal principles are not overlooked for short-term economic gain. LIF's claims counsel are skilled at repairing errors before they become greater problems, earn excellent service ratings from lawyers, and have an exceptionally favourable record in court actions. Accordingly, we have a high degree of confidence that our processes are appropriate.

Overall, LIF is in a financially strong position; we recommend no change to the indemnity fee for 2025.



Frequency and Severity of Claims

Over the last 20 years, 98% of both claim reports received and total amounts paid or reserved relate to Part A claims. All segments of the indemnity program are important, but the lion's share of risk and expense lies with Part A.

PART A
Errors & Omissions

PART B
Trust protection
for lawyer theft

PART C
Trust shortages for social
engineering frauds

PART A

Errors & Omissions

As noted, 2023 saw a record number of Part A claim reports; however, this large number does not suggest a material change in the inherent risk of the program.

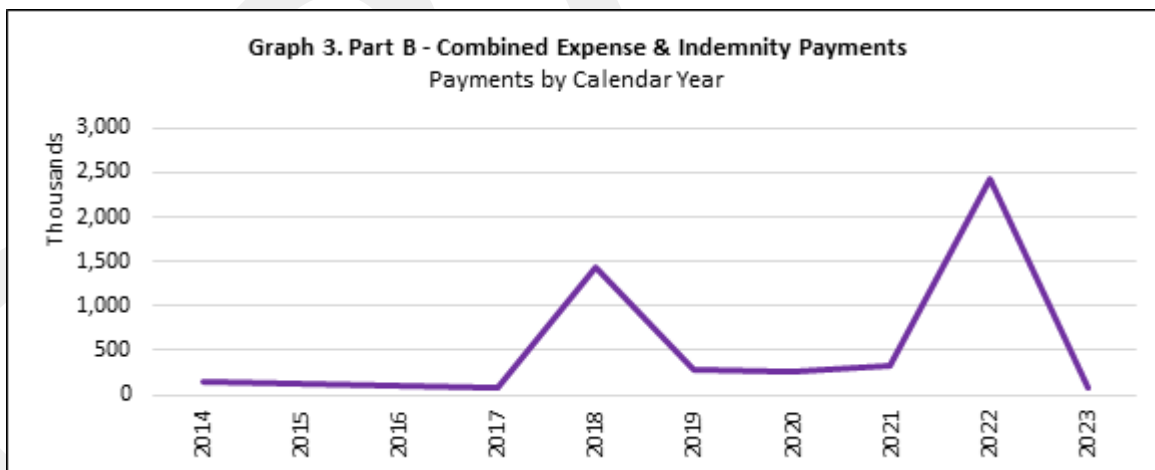
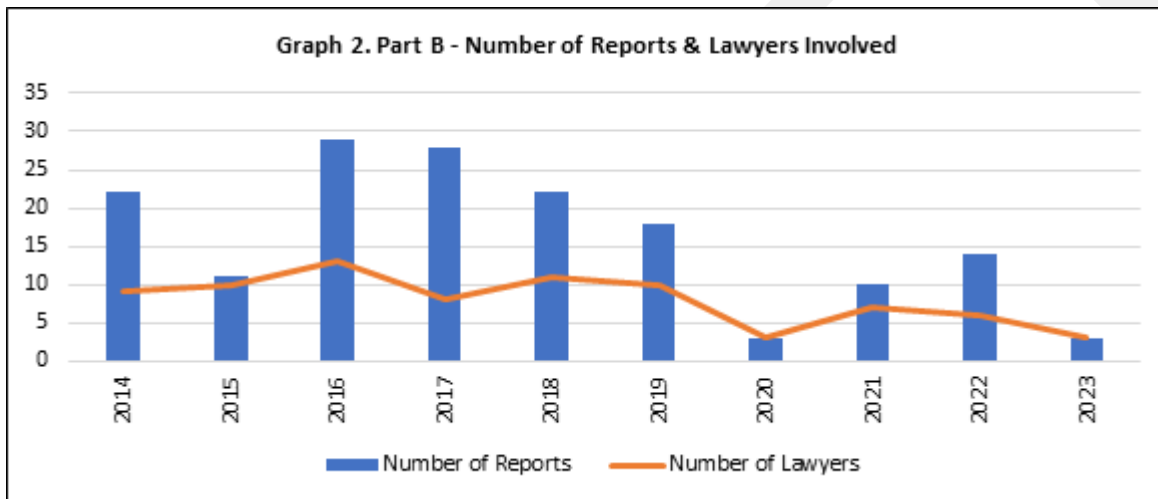
Claim payments are almost entirely for indemnity (settlements) and expense (investigation and defence). Less than 1% has been spent over the last 10 years to resolve coverage issues. Claim payments are partially offset (about 9%) by recoveries from deductibles and subrogation in this period.

As indicated by Graph 1, the severity of Part A claims, measured by calendar year payments, remains relatively consistent. To the extent there is inflation in claims, whether from general economic factors, social inflation, or migration toward higher-value errors such as those involving tax matters, we will first see indications in the case reserves shown in Graph 1 (blue bars), followed by evidence in paid amounts (purple line). We will discuss area of practice trends later in this report.

PART B

Trust protection for lawyer theft

As one would expect, there are relatively few Part B claims – see Graph 2. We do not expect to identify frequency and severity trends in their sparse statistics. The frequency also bears little relation to the amount incurred – Graph 3.



While the frequency is nominally low, we are cognizant of the potential for substantially higher levels of Part B claims activity and unnervingly large severities. The average incurred value for Part B claims from 2014 through 2023 was \$71,000; however, during that period, two lawyers were each responsible for over \$2 million of claims, sharply distorting the average.

The variability in Part B claims makes it unwise to make predictions, but is a convincing argument against complacency. LIF does pursue reimbursement from the lawyers involved, and some recoveries have been materially successful. That said, the overall recovery rate is only around 5%.

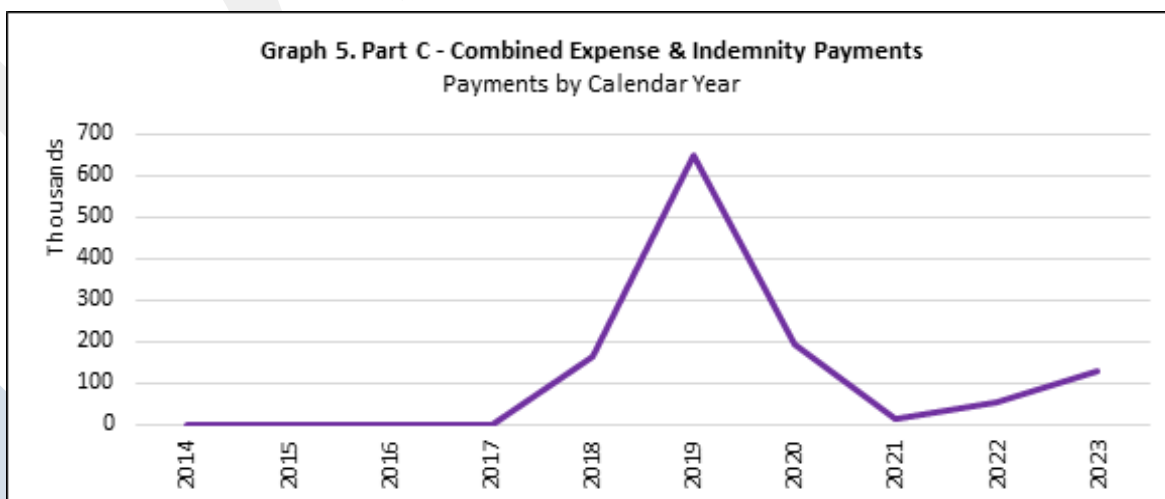
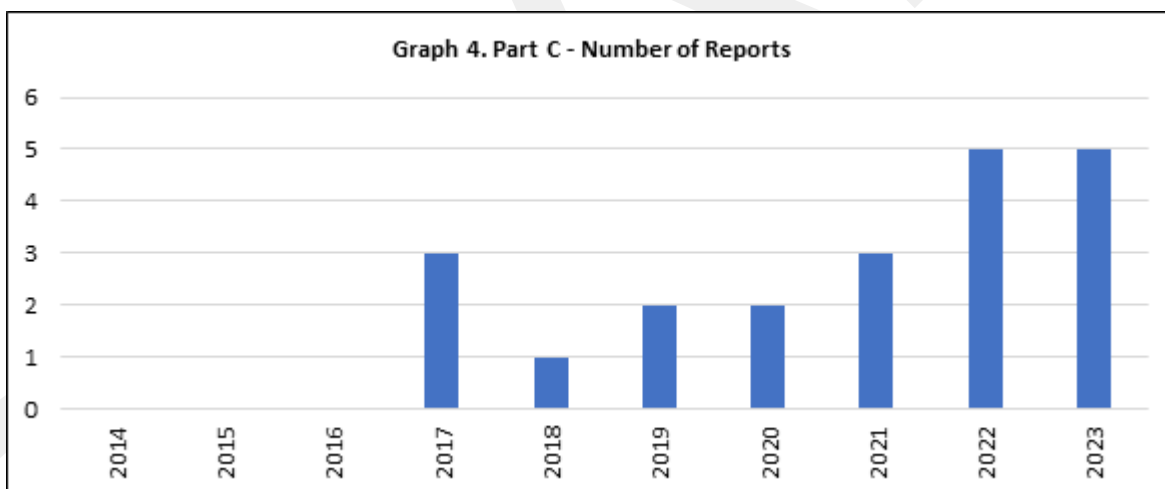
PART C

Trust shortages for social engineering frauds

Part C came into effect in 2012 for trust shortages caused by paying out on bad “certified” cheques. Coverage for additional social engineering scams was added in 2017.

