



LAW SOCIETY
OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

MINUTES

Law Society of the Northwest Territories
Law Society Training Room
March 20, 2017

ATTENDANCE:

Glen Rutland, President
Alex Godfrey, Vice President
Candace Seddon, Member at Large
Heather Chang, Layperson
Karen Wilford, FLSC Representative

Donna Allen, Executive Director
Bob Wilson, Communications and Planning Coordinator

Regrets:

Ian Rennie, Secretary
Tracy Bock, Treasurer

CALL TO ORDER:

President Glen Rutland called the meeting to order at 11:06am.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

MOVED BY: Candace SEDDON
SECONDED BY: Alex GODFREY

THAT the Agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

MOVED BY: Alex GODFREY
SECONDED BY: Candace SEDDON

THAT the Consent Agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

ACTION PLAN:

- 1) Truth and Reconciliation Committee Continuing Professional Development Program- Karen Wilford has approached the Indigenous bar about collaborating on a CPD program related to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. It will be a one hour presentation over a lunch hour. She is seeking direction from the Executive Committee. The Executive approved moving forward with this plan
- 2) Guidance Documents on Trust Conditions- These documents have been sent to the Legal Ethics and Practices Committee for review and recommendations to the Executive Committee.
- 3) NWT Law Foundation-The Law Society has signed an agreement with the NWT Law Foundation to provide administrative support to the Law Foundation in the areas of grants and scholarships. The monitoring of Trust Accounts will also be performed by the Law Society.
- 4) FLSC Appointments- Karen Wilford has been accepted as the FLSC Council Member for the Law Society of the Northwest Territories and as Co-Chair of the FLSC Truth and Reconciliation Commission Committee.

FINANCE:

- 1) The 2016 Financial Statements and Management Letter from the auditors were reviewed by the Finance Committee and were presented for information. Action: Donna will prepare a response to the management letter to be presented to the Executive.
- 2) The Finance Committee continues to develop policies to identify how surplus funds will be managed, and will present a draft policy in June.
- 3) The Finance Committee recommended that the Law Society forgive the administrative fee and the chargeback for newspaper advertising normally charged to the Law Foundation for this year's remittance of trust money.

MOVED BY: Heather CHANG
SECONDED BY: Alex GODFREY

THAT the Law Society forgive the administrative fee and the chargeback for newspaper advertising normally charged to the Law Foundation for this year's remittance of trust money.

CARRIED

DISCIPLINE

- 1) Jane Olson has resigned from her membership with the Law Society of the Northwest Territories, with conditions. The scheduled Committee of Inquiry has been cancelled.
- 2) Shawn Beaver – Mr. Beaver has asked for the opportunity to make representations to the Chair of Discipline on why he should not be disbarred in the NWT under the extra-territorial discipline provisions of the *Act* (Section 32.3)

FEDERATION OF LAW SOCIETIES OF CANADA:

- 1) Karen Wilford presented a report from the Federation of Law Societies of Canada's council meeting of March 13 and 14, 2017, for information. The FLSC Strategic Plan has been accepted by the FLSC Council but has not yet been voted on. It was presented for discussion and information.
- 2) Glen Rutland gave a report from the President's Forum at the FLSC Council Meeting. Law libraries, the regulation of law firms rather than lawyers, and the licensing of paralegals by law societies in some provinces was discussed by the forum.
- 3) Donna Allen gave a report on the CEO's Meeting at the FLSC Council Meeting. They met with the CanLII board to discuss potential enhancements to CanLII. Other jurisdictions are also reviewing their support of bricks and mortar libraries and interested in the potential of CanLii. CanLii's is moving forward on getting more and more secondary sources into the database, which will greatly improve its utility. Enhancements might necessitate an increase in fees charged to law societies in the future.

Karen Wilford left the meeting.

MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE CRIMINAL BAR:

- 1) The Executive Committee met with Caroline Wawzoneck, Charles Davison, Peter Harte and Ryan Clements regarding concerns they have with the Law Society of the Northwest Territories' discipline process.
Action Item- Donna Allen will discuss the presentation with the Chair of the Discipline Committee.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- 1) The Executive Committee made the following appointments to the Territorial Criminal and Civil Bench and Bar Committees:
 - a. Territorial Criminal Bench and Bar Committee
 - Susanne Boucher
 - Peter Harte
 - Roger Shepard
 - Charles Davison
 - b. Territorial Civil Bench and Bar Committee
 - Simon Hodge
 - Betty Lou McIlmoyle
 - Norman Boose
 - A GNWT member, to be named.
- 2) Discussion of the results of the member survey was deferred until the next meeting.
- 3) Discussion of the progress of the proposed Legal Resource Centre was deferred until the next meeting.

RULE/POLICY AMENDMENTS

A policy amendment to Policy Part VI-4.E., Vacation Leave, Policy Part VI-4.F., Special Leave, and Policy Part VI-4.G., Sick Leave was presented.

MOVED BY: Alex GODFREY
SECONDED BY: Heather CHANG

THAT Policy Part VI-4.E., Vacation Leave, Policy Part VI-4.F., Special Leave, and Policy Part VI-4.G., Sick Leave be amended as presented.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) There was no new business.

The Committee moved In Camera at 12:50 pm for the duration of the meeting.

MEETING DATES:

LSNT Executive: Wednesday, April 19, 2017

MEETING ADJOURNED: 1:00 PM

Glen Rutland, President

Donna Allen, Deputy Secretary