

# Banack's Bencher News #68

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**PARALEGAL START UP BUDGET:** The estimated cost of implementing paralegal regulation is approximately \$3.4 Million. It is projected that approximately \$2 Million will be received from initial paralegal applicants. However, the start-up cost will exceed the expected revenue by \$1.5 Million. Convocation approved that expenditure from the Law Society cash reserves to be recovered as a surcharge on paralegal licensees in the future.

**FAX/EMAIL FEEDBACK:** I received 178 responses to last month's newsletter. While the questions were not crafted with scientific precision, for which I apologize, and the margin for error is probably infinite, the following represents the percentage responses received:

1) Do you support that a portion of your annual Law Society levy be used for the regulation of paralegals to be licensed by the Law Society effective May 1, 2007?	YES: 71	NO: 98
2) Do you think the Law Society should be involved in an effort to sustain: (a) Women in the Profession:	YES: 86	NO: 81
(b) Sole and small firm practitioners:	YES: 133	NO: 34
3) Do you have any knowledge of the amount lawyers have paid for Bencher remuneration since the proposal was approved by the Profession in 2005?	YES: 11	NO: 162
4) Do you think you should be provided with that information?	YES: 160	NO: 8
5) Should the number of students admitted to law schools be limited?	YES: 80	NO: 85
6) Do you believe that the new licensing examinations should fail a significant number of all candidates?	YES: 45	NO: 110
7) Do you believe the Law Society should subsidize law firms and students in respect of the cost of students participating in the licensing process by an annual contribution in the amount of \$32.00 per lawyer (in addition to the \$1,000,000. grant given to the Law Society by the Law Foundation of Ontario)?	YES: 30	NO: 128
8) Do you believe that the Law Society should be in the business of providing continuing legal education programs?	YES: 142	NO: 27
9) If there is a demonstrated, cost-effective, timely, locally available delivery service to permit self-study and other means of qualification determined after consultation with the Profession, might you be in favour of mandatory continuing legal education?	YES: 122	NO: 48

**BENCHER ELECTION:** With the close of nominations on February 9, 2007, the Bencher Election campaign is now upon us. Having completed a four year term, I want to thank you for allowing me the privilege of participating in Convocation. I have had the benefit of working with fellow Benchers who are outstanding lawyers and from whom I have learned an immeasurable amount. Law Society staff have provided superb support and long hours of service. The publication of these Bencher Newsletters has required significant effort and patience by Lynn Pipher, Ki Kitamura and Teresa Calaminici of my office. As well, I thank the partners of Koskie Minsky LLP who have encouraged my Bencher activities. Further, I am grateful for the support of my wife Arna and children Adam, Hailey and Mara.

I have decided to run for re-election for a number of reasons. They will be explained in the Law Society Bencher publication and letters to be sent in the coming month. Please call if you have any suggestions or questions. I would be very appreciative of your support. Please vote when the ballots come out at the beginning of April.

If you would join a group of lawyers supporting my Bencher election campaign, please complete and return this page. Your name will then be added to a flyer, under the statement,  
**"I support the candidacy of Larry Banack for Bencher in 2007".**

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Please Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
City/Town of Practice

\_\_\_\_\_  
Area of Practice

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

**Please respond by email to: [ibanack@koskieminsky.com](mailto:ibanack@koskieminsky.com) OR fax to: 416-204-2824**