All five Part C claims reported in 2023 (Graph 4) were social engineering funds transfer frauds. Indemnity was paid on two of them, while three were closed without payment because the banks were notified immediately, which allowed them to claw back the funds.

Like Part B, the volume of claims remains too small to allow a credible statistical analysis, but we do expect social engineering fraud attempts to become more prevalent, potent, and complex, because they are directly linked to the ever-growing problem of cybercrime. The risk of social engineering frauds covered by Part C is also exposed to advances in artificial intelligence, making scam attempts more credible and harder to detect. Insurance is not a solution to this crime and is only part of the response. To help lawyers remain vigilant to these risks and avoid losses, we have spoken at numerous conferences and produced multiple risk management resources, and we will continue to do so. There is no such thing as excessive loss prevention when it comes to cyber-crime risks.

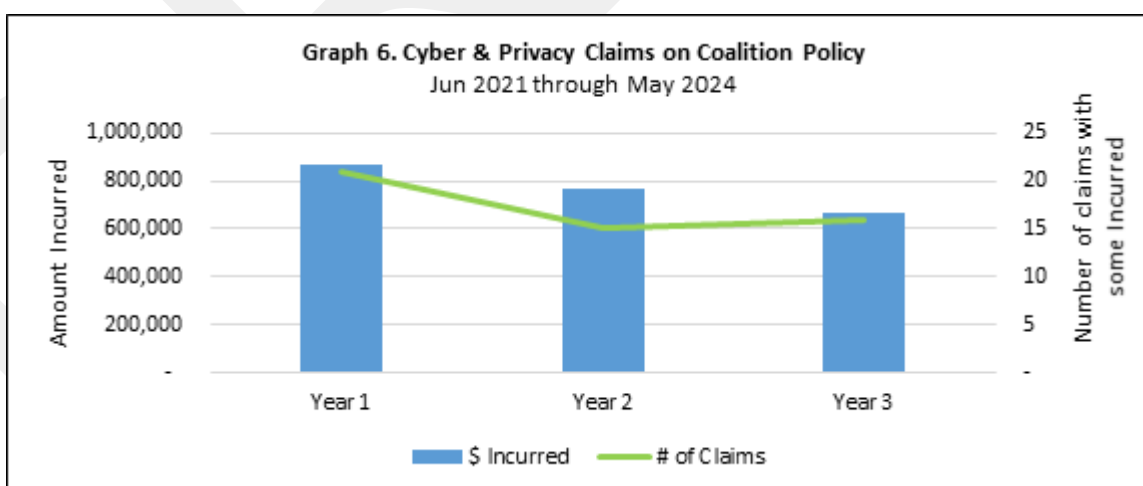


CYBER AND PRIVACY BREACH INSURANCE AND CLAIMS

Since June 1, 2021, insurance that provides BC lawyers with protection against a broad range of cyber risks has been arranged with Coalition Inc. With the exception of the relatively few firms that do not meet the insurer's qualifications, all BC firms are covered by the policy, and they are encouraged to arrange excess or complementary coverage on their own. The premium for the insurance is fully funded by the annual indemnity fee, and LIF bears no responsibility for claims handling or payments.

As Graph 6 demonstrates, the first policy term had poor loss experience relative to Coalition's expectations. The result was a substantial premium increase at the subsequent renewal, which we materially reduced by removing the funds transfer fraud coverage and increasing the deductible to \$15,000. The second year proved to be better, and the third has, so far, seen a further improvement. Renewal rate increases have correspondingly declined, but the costs are still climbing. The most frequent claims reported under the policy have been privacy breaches, while the most severe claims arise from ransomware events.

We believe the Coalition policy remains a reasonable and appropriate base coverage for all BC law firms, and the group plan with minimal underwriting and administration is the most cost-effective delivery method.



FUTURE PRACTICE RISKS

The Pandemic

The effects of the pandemic are no longer material. Although we still received 13 pandemic-related, missed limitation claims in 2023, only one has been reported this year, and we do not anticipate receiving many – if any – such claims next year.

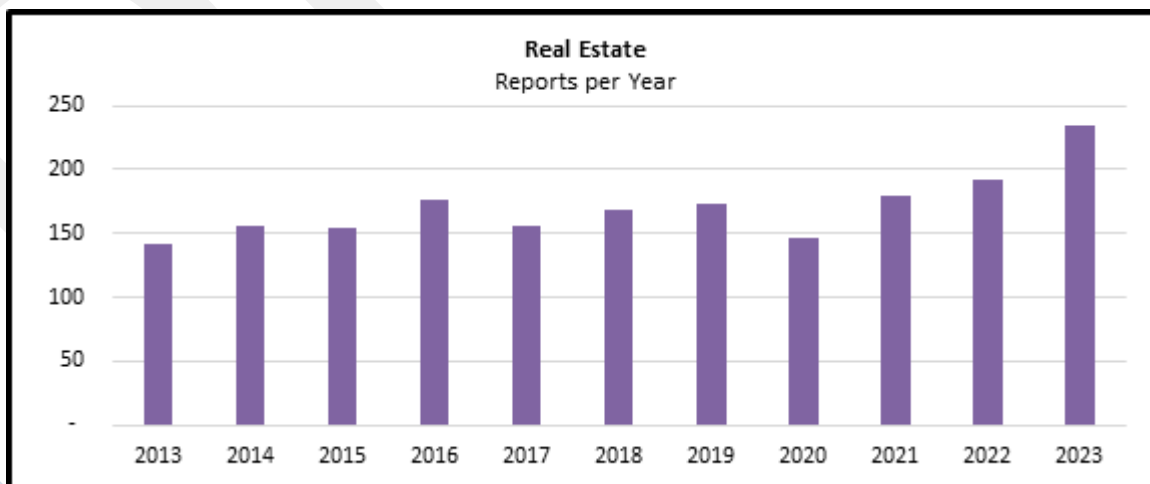
Real estate

The overall frequency of reports from commercial and residential real estate practice, combined, has remained relatively consistent since the end of the impact of the 2008-09 recession. The increase in the number of real estate claims in the last two years is due to the following factors:

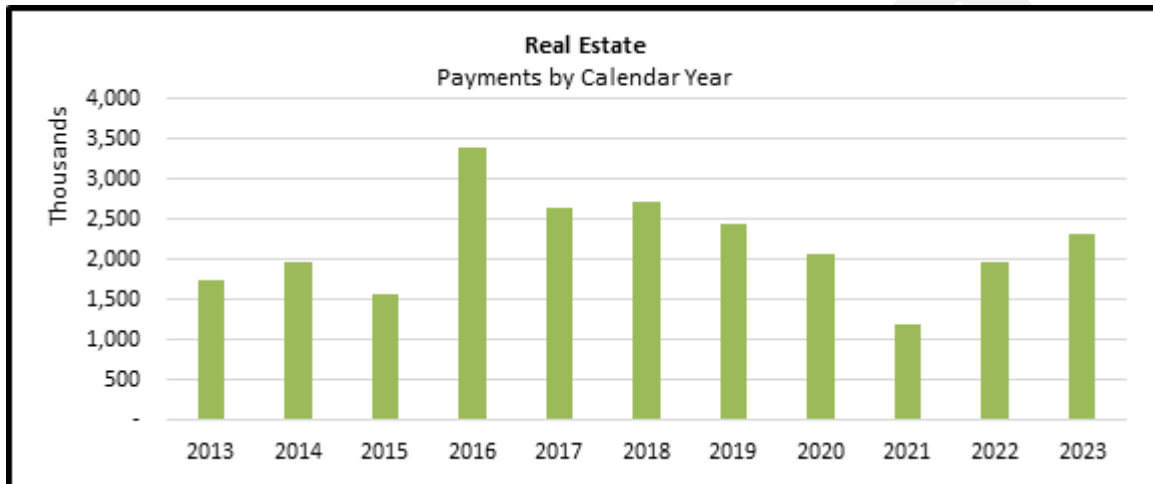
- the overheated residential property market that began in 2021;
- the foreign buyer's tax, which has given rise to 64 claims (including 14 in 2023), with a total paid of \$5.5 million and an incurred of \$12 million; and
- failed compliance with the land owner transparency registry filing requirements, which has given rise to 15 claims (including 11 in 2023), with no payments yet and an incurred of almost \$350,000.

The foreign buyers ban has not yet resulted in any claims and, ironically, may have the effect of reducing claims relating to the foreign buyer's tax.

We expect real estate claims will remain very close to the 2023 levels in 2024.



