



**LAW SOCIETY**  
OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

**MINUTES**

Law Society of the Northwest Territories  
Law Society Training Room  
February 15, 2017

**ATTENDANCE:**

Glen Rutland, President  
Alex Godfrey, Vice President  
Ian Rennie, Secretary  
Heather Chang, Layperson  
Karen Wilford, FLSC Representative

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

**Regrets:**

Candace Seddon, Member at Large  
Tracy Bock, Treasurer

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

MOVED BY: Ian RENNIE  
SECONDED BY: Heather CHANG

THAT the Agenda be approved as amended.

***CARRIED***

**APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

MOVED BY: Heather CHANG  
SECONDED BY: Ian RENNIE

THAT the Consent Agenda be approved as amended.

***CARRIED***

**ACTION PLAN:**

- 1) Bench and Bar Committees- Glen Rutland, Ian Rennie, Tracy Bock and Candace Seddon met with Chief Judge Gagnon about reviving the Territorial Bench and Bar committees. Judge Gagnon will write a letter to the Law Society outlining the categories of LSNT appointees and the agreed upon meeting dates. **Bob Wilson will invite expressions of interest from the LSNT membership for seats on the committees.** The meeting to discuss the Supreme Court Bench and bar committees will be held March 6, 2017
- 2) **Donna Allen will draft a letter to the Territorial and Supreme Court Judiciary updating them on the Presidents' Dinner and the visit from Justice Côté.**

**DISCIPLINE:**

- 1) Donna Allen presented the Discipline Administrator Report for information and discussion.
- 2) D. Jane Olson- There was discussion about whether to allow D. Jane Olson to resign, or to proceed with a Committee of Inquiry. She has fulfilled all of her obligations.

MOVED BY: Alex GODFREY  
SECONDED BY: Heather CHANG

THAT D. Jane Olson be allowed to resign.

**CARRIED**

Karen Wilford left the meeting.

- 3) A meeting with members of the private criminal defense bar to discuss issues they have with the disciplinary process was requested by Peter Harte. It was decided to invite Peter Harte and other interested members of the criminal defense bar to the Executive Committee meeting on March 20<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Karen Wilford returned to the meeting.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

- 1) Proposed questions for a member survey were presented and discussed. **Bob Wilson will draft and distribute a survey to the membership through SurveyMonkey, with a two-week window for responses.**

**RULE/POLICY AMENDMENTS**

A policy amendment to allow a portion of RAC fees to be applied to Full Membership applications was presented.

MOVED BY: Ian RENNIE  
SECONDED BY: Heather CHANG

THAT Policy Part II be amended by adding Policy 22- "Where a lawyer approved for a RAC applies and is approved for full membership within 90 days of the approval of the RAC, the RAC fee and assurance levy previously paid will be applied to the active membership fee and assurance levy due."

**CARRIED**

**FEDERATION OF LAW SOCIETIES OF CANADA:**

- 1) Karen Wilford reported on the FLSC Council meeting on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- 2) Karen Wilford has been approached to be on the FLSC Truth and Reconciliation Committee Advisory Committee. **A letter naming Karen Wilford as the Law Society of the Northwest Territories' nomination for this committee will be sent to the FLSC.**
- 3) Donna Allen presented a jurisdictional survey of how other Law Societies appoint Council Members to the FLSC. It was decided to modify the Yukon policy to reflect the needs of the Law Society of the Northwest Territories. **Action: Donna will return with a draft policy in April.**
- 4) The 2017 FLSC Budget was presented for information.
- 5) The Model Code amendments have been forwarded to the LEAP Committee for review and recommendations. It is anticipated that the latest round of amendments will be reviewed and approved at the June Council meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 6) Meeting with members of the previous Executive Committee- Margo Nightingale and Susan McKinney joined the meeting to discuss transition issues and continuing workplan items with the current Executive Committee. There was discussion about continuing work on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call's to Action and the continuing work of the Access to Justice Committee's work to improve services to self-litigating members of the public.
- 7) Concerns from the membership regarding the maintenance of the M. M. DeWeerd Law Library were discussed. **Glen Rutland will write a letter to the Minister of Justice asking for a review of the Law Society involvement in the planning for the Law Resource Centre planned to replace the Law Library.**

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

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Glen Rutland, President

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Ian Rennie, Secretary