



LAW SOCIETY
OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

MINUTES

Executive Committee Meeting
Law Society of the Northwest Territories
Law Society Training Room
June 16, 2020

Attendance:

Mike Reddy, President
Brad Patzer, Vice President
Christina Brownlee, Secretary
Sheldon Toner, Treasurer
Heather Chang, Layperson (by telephone)
Karen Wilford, FLSC Representative (by telephone)

Glenn Tait, Executive Director
Bob Wilson, Communications and Planning Coordinator

Regrets:

Tracy Bock, Past President
Karin Taylor, Member at Large

Call To Order:

President Mike Reddy called the meeting to order at 12:14 PM.

Approval of the Agenda:

MOVED BY: Sheldon TONER
SECONDED BY: Christina BROWNLEE
THAT the Agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

Approval of the Consent Agenda:

MOVED BY: Brad PATZER
SECONDED BY: Christina BROWNLEE

THAT the Consent Agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

Federation of Law Societies of Canada:

Karen Wilford presented an oral report on the recent FLSC Council Meeting, which was conducted by Zoom. The TRC advisory report was accepted, and its recommendations approved. The FLSC strategic and operational plan was approved. NCA exams were cancelled; this had an effect on the FLSC revenues.

Karen Wilford left the meeting.

Business Arising from the Minutes:

- 1) Glenn Tait gave an update on the Helsby Drake website project.
- 2) The pursuit of a cultural competency program continues. Brad Patzer and Mike Reddy met with Chief Justice Charbonneau, and report that the Supreme Court will assist in scheduling around sessions.
- 3) The LEAP Committee recommendation regarding representation at Tribunal Hearings was referred back to the LEAP Committee with comments.
- 4) The changes proposed by LEAP to Rule 6.3 (Harassment and Discrimination) and Rule 5.2.1 (Ex Parte Communications) of the Code of Conduct were approved by the Executive Committee and the Executive Director will communicate this to the FLSC.
- 5) Termination of Law Practice- The Law Firm Self Report Form and the accompanying Accountant's Report were presented for information.

Finance:

- 1) Glenn Tait presented a Variance Report dated June 11, 2020, for information.
- 2) Glenn Tait presented the annual Audit and management letter, for information.

Discipline:

- 1) There are currently no discipline complaints in progress. There remains one ongoing complaint which continues to be the subject of negotiation.

Rule/Policy Changes:

- 1) Annual Membership Fees 2020-2021

MOVED BY: Brad PATZER
SECONDED BY: Sheldon TONER

THAT AL-1 regarding annual fees for 2020-2021 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

New Business:

- 1) The Executive Director reported that because of higher fees and lack of demand, the Law Society would discontinue the acceptance of American Express as a form of payment.

- 2) The Executive Director reported that the fax number for the Law Society would be discontinued because of lack of demand.
- 3) Because of the ongoing difficulty for non-resident lawyers to be called to the bar because of Covid-19, those awaiting a bar call will be offered a Restricted Appearance Certificate for the interim.
- 4) Letters to the Chief Public Health Officer and the Minister of Justice regarding issues raised by the Law Society membership related to the practice of law during the Covid-19 pandemic will be drafted by the Executive Director and distributed to the Executive Committee for comment.
- 5) Matthew Scott:

MOVED BY: Sheldon TONER
SECONDED BY: Brad PATZER

THAT Matthew Scott be approved as an Active Member of the Law Society of the Northwest Territories.

CARRIED

- 6) M.M. DeWeerd Public Legal Resource Centre

MOVED BY: Sheldon TONER
SECONDED BY: Heather CHANG

THAT the Law Society of the NWT support the M.M. DeWeerd Public Legal Resource Centre with a donation of \$23,750.00.

CARRIED

Meeting Dates:

Members will be polled.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:35PM.

Mike Reddy, President

Christina Brownlee, Secretary