FUTURE PRACTICE RISKS

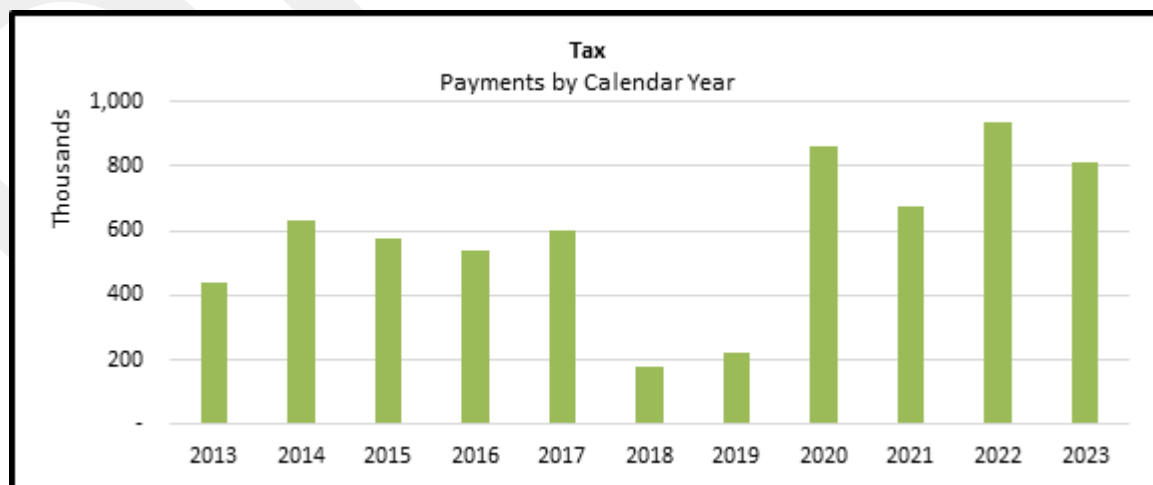
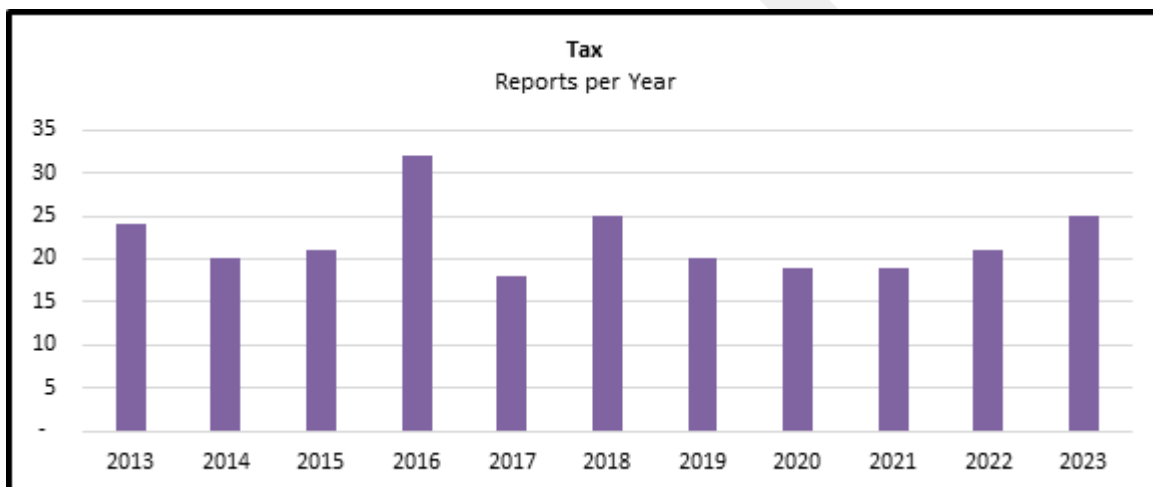


FUTURE PRACTICE RISKS

Tax

The frequency of tax claims (first graph below) is relatively consistent; but the severity of tax claims (second graph below) rose in the last four years.

We continue to expect significant losses on claims in this practice area in the future, as repair avenues that saved us hundreds of thousands of dollars in the past were shut down by the Supreme Court of Canada's 2022 decision in *Canada (Attorney General) v. Collins Family Trust*.



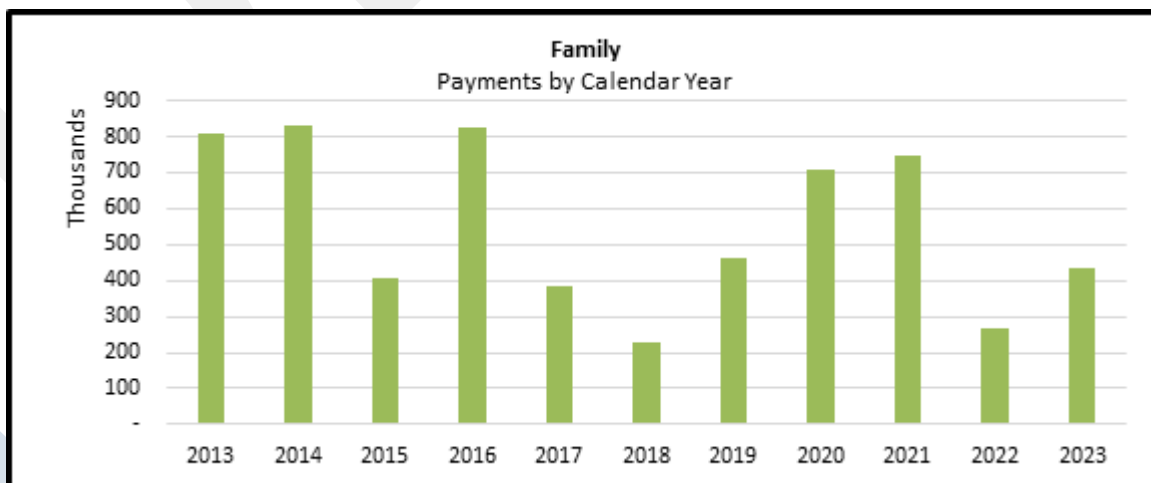
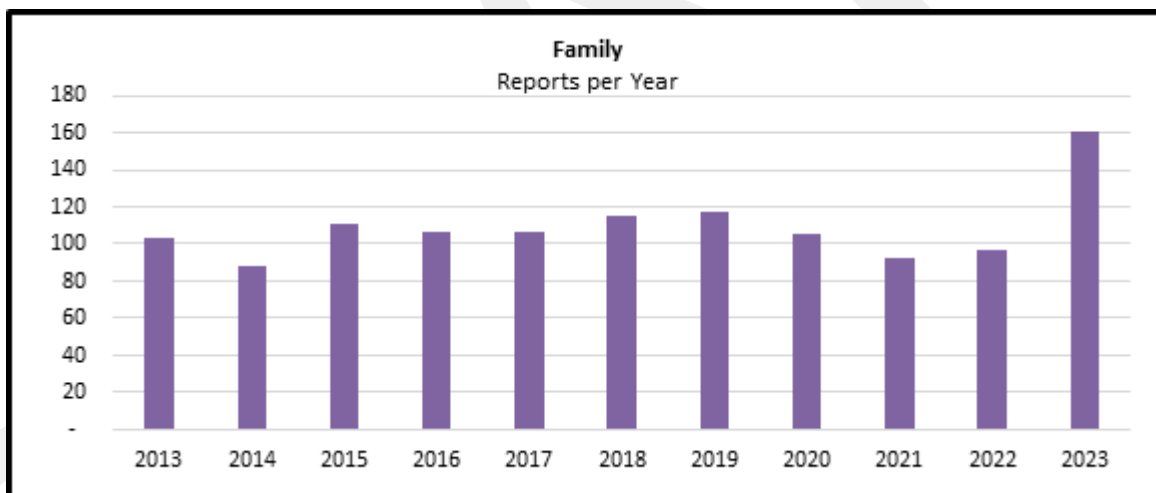
FUTURE PRACTICE RISKS

Family Law

We expect to receive a similar number of claims in family law this year as we did in 2023, which was a substantial increase from previous years. This increase stems largely from the greater volume of work that engaged family lawyers, during and after the pandemic, due to increased marital conflict arising from the lockdown.

We also expect family claims from MVA plaintiff lawyers who have started to move into new practice areas, including family law, in which they lack experience.

