



THE FUTURE OF THE PROFESSION

ARTICLING TASK FORCE CONSULTATION—In December 2011, Convocation decided to consult with the Profession in respect of the Articling Task Force Report. The Profession and interested parties are encouraged to review the report and submit written comments. The goal of the consultation is to consider practical solutions to the issues the Consultation Report raises.

To review the Report go to: <http://www.lsuc.on.ca/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=2147486339>

Written comments are welcome until March 15, 2012. Please direct them to Sophia Sperdakos at The Law Society of Upper Canada at: ssperdak@lsuc.on.ca

Subject to the consultation, identified options currently are:

Option 1—Status quo.

Option 2—Status quo with added Quality Assurance Improvements.

Option 3—Abolishing articling but in certain circumstances replacing it with post-licensing transitional learning.

Creation of a Practical Legal Training Course:

Option 4—As an alternative, for those students who do not article; **OR**

Option 5—For all students to replace articling.

The questions being examined are:

1. Should transitional training form part of the Law Society's licensing requirements as discussed in the Consultation Report?
2. If so, has the Task Force accurately described the goals of transitional training as part of the Law Society's licensing process?
3. As a regulatory requirement, should transitional training have established standards against which students are assessed? If so, how does the current articling requirement accomplish this?
4. Should the Law Society address the issue of articling placement shortages and, if so, how?
5. What are your views on the introduction of financial incentives to encourage increased articling placements? Should Law Society fees fund such incentives?
6. What are your views on introducing a system specifically designed to hire articling students under the supervision of lawyers to provide access to justice to low income Ontarians, equality-seeking groups and regions outside the major metropolitan centres? What is your view of such an initiative being funded through law society fees?
7. Should successful completion of the licensing examinations be a prerequisite to commencing transitional training?
8. What are your views on the five options presented in the Consultation Report?
9. What are your views on the issue of over-representation of equity-seeking groups in those not able to obtain articling positions?
10. If you have concerns, do any of the proposed 5 options satisfactorily address those concerns?



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The Articling Task Force will be hosting consultation sessions across the Province. You are invited to attend the sessions below from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Register for the session you wish to attend at the email address shown so that you can be contacted in the event that a session has to be cancelled or rescheduled.

Oshawa Quality Hotel/Conference Centre Oshawa
January 16, 2012 1011 Bloor Street East
rsvp Oshawa@lsuc.on.ca Oshawa

Sudbury Radisson Hotel Sudbury
January 17, 2012 85 St. Anne Street
rsvp Sudbury@lsuc.on.ca Sudbury

Toronto The Law Society of Upper Canada
January 18, 2012 130 Queen Street West
rsvp Toronto@lsuc.on.ca Toronto

Thunder Bay Victoria Inn
January 30, 2012 555 West Arthur Street
rsvp ThunderBay@lsuc.on.ca Thunder Bay

London Best Western Lamplighter Inn
February 13, 2012 591 Wellington Road South
rsvp London@lsuc.on.ca London

Windsor Hilton Hotel Windsor
February 16, 2012 277 Riverside Drive West
rsvp Windsor@lsuc.on.ca Windsor

Barrie Holiday Inn Barrie Hotel/Conference Centre
February 27, 2012 20 Fairview Road
rsvp Barrie@lsuc.on.ca Barrie

Hamilton Sheraton Hotel
February 28, 2012 116 King Street West
rsvp Hamilton@lsuc.on.ca Hamilton

Ottawa Delta Ottawa City Centre
February 29, 2012 101 Lyon Street
rsvp Ottawa@lsuc.on.ca Ottawa

Kingston Radisson Hotel Kingston Waterfront
March 5, 2012 1 Johnson Street
rsvp Kingston@lsuc.on.ca Kingston

The consultation session and email registration can be accessed at the following link:

www.lsuc.on.ca/with.aspx?id=2147486409

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CONVOCATION REPORTS: All reports to Convocation can be viewed at <http://www.lsuc.on.ca> In order to more fully understand the issues facing Convocation, you may wish to review previous editions of Banack's Benchers News at <http://www.kmlaw.ca/publications> If you would like to either receive this newsletter via email or be removed from the subscription list, please send a message with your instructions to subscribe@kmlaw.ca