



WE HAVE A NEW TREASURER: Paul Schabas

Congratulations to him and the other candidates who offered to lead the Law Society. The next several years will be exciting and challenging. Treasurer Schabas has identified the following as some of the priorities and initiatives he will address during his term:

Governance, Core Operations, Diversity and Competence, Engagement with Stakeholders and Access to Justice.

He has encouraged that an open, inclusive and cooperative approach be adopted by Convocation to best address the interests of the profession and the public.

ADIEU TREASURER MINOR: She will be remembered for many things including her tireless efforts directed toward the challenges faced by racialized licensees, implementing a mental health and wellness strategy as well as a new coach and advisor network. She expanded the commitment to stakeholders by implementing new roundtable discussions with each of in-house counsel and law students to augment the communications taking place at the Treasurer's Liaison Group and the Early Careers Roundtable. Under her leadership the Law Society proceeded with the reconciliation process with our First Nations and continued its French Language initiatives to enhance access to justice in French. Convocation also pressed forward with its consideration of Alternative Business Structures and Compliance Based Entity Regulation.

CONVOCATION TODAY: To enhance accessibility to Convocation's deliberations, sessions are webcast. It is a wonderful opportunity for the profession to gain an insight into the work of Benchers from the comfort of your desks. Today's webcast had, during the Treasurer's election process, 29 viewers at its maximum.

HONORARY DOCTORATE RECIPIENTS: The following were awarded honorary degrees by the Law Society at the recent Call to the Bar ceremonies:

Mark M. Persaud
Her Excellency Mary Robinson
Richard Pound C.C., O.Q., Q.C.
M. David Lepofsky C.M., O.Ont.
The Honourable Susan Lang

TWU APPEAL: Our Court of Appeal heard argument concerning the Law Society's decision on accreditation of Trinity Western University commencing June 6th. Its decision has been reserved but is likely only one more chapter before the final story is written by the Supreme Court of Canada.

ENTITY BASED REGULATION: Following a Task Force review including a consultation process, Convocation has approved an initiative to seek a statutory amendment that will allow the Law Society to regulate entities providing legal services to the public. As well, an effort will now be made to develop an appropriate regulatory framework based on the principles of compliance-based regulation. If implemented the goal is to achieve enhanced regulatory efficiency that is consistent with other provinces. With this advance the Law Society wants to be in a position to effectively regulate anticipated future innovations in the delivery of legal services. To be effective the Law Society must also be able to regulate a law firm where appropriate. The process is not fixed in stone and further consultations will be undertaken before a further report is delivered to Convocation in 2017. Many still do not understand what this change will mean for the profession. To view the Task Force Report please go to www.lsuc.on.ca.

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE SUMMER SEASON!

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