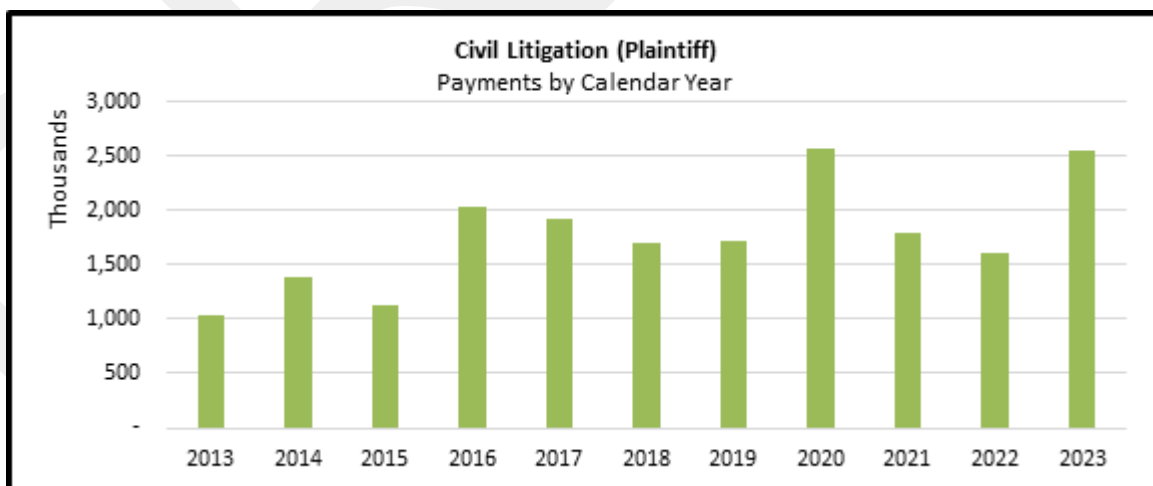
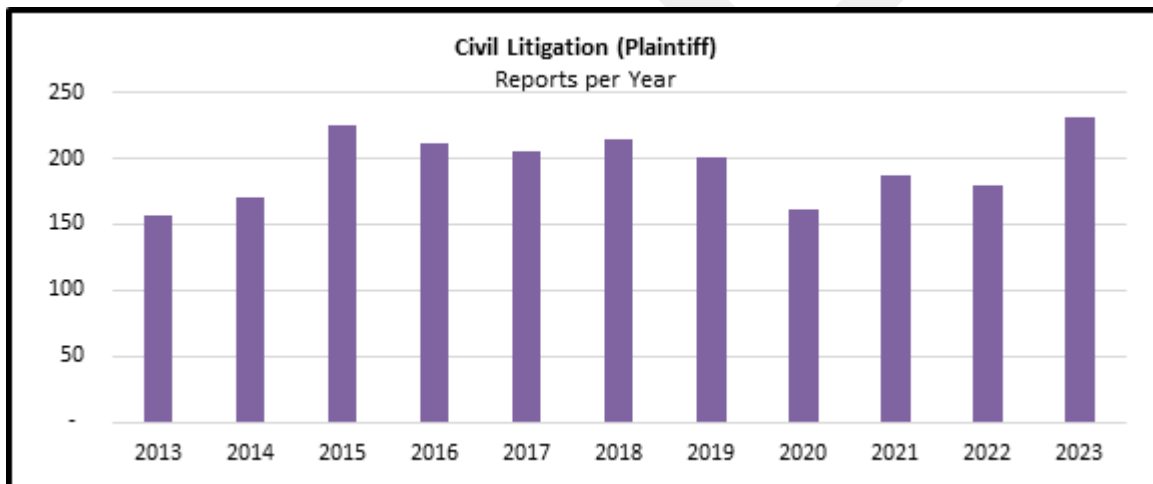
Finally, the *Family Law Act* amendments that came into force in May 2023 resulted in eight claims last year in relation to excluded property.



FUTURE PRACTICE RISKS

Civil Litigation - Plaintiff

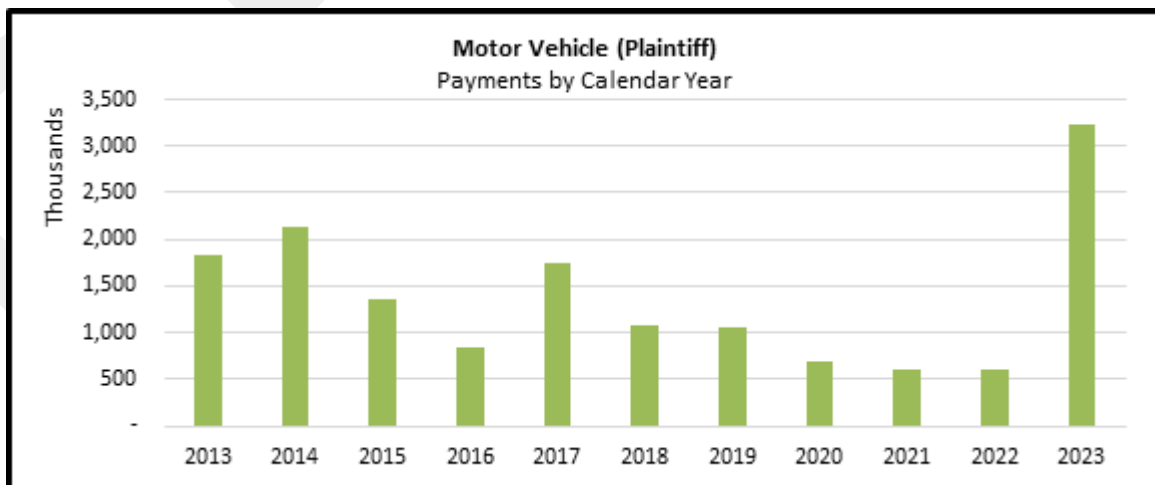
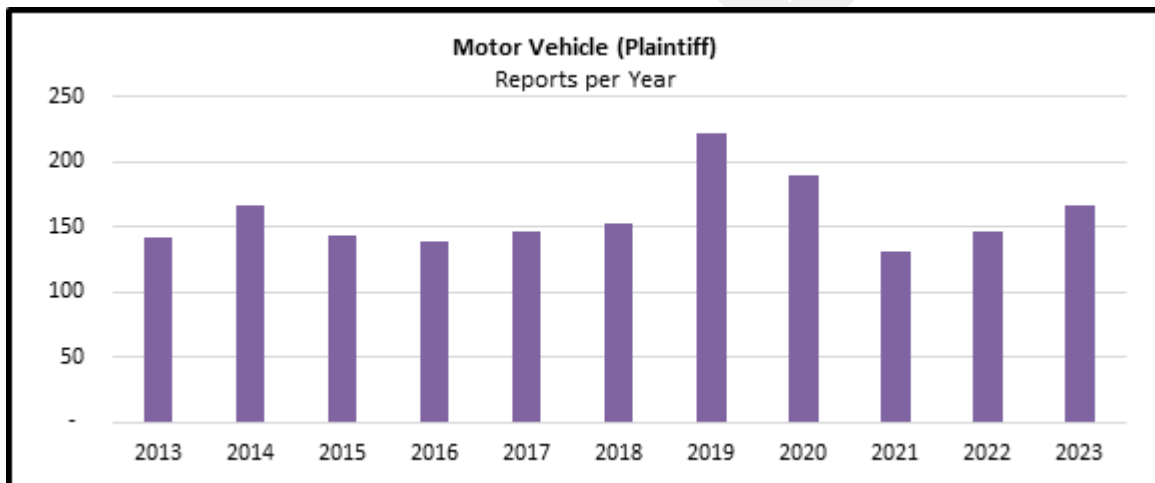
Plaintiff-side civil litigation continues to be a significant cause of claims and payments, as demonstrated by the graphs below. Fully 18% of all claims reported and increasing levels of payment arose from this practice area.



FUTURE PRACTICE RISKS

Motor Vehicle - Plaintiff

Over the longer term, we anticipate fewer claims from MVA practice on the plaintiff's side given the reality of no-fault insurance in BC. Unfortunately, in 2023, we received 43 claim reports from one personal injury lawyer for missed limitations and deadlines. Although this was an anomaly, we expect that the frequency in claims in 2024 will be similar to 2023, because it will take some time for the reduction in practice to be reflected in a reduction in claims.



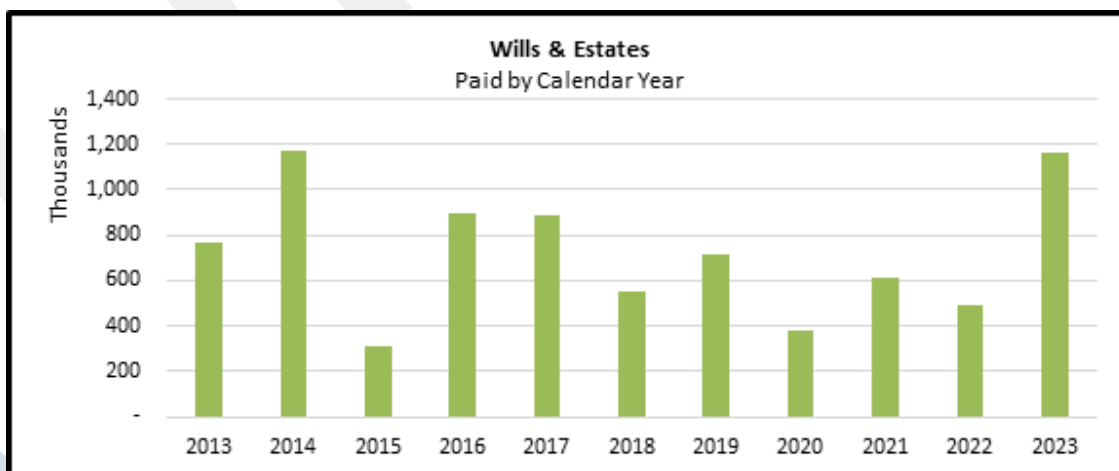
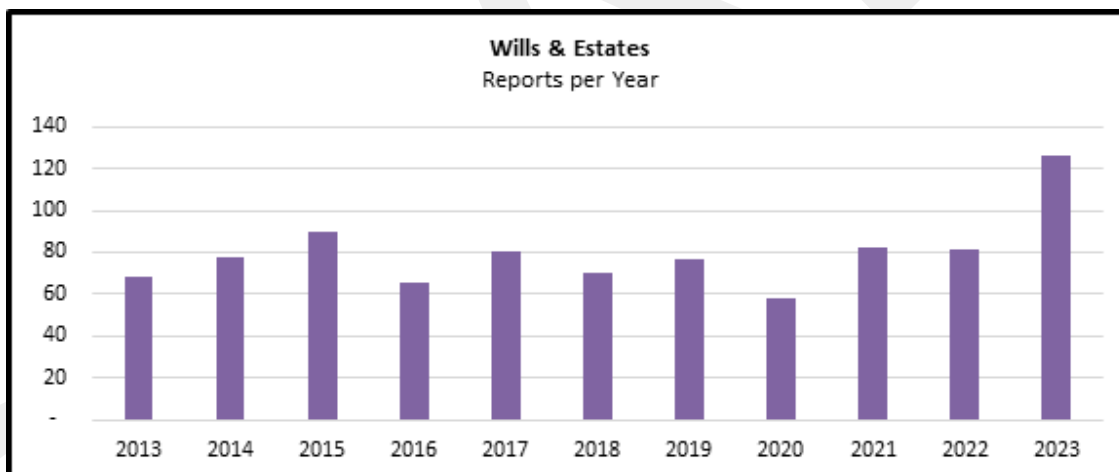
FUTURE PRACTICE RISKS

Wills and Estates

Last year, wills and estates claims hit a record-high in frequency and tied with 2014 in severity. These increases are due to the following factors:

- BC's aging population and the passing on of substantial wealth, including high-value real estate, to the next generation;
- a 2023 decision of the Property Taxation Branch of the Ministry of Finance to start applying the anti-avoidance rule under the Property Transfer Tax Act to certain estate planning transactions. This initiative has given rise to 28 claims (including 8 so far in 2024), with payments to date at \$728,012 and total incurred at \$2.54 million; and
- the entry into this practice area of plaintiff MVA lawyers who lack the necessary experience.

