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WHAT'S THE COST?

Law Society licensees passed a motion at last week's AGM asking the LSO to disclose the global cost it has spent on a controversial pay increase for former chief executive officer Diana Miles. The motion demands the LSO individually itemize its expenses related to the entire matter including legal fees, consultant's fees for various reports and all future fees and costs.

The motion was approved by 101 licensees. Twenty-two licensees voted against, while another nine abstained. It is not binding on the Law Society and must be considered by Convocation within 6 months. The motion which was communicated to Convocation yesterday will be considered shortly and brought back to Convocation in the next several months.

Arising from the CEO compensation issue we have had the February, 2025 report of the Hon. Dennis O'Connor, the March, 2025 Treasurer's Report, the work of the Governance Task Force and the guidance of consultant Dr. Richard Leblanc. The LSO is ready to move forward with its search for a new Chief Executive Officer and Corporate Secretary. To that end, following an R.F.P. process, the Law Society has retained a search firm to guide Convocation's decision in the significant selection of the next CEO.

In the interim Pria Bhatia is Acting CEO. Also a number of long serving members of senior management have left the LSO employment. Additional work is on tap for those remaining.

L.S.O. AGM

The AGM had generated a lot of interest. Unfortunately, technical problems plagued

the webcast preventing a number of licensees from being able to speak. However, the Treasurer's message is clear and forward thinking "I believe we are now on a path to restoring the trust of licensees and the public in our organization and ensuring our governance procedures and policies are stronger than ever before."

To learn more about Law Society operations have a look at the 2024 Annual Report at [LSO.ca/annual-report-2024](https://lso.ca/annual-report-2024)

If you were wondering about our composition:

Among lawyers we have 47% women, 52% men and 1% non-binary. The average age of our lawyer colleagues is 48. However, the numbers are different within the paralegal profession with 68% women, 31% men and 1% non-binary. The paralegal average age is 42.

LAWPRO – 2026

The good news is that our base premium remains at \$3250 unchanged from the last 2 years. Many lawyers pay much less than the base premium by utilizing various discounts offered. This premium is lower than the highs of \$5600 in the 1990's and \$3,350 from 2011-2016. The Early Payment Discount has been eliminated. You must submit a renewal application via the [MY LAWPRO](#) portal between October 6 and November 6, 2025. Applications submitted after November 6 are subject to a late filing surcharge of \$350 and there is a surcharge of \$600 if no application is filed before midnight December 3. Failure to pay LAWPRO premiums can result in a suspension.

EVICTED: THE SHRINKING GREAT LIBRARY AT OSGOODE HALL

To make room for judges, the government has asserted a claim to occupy provincially owned space that has historically supported areas of the Great Library operations. The main reading room will be unaffected, but parts of the library collection must be moved to other areas within the Law Society's premises, including Convocation Hall and the Lower Barristers Room. Hence, those spaces will not be available during 2026. To view the LSO Notice see: [Great Library | Law Society of Ontario](#) and for updates check the LSO website at: <https://lso.ca/home>.

GUILTY:

Convocation approved an amendment of [By-law 8](#) to require that the Law Society's public register include an indication that a licensee has been found guilty of any reportable offence enumerated in the By-law including statutes like the Occupational Health and Safety Act. This only applies to future findings of guilt. As well the Law Society's register will now include an indication if a licensee is authorized to practice any other regulated profession in Canada and a link to that profession's public register. The changes are in support of a desire to provide more information and enhance transparency of our regulatory function.

TITLE INSURERS – October 1, 2025

New obligations are being imposed on title insurers which will directly affect real estate lawyers in obtaining/disclosing client information, verify client identities and

manage real estate transaction risks. Be careful. The Law Society's [Practice Management Helpline](#) is available to assist and can be contacted at 416-947-3315 or toll-free at 1-800-668-7380, ext. 3315. You can also [schedule an appointment](#) with the Helpline on a day and time that works best for you. To learn more, see <https://lso.ca/news-events/news/latest-news-2025/notice-to-the-professions-new-aml-obligations-for>

FREE – CBA/OBA – AI ACADEMY

Association members can access a personalized learning platform, course content and resources without charge until Jan. 31, 2026. What a great way to learn.

It is intended to demystify artificial intelligence for legal professionals. The platform is to deliver practical, hands-on content developed by legal and technology experts. By the end of the program, we will hopefully have practical skills to streamline workflows, ongoing access to an ever-evolving library and clear guidance to meet professional obligations and develop policies that are ready for implementation.

The platform's login page provides that members can use their CBA/OBA email address and password to gain authentication and immediate access. Try it, I have: <https://cba.org/resources/cba-ai-academy/>

NEXT CONVOCATION:

Tuesday, October 28, 2025. Watch via live broadcast connecting through [LSO.ca](https://lso.ca)

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