

**Is There a Lawyer in the House?
Why Lawyers Aren't Running for Office and the Implications for the Legislative Branch**

Presentation and Panel Discussion
Presented by the Canadian Bar Association – Newfoundland and Labrador Branch

Date: Thursday, May 17, 2018

Time: 5:30pm - 8:00pm

5:30pm - 6:00pm: Networking Reception

6:00pm - 8:00pm: Presentation and Panel Discussion

Location: Sheraton Hotel Newfoundland, 115 Cavendish Square, St. John's

Presenter: Graham Steele (Halifax, NS)

Panel:

Honourable Andrew Parsons, Q.C.

Jack Harris, Q.C.

Judy Manning

Kyle Rees (moderator)

RSVP: Register now by email, cba-nl@cba.org, or call (709) 579-5783.

About the Presentation

There is a popular misconception that our elected assemblies are dominated by lawyers, but it's not true. Over the past several decades, there has been a steep decline in the number of lawyers serving in public office. This decline has significant consequences for the legislative branch, and for the public sector lawyers who work directly or indirectly with politicians.

Graham Steele speaks on this topic from deep personal knowledge. He is a former Member of the Legislative Assembly and cabinet minister from Nova Scotia. Before entering politics, he practiced law in the private and public sectors. He has undertaken original research on lawyers in the Nova Scotia House of Assembly since Confederation.

The presentation will have three parts:

1. What do the numbers show?
2. What are the causes of the steep decline in the number of elected lawyers?
3. What are the consequences of this decline?

The presentation will include a panel discussion, with distinguished panelists the Honourable Andrew Parsons, Q.C., Jack Harris, Q.C. and Judy Manning.

About the Presenter

Graham Steele was a member of the Nova Scotia legislature from 2001 to 2013. He was the finance minister from 2009 to 2012. Before entering politics, Graham was a lawyer specializing in administrative and regulatory law. Graham graduated with a B.A. from the University of Manitoba and was recipient of the Governor General's Gold Medal. He received a Rhodes scholarship and attended St. Edmund Hall, Oxford University, graduating in 1986 with a degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economic (PPE). Graham graduated from Dalhousie Law School in Halifax in 1989 with an LL.B. and in 2015 obtained his LL.M. from Schulich School of Law at Dalhousie University.

Registration

CBA Members: **No fee to attend**

Non - CBA Member: \$60 + HST (*to receive an invoice, please email cba-nl@cba.org or call (709) 579-5783, payment may be submitted by cheque payable to the Canadian Bar Association - NL Branch*)

Register now by emailing CBA-NL at cba-nl@cba.org, or call (709) 579-5783.