Just as Ontario experienced a significant increase in wills and estates claims in the last decade, we foresee this practice area generating increasing losses. We will continue with all the loss prevention initiatives and presentations we have already brought to the wills and estates bar.

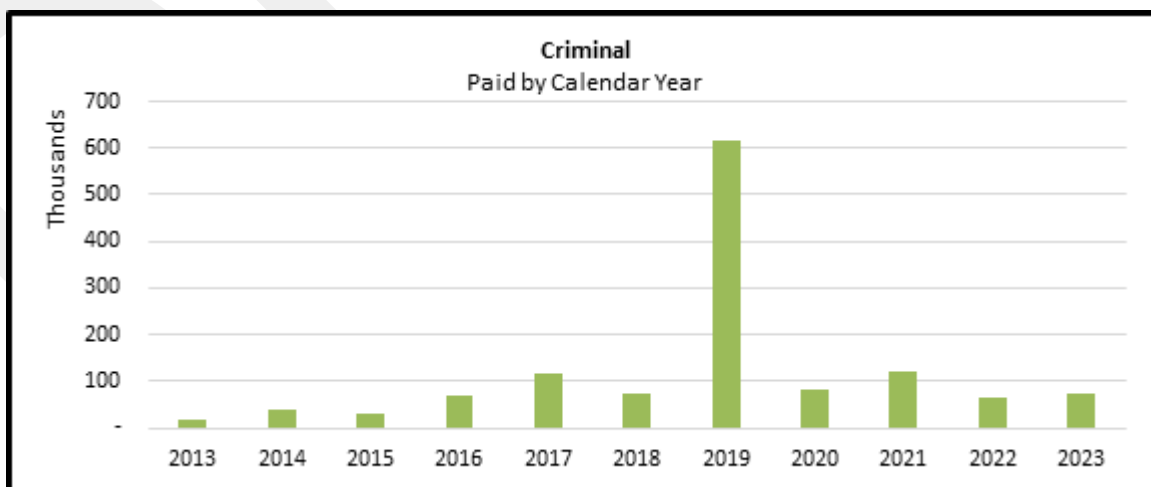
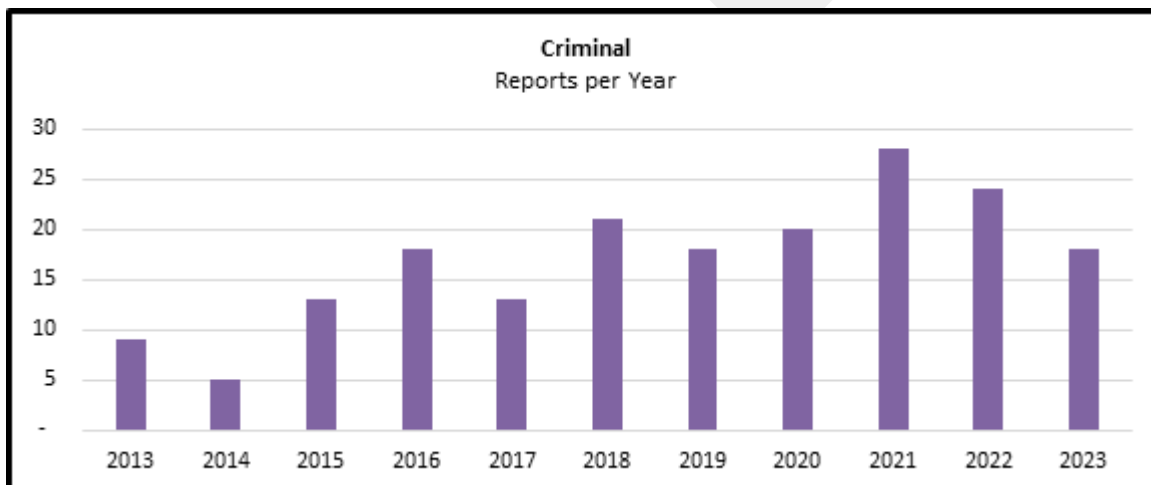


FUTURE PRACTICE RISKS

Criminal

Overall, criminal practice generates relatively few reports and for the most part, modest indemnity payments.

However, claims in this area continue to trend up due to the rise in “ineffective assistance of counsel” claims. If criminal claims continue this year at the current rate, we project the frequency to be 161% of last year’s frequency, and the severity, to be 343% of last year’s severity.



FINANCIAL STRENGTH

Net Assets

LIF's net assets as at December 31, 2023 were \$149 million, up from \$127 million the previous year. These amounts include \$17.5 million specifically set aside for trust protection claims. Therefore, the unrestricted net asset position of the fund as at year-end 2023 was \$131 million.

Minimum Capital Requirements

To meet its contractual obligations, LIF must maintain sufficient assets for both predicted liabilities and allowances for adverse development of those estimates. The Minimum Capital Test (MCT) ratio, is a solvency standard set by the federal regulator, OSFI, for insurers that it regulates and a benchmark for others. LIF's MCT was calculated by the Fund's Actuary to be 289% at December 31, 2023. This figure is well above the 150% minimum required by OSFI.

In addition to meeting its policy liabilities, the 289% MCT is appropriate to enable us to do the following: ride out the peaks and valleys of annual claims variations while maintaining stability in the annual fee; consider new coverages and initiatives in the interests of lawyers and their clients; and advance toward lowering the fee in future years, because higher-value net assets generate greater overall returns, which subsidize program costs

2025 BUDGET

Revenue

Looking ahead to 2025, the total LIF assessment revenues are budgeted at \$18.7 million. This figure is virtually identical to the 2024 budgeted fee revenue and derived from the projected number of indemnified lawyers.

Investment income projections are less certain; however, inherent risk is expected to be moderated by our diverse portfolio. For 2025, we project investment returns of \$14.8 million (5.5%) based on the recommendation of our investment advisors, George & Bell.

Expenses

The estimated claims cost for 2025 claims, supported by the Actuary's opinion, is \$15.5 million.

Operating expenses for 2025, excluding claim costs, are budgeted at \$11.2 million, an increase of \$.4 million, and 4% more than the 2024 budget. The increase is largely attributed to higher investment management fees, increased administrative costs of the Law Society, and increases to staff salaries including the Practice Advice department.

2025 FEE RECOMMENDATION

The indemnity fee has been \$1,800 every year since 2018 and was \$1,750 for seven years prior to that. Taking all factors into account, we recommend maintaining the indemnity fee at \$1,800 for 2025, marking the 8th consecutive year at this amount.

RESOLUTION

Be it resolved that the Indemnity Subcommittee recommend that:

- the indemnity fee for 2025 pursuant to section 30(3) of the Legal Profession Act be set at \$1,800;
- the part-time indemnity fee for 2025 pursuant to Rule 3-40(2) be set at \$900; and
- the indemnity surcharge for 2025 pursuant to Rule 3-44(2) be set at \$1,000.

LAWYERS INDEMNITY FUND OPERATING BUDGET

THE LAW SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Lawyers Indemnity Fund
For the year ended December 31, 2025
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSE

	2025 Budget	2024 Budget	Variance	%
REVENUE				
Annual Assessment	18,683,000	18,656,077		
Investment Income	14,814,450	13,738,000		
Other Income	67,500	67,500		
TOTAL REVENUE	33,564,950	32,461,577	1,103,373	3.4%
INDEMNITY EXPENSE				
Actuaries, consultants and investment management fees	2,222,000	2,044,708		
Allocated office rent	361,450	325,505		
Contribution to program and administrative costs of General Fund	1,743,622	1,626,302		
Insurance	2,194,000	2,270,778		
Office and Legal	668,750	649,450		
Provision for settlement of claims	15,549,000	15,923,000		
Provision for ULAE	-	-		
Salaries, wages and benefits	4,028,597	3,871,018		
	26,767,419	26,710,761	56,657	0.2%
SPECIAL FUND WIND UP EXPENSES				
External Counsel Fee expenses	50,000	-		
LOSS PREVENTION EXPENSE				
Contribution to co-sponsored program costs of General Fund	1,420,966	1,247,308		
TOTAL EXPENSE	28,238,385	27,958,069	280,316	1.0%
Net Contribution	5,326,565	4,503,508	823,057	

External Appointments Policy Revisions

To: Benchers

Purpose: Discussion and Decision

From: Executive Committee

Date: September 20, 2024

Introduction

1. At its meeting of May 15, 2024, the Executive Committee discussed further formalizing the external appointment process by preparing guidelines for those external bodies to which the Law Society makes appointments, so as to set out the Law Society's expectations as to the type of material that should be provided when external appointments are being considered. These guidelines would also include the expectation that external bodies provide a minimum of three candidates for consideration, along with a recommendation as to which candidate would best meet the requirements of that particular external body.
2. The Executive Committee considered the proposed amendments at its meeting of September 5, 2024, and agreed to, subject to some minor amendments, recommend that the Benchers approve the attached redlined changes to the Law Society External Appointments Policy and Guidebook.

