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### **2023 WILL BE A WATERSHED BENCHER ELECTION:**

The Professions' privilege of self regulation will be on the ballot if the LSO can not continue to demonstrate a mature ability to protect the public interest with integrity and forethought. Long before the U.S. House of Representatives recently demonstrated the power of the minority, we have observed our own LSO institutional paralysis and disruptive, unproductive behaviour. To be clear this criticism is not levied at any individual or group within Convocation but is a failure writ large.

Elected Benchers must individually and collectively possess a wide range of complementary leadership skills. They each must be trusted to undertake the job to which we elect them which is to govern the Professions in the public interest and not just the pursuit of personal idiosyncratic agendas. Each candidate must be judged on the basis of their background and demonstrated skills, including in leadership roles within the Professions.

No incumbent has the right to expect re-election unless their individual performance makes them more uniquely qualified than other candidates. In order to earn your vote I suggest that every elected Bencher must demonstrate **AT LEAST THE FOLLOWING LEADERSHIP SKILLS (add your own):**

#### **Collaboration**

Ability to work cooperatively and constructively with others to achieve the best possible outcomes without sacrificing principles.

#### **Communication Ability**

Capacity to transmit an idea including the substance of the message.

#### **Courage**

Requires the ability to assess and stand up for what is believed to be substantively, morally and intellectually correct as a core value. It is imperative to be sufficiently self-confident to question institutional power and resist forceful rhetoric when

needed.

### **Creative Problem Solving**

Lazy undisciplined thinking is the bane of creativity. Problems must be assessed by a rigorous mental process to assess the availability of an original, previously unknown solution which invariably adds value to every debate.

### **Critical Thinking**

Decisions can only be warranted and stand the test of time if based on a rational, unbiased analysis of available facts and thorough consideration of all arguments including a healthy dose of skepticism.

### **Direction**

A specific goal or destination must first be recognized to chart the direction to be taken even if, in the end analysis, the anticipated outcome can not be achieved. Absent direction, time and energy are fruitlessly expended.

### **Listen**

We have been favoured with two ears and one mouth to be used in that proportion.

### **Relationship Building**

Every day and in every way, Benchers must create and maintain respectful, ethical relationships with each other and staff to maximize the chance to achieve identified goals and benefits for the Professions. Honest, healthy debate (without hidden agendas) promotes and does not erode effective working relationships.

### **Respect**

Benchers must respect the process and all aspects of the institution of Convocation as well as having due regard for each others' abilities, qualities and rights.

### **Sacred Cows**

Should be put recognized for what they were but not be allowed to dictate future decisions.

### **Skepticism**

An effective leader must have some doubt and uncertainty about any proposition and the status quo until there is demonstrable, sufficient evidence to overcome mistrust or suspicion.

### **Objectivity**

Calibrates the assessment of opposing views and is critical to independence and to overcome institutional group think.

### **Team Work**

Requires joint effort to achieve common goals beyond individual mere preferences in the search for optimal, collectively agreed upon outcomes - and then to move on to the next task.

### **Time Management**

Elected Benchers must have well developed multi tasking skills. Convocation work

requires sufficient dedicated time to assess the massive amount of information provided and effectively participate in reasoned debate. Each Bencher must carry their own share of the collective burdens by setting goals, prioritizing, and completing tasks in a timely manner.

### Vision

Is required to contemplate future opportunities with imagination, collaboration and wisdom.

### BENCHER ELECTION:

Match the leadership skills you value with the Bencher candidates of your choosing. There are no free passes. This is too important.

MAKE EACH OF YOUR VOTES COUNT - VERY CAREFULLY

"TO SLATE OR NOT TO SLATE": more to come....

### PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF:

#### Black History Month Program

February 28, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. [Gazette Register now](#)

#### International Women's Day program

March 8, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. [Gazette Register now](#)

#### Holocaust Remembrance Day program

April 18, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. [Register now](#)

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