

Terms of Reference for the Rules Revision Committee

These Terms of Reference should be read in conjunction with the Law Society Act, Rules and any Benchers policies relating to Committees.

Rules Revision Committee	
Type	Ad Hoc Committee
Mandate	To collaborate with Law Society staff in order to identify deficiencies in the Law Society Rules and to provide Benchers with a report recommending revisions to the Rules and, potentially by necessary implication, the Act and policies.
Responsibilities	<p>In order to achieve its mandate and ensure that the recommended amendments are as comprehensive as possible, the Committee will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Conduct a thorough review of the Law Society Rules (the “Rules”), the <i>Law Society Act, 1999</i> [SNL 1999, c. L-9.1] and relevant Law Society policies;2. Identify any “housekeeping” items within the Rules that require attention including outdated pinpoint references, definitions, etc.3. Engage , when appropriate, with the Law Society’s stakeholders;4. Review relevant legislation, regulations and, when appropriate, policies from other Canadian jurisdictions, with a view to assessing national trends and practices in the regulation of the legal profession in Canada, and reach out to other Canadian law societies for additional information when appropriate;5. Consider existing practice standards, policies and recommendations from the Federation of Law

	<p>Societies of Canada;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Review jurisprudence relating to the interpretation of regulatory bodies' legislation; 7. Examine issues, trends, etc. (both on a provincial and national level) that are brought to the Committee's attention that do or could impact the regulation of the legal profession in Newfoundland and Labrador and identify any revisions to the <i>Rules</i> that may be necessary to properly address such issues and trends; 8. Identify legislative amendments to the <i>Act</i> that may be necessary to achieve any of the recommended revisions to the <i>Rules</i>. 9. Ensure that the entirety of its work, including the preparation any final recommendations, is conducted having consideration to how the <i>Rules</i> may impact individuals in different ways, and with a view to avoiding or reducing such differing impacts (where they are not otherwise necessary).
<p>Composition and Quorum</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee shall consist of at least five (5) individuals, at least one of whom is an elected Bencher • General counsel/Deputy Executive Director shall be a non-voting member • Committee members shall be appointed by Benchers • Except for the Chair, members are appointed for a term of three (3) years and are eligible for reappointment for one further term of three years (Rule 2.16) • A member of a committee continues to be a member until they are re-appointed or their replacement is appointed • Benchers may, in their discretion, extend the term of a member of a committee where they consider it necessary or desirable • Members who have served for a total of six (6) years are ineligible to be reappointed to that committee until a

	<p>period of one year has expired (Rule 2.16)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A quorum for meetings of the Committee shall be three.
Committee Chair/Vice Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Chair of the Committee shall be appointed by Benchers and shall be a Bencher• Chairs should be appointed/reappointed by Benchers on an annual basis
Procedures and Work Product	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• See “Responsibilities” above.
Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To advise and recommend to Benchers revisions to the Rules and potentially the Act and policies.• Report as needed but not less than once per year
Staff Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• General Counsel/Deputy Executive Director is a non-voting member of the Committee