Background

3. The Law Society's external appointments process is guided by the [External Appointments Policy and Guidebook](#) ("the Policy"), which outlines the process by which external appointments are made and provides an overview of all external bodies to which the Law Society makes appointments.
4. The current Benchers appointment policies were approved by the Benchers in 2011. While [Rule 1-51\(j\)](#) provides that the one of the duties of the Executive Committee is recommending to the appointing bodies on Law Society appointments to outside bodies, since Benchers originally approved the appointment policies, it would be keeping with this authority for the Executive Committee to recommend these proposed changes to Benchers for approval.

Discussion

5. Based on the discussions that took place at the May 15, 2024 Executive Committee meeting, staff reviewed the Policy and proposed amending the Policy to include a section outlining the expectations for external bodies, as well as an expansion on the appointments process overall. Redlined and clean versions of the amendments are attached as **Appendix A** and **B**, respectively.
6. While reviewing the Policy, staff also made additional proposed amendments to reflect more accurately current processes and to streamline the information provided. These additional amendments include the following:

- a. Removing the President’s Message to avoid duplication between what was contained in the message and what is contained in the actual Policy;
 - b. Updating the Equity section to be better aligned with the Law Society’s mandate and current diversity language included in election materials; and
 - c. Removing the Communications Expectations section, as the majority of Law Society appointments to external bodies are not appointed as representatives of the Law Society, and these expectations do not apply and would in some cases not be appropriate. For those appointments that do serve as Law Society representatives (e.g. the Federation of Law Societies of Canada Council and the CBABC Provincial Council), expectations regarding communications to the Executive Committee and/or Benchers are managed by the President.
7. At its meeting of September 5, 2024, the Executive Committee considered the proposed amendments and was of the view that providing expectations for external bodies within the Policy would help formalize the external appointment process and ensure that the materials provided by external bodies were consistent. The Committee discussed the Equity section and was of the view that the section should be renamed “Diversity and Equity”, solicitors should be included, and a further comment be included to provide a rationale for including lawyers from big firms. Following these discussions, the Committee resolved to put forward the below resolution for Bencher approval.

Decision

8. The Executive Committee recommends that Benchers approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED the Benchers approve the redlined amendments to the Law Society External Appointments Policy and Guidebook.



The Law Society of BC External Appointments Guidebook

Updated September 5, 2024

President's Message

For many years the Law Society of British Columbia has appointed lawyers and judges to boards, councils and committees of outside bodies. The appointments are made by the Society's Benchers, Executive Committee or President, under authority conferred by the Legal Profession Act, (S.B.C 1998, c. 9.), the Law Society Rules, Bencher resolutions, and the governing statutes, constitutions and by-laws of those outside bodies.

This guidebook presents information about the external appointments process. Section 1 sets out the Law Society's appointments policy. Section 2 outlines the key responsibilities of the Law Society when making appointments to other bodies. Section 3 provides background information and directions for submitting expressions of interest and submitting applications.

We hope that the guidebook serves as a useful reference for appointees and those who may be interested in putting their names forward as potential appointees.

For more information on the Law Society external appointments process, please contact the Manager of Governance & Board Relations at BencherRelations@lsbc.org.

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 firms¹ to achieve adequate representation of the talents and strengths of all British Columbians.

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 consideration in reviewing potential appointees.

~~The Law Society promotes diversity in its internal and external appointments and strives to ensure adequate representation based on gender, Indigenous identity, cultural diversity, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity.~~

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.

~~1.7. Communication expectations~~

~~All Law Society appointees or nominees to other bodies are expected to provide timely notice to the Law Society of any plans, policies or events that~~

- ~~• materially change the body's objects or operations, or~~
- ~~• could reasonably be considered inconsistent with the Society's mandate to uphold and protect the public interest in the administration of justice~~
 - ~~○ unless to provide such notice would be contrary to their duty to act in the best interests of those bodies~~

~~In addition, Law Society appointees or nominees to bodies whose objects are related to the Society's public interest mandate should expect to be requested~~

- ~~• to provide periodic updates on those bodies' affairs to the Executive Committee or the Appointments Subcommittee~~
 - ~~○ including any plans, policies or events that~~
 - ~~▪ materially change the bodies' objects or operations, or~~
 - ~~▪ could reasonably be considered to be inconsistent with the public interest in the administration of justice~~
 - ~~○ unless to do so would be contrary to their duty to act in the best interests of those bodies~~
- ~~• to complete a voluntary, online assessment of their appointment experience at the conclusion of each term~~

~~These periodic updates and post-appointment assessments by Law Society appointees to bodies whose objects are related to the Society's public interest mandate~~

- ~~• reflect and enhance the mutual commitment of the Law Society and those bodies~~
 - ~~○ to protecting and promoting the public interest in the administration of justice~~
 - ~~○ to supporting good governance practice by the Law Society and those bodies~~

- ~~to supporting continuous improvement of the Law Society's processes for making appointments and nominations to outside bodies~~

~~The Law Society will maintain a listing of Law Society appointments, both current and pending, on the Law Society website, including~~

- ~~description of the organization~~
- ~~outline of the appointee's responsibilities~~
- ~~contact information for inquiries~~
- ~~directions for submitting expressions of interest and resumes~~

~~The Law Society will provide appropriate orientation and guidance regarding its expectations of those appointees to outside bodies whose responsibilities include representing and communicating the interests of the Law Society to such bodies.~~

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.

3.4. 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. [Canadian Bar Association of British Columbia Branch Provincial Council](#)
9. [Provincial Judicial Council](#)
10. [Committee on Relations with the Judiciary](#)
11. [Federal Judicial Advisory Committee for British Columbia](#)
12. [Land Title and Survey Authority Stakeholder Advisory Committee](#)
13. [Vancouver Airport Authority Board of Directors](#)
14. [Vancouver Foundation Board of Directors](#)
15. [British Columbia Supreme Court Civil and Family Rules Committee](#)

1. British Columbia Law Institute (“BCLI”) Board of Directors	
Description	<p>The purposes of the BCLI are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>The Appointee’s obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>British Columbia Law Institute 1822 East Mall University of British Columbia Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1</p> <p>Phone: 604.822.0142 E-mail: bcli@bcli.org Website</p>
Current Appointments	<p>Emilie LeDuc (appointed 6/1/2024, expires 5/31/2027) Stacey M. Edzerza Fox (appointed 12/1/2021, expires 11/30/2024)</p>
2. Canadian Bar Association of BC Benevolent Society (“CBABS”) Board of Directors	
Description	<p>The purposes of the Society are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to provide assistance to lawyers or articulated 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 articulated students who are affected by such lawyers’ or articulated students’ illness or injury.
Appointee’s Responsibilities	<p>The Appointee’s obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upholding the Society’s Constitution and Complying with Its By-laws • exercising Powers of and Acting on behalf of the Society

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 E-mail: cba@bccba.org Website
Current Appointments	Lee Ongman (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	<p>The objects of the Society are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 articulated 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;	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>The Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia 500, 1155 West Pender Street Vancouver, BC V6E 2P4</p> <p>Phone: 604.669.3544 Fax: 604.669.9260 Email: custserv@cle.bc.ca Website</p>
Current Appointments	<p>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.</p> <p>Michael Sinclair (appointed 9/1/2017, expires 8/31/2024) Michelle Casavant (appointed 9/1/2018, expires 8/31/2024) Michael Reed (jointly appointed 2/20/2019, expires 8/31/2024) Mary-Jane Wilson (appointed 9/1/2019, expires 8/31/2025) Amanda Krishan (appointed 9/1/2019, expires 8/31/2025) Brent Olthuis (appointed 9/1/2020, expires 8/31/2026) Andrea Rowe (appointed 9/1/2021, expires 8/31/2024) Allison Reed (appointed 3/7/2022, expires 8/31/2026)</p>

	Megan Volk (appointed 9/1/2022, expires 8/31/2025) Polly Storey (appointed 9/1/2023, expires 8/31/2026) Benchers Appointments: Cheryl D’Sa (appointed 01/01/2022, expires 01/01/2025) James A.S. Legh (appointed 01/25/2024, expires 01/01/2025)	
4. Federation of Law Societies of Canada (“FLSC”) Council		
Description	The objects of the Council are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• powers of council• voting• delegation and committees• remuneration• amending by-laws	
Contact Information for Inquiries	Federation of Law Societies of Canada World Exchange Plaza 45 O’Connor Street Suite 1810 Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1A4	Phone: 613.236.7272 Fax: 613.236.7233 E-mail: info@flsc.ca Website-

Current Appointments	Brook Greenberg, KC (appointed 11/15/2022, expires 11/14/2025)	
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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 E-mail: lfbc@tlfbc.org Website
Current Appointments	The Honourable Justice Thomas Crabtree (appointed 1/1/2019, expires 12/31/2024) Abigail Cheung (appointed 1/1/2022, expires 12/31/2024) Judge Nina Purewal (appointed 1/1/2022, expires 12/31/2024) Claire E Hunter, KC (appointed 1/1/2022, expires 12/31/2024) Judge Linda D. Thomas (appointed 2/18/2022, expires 12/31/2024) Mary N. Childs (appointed 1/1/2020, expires 12/31/2025) Brandon L. Veenstra (appointed 1/1/2023, expires 12/31/2025) R. Max Collett (appointed 1/1/2023, expires 12/31/2025) Leah Mack (appointed 1/20/2023, expires 12/31/2025) Sarah Runyon (appointed 1/1/2021, expires 12/31/2026) Zara Suleman, KC (appointed 1/1/2021, expires 12/31/2026)	

	David Hughes (appointed 1/19/2024, expires 12/31/2026)	
6. Legal Aid BC		
Description	The objects of the Society are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 Website
Current Appointments	Allan P. Seckel, KC (appointed 02/12/2020, expires 02/11/2026) Sarf Ahmed (appointed 09/25/2023, expires 09/24/2026) Eloise Spitzer (appointed 12/11/2023, expires 12/10/2026) Thomas Arbogast, KC (appointed 12/11/2023, expires 12/10/2026)	
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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<p>The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<div> <div>Land Title and Survey Authority Corporate Office Suite 200 1321 Blanshard Street Victoria, BC V8W 9J3</div> <div>Phone: 250-410-0575 Fax: 250-410-0656 Website</div> </div>
Current Appointments	<p>Scott Smythe (appointed 4/1/2017, expires 3/31/2026)</p> <p>Patrick Julian (appointed 4/1/2018, expires 3/31/2027)</p>
8. Canadian Bar Association of British Columbia Branch ("CBABC") Provincial Council	
Description	<p>The objects of the Council are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> carry out the objects of the CBA; enter into arrangements with the Law Society of British Columbia for the assumption by the CBABC of such non-statutory functions of the Law Society of British Columbia as may be appropriate; participate in and promote law reform; promote the interests of the members of the CBABC; support CBABC members' professional education; provide a voice for the legal profession; provide services to the members; promote inclusiveness and diversity in the law schools, the CBABC and the profession; enhance communications with the membership; promote and enhance the image of lawyers; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> work for the total elimination from the legal profession of discrimination on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or irrelevant mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, and age.
Appointee's Responsibilities	<p>The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-voting liaison.
Contact Information for Inquiries	<p>The Canadian Bar Association, BC Branch 915 – 700 West Pender Street Vancouver, BC V6C 1G8</p> <p>Phone: 604.687.3404 Toll Free: 888.687.3404 Fax: 604.669.9601 Toll Free Fax: 877.669.9601 Email: cba@bccba.org Website</p>
Current Appointments	Kevin Westell (appointed 07/06/2021, expires 12/31/2024)
9. Provincial Judicial Council	
Description	<p>The object of the Council is to improve the quality of judicial service, and its functions including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<p>The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council members' remuneration: exercising powers of and acting on behalf of the Council
Contact Information for Inquiries	<p>Provincial Court of British Columbia Office of the Chief Judge</p> <p>Phone: 604.660.2864 Fax: 604.660.1108 Email: info@provinciacourt.bc.ca</p>

	P.O. Box 10287, Pacific Centre Vancouver, BC V7Y 1E8
Current Appointments	Jeevyn Dhaliwal, KC (appointed 1/1/2024)
10. Committee on Relations with the Judiciary	
Description	<p>The objects of the Committee include that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>c/o Law Society of British Columbia Attn: Avalon Bourne Manager, Governance & Board Relations 845 Cambie Street Vancouver, BC V6B 4Z9</p> <p>Phone: 604.443.5706 Fax: 604.669.5232 Email: ABourne@lsbc.org</p>
Current Appointments	<p>Ian Donaldson, KC (appointed 9/27/2011) J. Kenneth McEwan, KC (appointed 9/27/2011) Dinyar Marzban, KC (appointed 9/27/2011)</p>

11. 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	<div> Judicial Appointments Secretariat Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs Canada 99 Metcalfe Street, 8th floor Ottawa, Ontario- K1A 1E3 </div> <div> Phone: 613.992.9400 Toll Free: 877.583.4266 Fax: 613.941.0607 Email: jacs-snm@fja-cmf.gc.ca </div>
Current Appointments	M. Louise Mandell, KC (appointed 08/17/2023, expires 08/16/2026)
12. 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	<div> Land Title and Survey Stakeholder Advisory Committee c/o Land Title and Survey Authority Corporate Office Suite 200 1321 Blanshard Street Victoria, BC V8W 9J3 </div> <div> Phone: 250.387.7280 Fax: 250.387.1830 Website </div>

Current Appointments	Edward Wilson (appointed 8/1/2013)	
13. Vancouver Airport Authority Board of Directors		
Description	The objects of the Board are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 23750 Richmond, BC V7B 1Y7	Phone: 604.276.6500 Fax: 604.276.6505 Website
Current Appointments	Suromitra Sanatani (appointed 06/03/2024, expires 06/02/2027)	
14. Vancouver Foundation Board of Directors		
Description	The objects of the Foundation are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to provide care for needy men, women and children, and in particular the sick, aged, destitute and helpless;• to promote educational advancement and scientific or medical research for the increase of human knowledge and the alleviation of human suffering;• to better underprivileged or delinquent persons;	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to promote recreational activities and the conservation of human, natural and heritage resources; and • to provide for any other charitable purposes that the board considers contribute to the mental, moral, cultural and physical improvement of the inhabitants of British Columbia.
Appointee's Responsibilities	<p>The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • powers of the Board • indemnification of Directors and Officers • amending by-laws
Contact Information for Inquiries	<p>Vancouver Foundation Suite 1200 555 West Hastings St. Box 12132, Harbour Centre Vancouver, BC V6B 4N6</p> <p>Phone: 604.688.2204 Fax: 604.688.4170 Email: info@vancouverfoundation.ca Website</p>
Current Appointments	Amanda Baron (nominated 5/1/2023)
Pending Appointments	None
15. British Columbia Supreme Court Civil and Family Rules Committee	
Description	<p>The objects of the Committee are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying and recommending specific areas for Rules revision consideration; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 9J Phone: 778.974.3796 Email: AGSupremeCourtRulesCommittee@gov.bc.ca
Current Appointments	Tanya Chamberlain (appointed 08/07/2024, expires 12/31/2029)
Pending Appointments	None



The Law Society of BC External Appointments Guidebook

Updated September 5, 2024

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 firms¹ to achieve adequate representation of the talents and strengths of all British Columbians.

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.

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.

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. [Canadian Bar Association of British Columbia Branch Provincial Council](#)
9. [Provincial Judicial Council](#)
10. [Committee on Relations with the Judiciary](#)
11. [Federal Judicial Advisory Committee for British Columbia](#)
12. [Land Title and Survey Authority Stakeholder Advisory Committee](#)
13. [Vancouver Airport Authority Board of Directors](#)
14. [Vancouver Foundation Board of Directors](#)
15. [British Columbia Supreme Court Civil and Family Rules Committee](#)

1. British Columbia Law Institute (“BCLI”) Board of Directors	
Description	<p>The purposes of the BCLI are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>The Appointee’s obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>British Columbia Law Institute 1822 East Mall University of British Columbia Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1</p> <p>Phone: 604.822.0142 E-mail: bcli@bcli.org Website</p>
Current Appointments	<p>Emilie LeDuc (appointed 6/1/2024, expires 5/31/2027) Stacey M. Edzerza Fox (appointed 12/1/2021, expires 11/30/2024)</p>
2. Canadian Bar Association of BC Benevolent Society (“CBABS”) Board of Directors	
Description	<p>The purposes of the Society are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to provide assistance to lawyers or articulated 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 articulated students who are affected by such lawyers’ or articulated students’ illness or injury.
Appointee’s Responsibilities	<p>The Appointee’s obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • upholding the Society’s Constitution and Complying with Its By-laws • exercising Powers of and Acting on behalf of the Society

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • indemnification of Directors • amending the Society's By-laws
Contact Information for Inquiries	<p>Canadian Bar Association of BC Benevolent Society c/o The Canadian Bar Association, BC Branch 915 – 700 West Pender Street Vancouver, BC V6C 1G8</p> <p>Phone: 604.687.3404 Toll Free: 888.687.3404 Fax: 604.669.9601 E-mail: cba@bccba.org Website</p>
Current Appointments	Lee Ongman (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	<p>The objects of the Society are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 articulated 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;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>The Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia 500, 1155 West Pender Street Vancouver, BC V6E 2P4</p> <p>Phone: 604.669.3544 Fax: 604.669.9260 Email: custserv@cle.bc.ca Website</p>
Current Appointments	<p>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.</p> <p>Michael Sinclair (appointed 9/1/2017, expires 8/31/2024)</p> <p>Michelle Casavant (appointed 9/1/2018, expires 8/31/2024)</p> <p>Michael Reed (jointly appointed 2/20/2019, expires 8/31/2024)</p> <p>Mary-Jane Wilson (appointed 9/1/2019, expires 8/31/2025)</p> <p>Amanda Krishan (appointed 9/1/2019, expires 8/31/2025)</p> <p>Brent Olthuis (appointed 9/1/2020, expires 8/31/2026)</p> <p>Andrea Rowe (appointed 9/1/2021, expires 8/31/2024)</p> <p>Allison Reed (appointed 3/7/2022, expires 8/31/2026)</p>

	Megan Volk (appointed 9/1/2022, expires 8/31/2025) Polly Storey (appointed 9/1/2023, expires 8/31/2026) Benchers Appointments: Cheryl D’Sa (appointed 01/01/2022, expires 01/01/2025) James A.S. Legh (appointed 01/25/2024, expires 01/01/2025)	
4. Federation of Law Societies of Canada (“FLSC”) Council		
Description	The objects of the Council are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• powers of council• voting• delegation and committees• remuneration• amending by-laws	
Contact Information for Inquiries	Federation of Law Societies of Canada World Exchange Plaza 45 O’Connor Street Suite 1810 Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1A4	Phone: 613.236.7272 Fax: 613.236.7233 E-mail: info@flsc.ca Website

Current Appointments	Brook Greenberg, KC (appointed 11/15/2022, expires 11/14/2025)	
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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 E-mail: lfbc@tlfbc.org Website
Current Appointments	The Honourable Justice Thomas Crabtree (appointed 1/1/2019, expires 12/31/2024) Abigail Cheung (appointed 1/1/2022, expires 12/31/2024) Judge Nina Purewal (appointed 1/1/2022, expires 12/31/2024) Claire E Hunter, KC (appointed 1/1/2022, expires 12/31/2024) Judge Linda D. Thomas (appointed 2/18/2022, expires 12/31/2024) Mary N. Childs (appointed 1/1/2020, expires 12/31/2025) Brandon L. Veenstra (appointed 1/1/2023, expires 12/31/2025) R. Max Collett (appointed 1/1/2023, expires 12/31/2025) Leah Mack (appointed 1/20/2023, expires 12/31/2025) Sarah Runyon (appointed 1/1/2021, expires 12/31/2026) Zara Suleman, KC (appointed 1/1/2021, expires 12/31/2026)	

	David Hughes (appointed 1/19/2024, expires 12/31/2026)	
6. Legal Aid BC		
Description	The objects of the Society are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 Website
Current Appointments	Allan P. Seckel, KC (appointed 02/12/2020, expires 02/11/2026) Sarf Ahmed (appointed 09/25/2023, expires 09/24/2026) Eloise Spitzer (appointed 12/11/2023, expires 12/10/2026) Thomas Arbogast, KC (appointed 12/11/2023, expires 12/10/2026)	
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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<p>The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<div> <div>Land Title and Survey Authority Corporate Office Suite 200 1321 Blanshard Street Victoria, BC V8W 9J3</div> <div>Phone: 250-410-0575 Fax: 250-410-0656 Website</div> </div>
Current Appointments	<p>Scott Smythe (appointed 4/1/2017, expires 3/31/2026)</p> <p>Patrick Julian (appointed 4/1/2018, expires 3/31/2027)</p>
8. Canadian Bar Association of British Columbia Branch ("CBABC") Provincial Council	
Description	<p>The objects of the Council are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> carry out the objects of the CBA; enter into arrangements with the Law Society of British Columbia for the assumption by the CBABC of such non-statutory functions of the Law Society of British Columbia as may be appropriate; participate in and promote law reform; promote the interests of the members of the CBABC; support CBABC members' professional education; provide a voice for the legal profession; provide services to the members; promote inclusiveness and diversity in the law schools, the CBABC and the profession; enhance communications with the membership; promote and enhance the image of lawyers; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> work for the total elimination from the legal profession of discrimination on the basis of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or irrelevant mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, and age.
Appointee's Responsibilities	<p>The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-voting liaison.
Contact Information for Inquiries	<p>The Canadian Bar Association, BC Branch 915 – 700 West Pender Street Vancouver, BC V6C 1G8</p> <p>Phone: 604.687.3404 Toll Free: 888.687.3404 Fax: 604.669.9601 Toll Free Fax: 877.669.9601 Email: cba@bccba.org Website</p>
Current Appointments	Kevin Westell (appointed 07/06/2021, expires 12/31/2024)
9. Provincial Judicial Council	
Description	<p>The object of the Council is to improve the quality of judicial service, and its functions including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<p>The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council members' remuneration: exercising powers of and acting on behalf of the Council
Contact Information for Inquiries	<p>Provincial Court of British Columbia Office of the Chief Judge</p> <p>Phone: 604.660.2864 Fax: 604.660.1108 Email: info@provinciacourt.bc.ca</p>

	P.O. Box 10287, Pacific Centre Vancouver, BC V7Y 1E8
Current Appointments	Jeevyn Dhaliwal, KC (appointed 1/1/2024)
10. Committee on Relations with the Judiciary	
Description	<p>The objects of the Committee include that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<p>c/o Law Society of British Columbia Attn: Avalon Bourne Manager, Governance & Board Relations 845 Cambie Street Vancouver, BC V6B 4Z9</p> <p>Phone: 604.443.5706 Fax: 604.669.5232 Email: ABourne@lsbc.org</p>
Current Appointments	<p>Ian Donaldson, KC (appointed 9/27/2011) J. Kenneth McEwan, KC (appointed 9/27/2011) Dinyar Marzban, KC (appointed 9/27/2011)</p>

11. 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	<div> Judicial Appointments Secretariat Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs Canada 99 Metcalfe Street, 8th floor Ottawa, Ontario K1A 1E3 </div> <div> Phone: 613.992.9400 Toll Free: 877.583.4266 Fax: 613.941.0607 Email: jacs-snm@fja-cmf.gc.ca </div>
Current Appointments	M. Louise Mandell, KC (appointed 08/17/2023, expires 08/16/2026)
12. 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	<div> Land Title and Survey Stakeholder Advisory Committee c/o Land Title and Survey Authority Corporate Office Suite 200 1321 Blanshard Street Victoria, BC V8W 9J3 </div> <div> Phone: 250.387.7280 Fax: 250.387.1830 Website </div>

Current Appointments	Edward Wilson (appointed 8/1/2013)	
13. Vancouver Airport Authority Board of Directors		
Description	The objects of the Board are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 23750 Richmond, BC V7B 1Y7	Phone: 604.276.6500 Fax: 604.276.6505 Website
Current Appointments	Suromitra Sanatani (appointed 06/03/2024, expires 06/02/2027)	
14. Vancouver Foundation Board of Directors		
Description	The objects of the Foundation are: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to provide care for needy men, women and children, and in particular the sick, aged, destitute and helpless;• to promote educational advancement and scientific or medical research for the increase of human knowledge and the alleviation of human suffering;• to better underprivileged or delinquent persons;	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to promote recreational activities and the conservation of human, natural and heritage resources; and • to provide for any other charitable purposes that the board considers contribute to the mental, moral, cultural and physical improvement of the inhabitants of British Columbia.
Appointee's Responsibilities	<p>The Appointee's obligations, powers and duties are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • powers of the Board • indemnification of Directors and Officers • amending by-laws
Contact Information for Inquiries	<p>Vancouver Foundation Suite 1200 555 West Hastings St. Box 12132, Harbour Centre Vancouver, BC V6B 4N6</p> <p>Phone: 604.688.2204 Fax: 604.688.4170 Email: info@vancouverfoundation.ca Website</p>
Current Appointments	Amanda Baron (nominated 5/1/2023)
Pending Appointments	None
15. British Columbia Supreme Court Civil and Family Rules Committee	
Description	<p>The objects of the Committee are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying and recommending specific areas for Rules revision consideration; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 9J Phone: 778.974.3796 Email: AGSupremeCourtRulesCommittee@gov.bc.ca
Current Appointments	Tanya Chamberlain (appointed 08/07/2024, expires 12/31/2029)
Pending Appointments	None

September 11, 2024

Sent via email

Karen Campbell
Executive Director
British Columbia Law Institute
1822 East Mall, University of British Columbia
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1

Jeevyn Dhaliwal, KC
President

Office Telephone
604.605.5394

Office Email
president@lsbc.org

Dear Karen Campbell:

Re: Re-appointment to the British Columbia Law Institute Board of Directors

I am pleased to confirm that the Law Society of BC's Executive Committee has re-appointed Stacey M. Edzerza Fox, KC to the British Columbia Law Institute Board of Directors for a three-year term, effective December 1, 2024.

I am confident that the British Columbia Law Institute and its important work will be well served by the contributions of Stacey M. Edzerza Fox, KC.

Yours truly,



Jeevyn Dhaliwal, KC
President, Law Society of BC

c. Don Avison, KC
Chief Executive Officer, Law Society of BC

2024 Bencher By-Election Timeline Overview & Compliance with Rules

Date ¹	Event
Monday, August 19	Executive Director approves by-election voting period
Tuesday, September 17 (expected)	Notice of Election and Call for Nominations Preparation of voter's list
Tuesday, October 15* - 4:30pm	Deadline for nominations of candidacy
Thursday, November 7	Electronic ballots and voting instructions made available to voters
Thursday, November 14* - 4:30pm	Deadline for receipt of electronic votes
Friday, November 15*	Vote count held and results announced

¹ Dates with a "*" are set by the Rules.