



News & Updates

September 11, 2024

Benchers' Meeting

Please note that the next Benchers' meeting will take place on **Friday, 27 September 2024**. Anyone wishing to attend a Benchers' meeting:

1. is required to provide notice of attendance to the Law Society by emailing erowe@lsnl.ca;
2. will not be permitted to use audio or video recording devices or communication devices during the meeting;
3. shall not speak, unless invited to do so by the President;
4. must observe and obey all rulings of the President; and
5. shall leave if the meeting is declared closed to the public or if asked to do so by the President.

At this time, attendance shall be via Zoom. An invite will be provided upon receipt of an attendance notice. Agendas will be posted on the [Law Society website](#) in advance of each meeting and the Minutes for the Public portion of each meeting will also be posted on the website. Please note that members are invited to attend the Public portion of the Benchers' meeting, however, the In-Camera portion of the meeting is closed to the public.

Should you wish to attend the Public portion of the Benchers' meeting on 27 September 2024, **please email erowe@lsnl.ca no later than 12:00 pm, Wednesday, 25 September 2024.**



Notice of Adjudication Tribunal Decision

The Law Society takes this opportunity to highlight a recent [decision](#) posted on our website.

Averill Baker

By Order of an Adjudication Tribunal of the Disciplinary Panel of the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador dated April 12, 2024, the Adjudication Tribunal ordered:

1. The Respondent, Averill Baker, is ungovernable.
2. The Respondent, Averill Baker, be disbarred.
3. The Respondent, Averill Baker, pay costs to the Law Society in the amount of \$1,000.00 plus disbursements.

The Adjudication Tribunal Decision can be found [here](#).

Averill Baker has been struck from the Roll of Barristers in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador and all her rights and privileges as a member of the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador have ceased.

Upcoming Continuing Professional Development Opportunities

September 17

Examining the Trends of Colonization for the Inuit and the Contemporary Life in Nunatsiavut explores the history and current realities of Inuit life in Nunatsiavut. This session will provide a comprehensive overview of the patterns of colonization that have shaped the Inuit experience and examine how these historical trends continue to impact Inuit communities today. The presentation will include a brief historical piece and current statistics to provide context to the evolving social and cultural landscape of Nunatsiavut.

September 26

Legal AI in Canada: What is it, why it is important and why you need to know will delve into the critical aspects of responsible AI development, with a focus on the rapidly

evolving field of Generative AI. We will explore the best practices that help ensure the safe and trustworthy deployment of these powerful technologies. Additionally, we will discuss the importance of transparency, accountability, and stakeholder engagement to mitigate potential risks. Register for this session, taking place on 26 September, 2024.



Opportunity to Get Involved with the Law Society

Contribute to creating an inclusive and diverse legal community in Newfoundland and Labrador by joining the Equity and Diversity Committee. Your participation is crucial in advancing inclusive practices and fostering a more representative legal profession in our province. Review the Terms of Reference for the Equity and Diversity Committee [here](#).

To express your interest, please **send your resume or a synopsis of your qualifications** to Erin Rowe at erowe@lsnl.ca **no later than Friday, 13 September 2024**.

Join us in championing equity and diversity in Newfoundland and Labrador's legal landscape.

Expressions of Interest – The Newfoundland and Labrador Federal Judicial Advisory Committee

The Newfoundland and Labrador Federal Judicial Advisory Committee screens all applicants for Newfoundland and Labrador judicial appointments to the Supreme Court, Trial Division and Court of Appeal. Members of the Committee include a candidate chosen by the Federal Minister of Justice from a list of three candidates recommended by the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador. The appointment is for three years and may be renewed.

Candidates must be active members in good standing of the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador. Applicants must not have applied for a federal judicial appointment and must undertake not to apply within a period of one year following the end of the Committee member's term.

The revised process for federal judicial appointments seeks to achieve a judiciary that reflects the diversity of Canadian society. Pursuant to this goal, the government will seek to ensure gender balance and diversity in appointing committee members.

For more information on the position and its requirements, please see [here](#).

The Law Society will accept expressions of interest from lawyers in Newfoundland and Labrador. If you are applying, please provide:

- A recent resume
- A [certification document](#)
- A [personal information sheet](#)
- A [background check consent form](#)
- A [voluntary self-identification form](#)

You must provide your materials by **5:00 pm on Wednesday, 18 September 2024** by email to: erowe@lsnl.ca



Launch of the Gladue Writer Pilot Project

The Gladue Writer Pilot Project is a new initiative aimed at providing enhanced access to Gladue reports for Indigenous persons being sentenced in Newfoundland and Labrador. Defense lawyers and Crown attorneys can now request a Gladue report through the [Newfoundland Aboriginal Women's Network \(NAWN\)](#). NAWN has set up a secured portal on their website where you can easily submit a request.

We encourage all members to make use of this important resource and support this initiative to ensure fair and culturally informed sentencing for Indigenous persons in our justice system.



Our [practice resources](#) offer valuable insights regarding the complexities of law practice management. Created to help lawyers navigate the requirements and obligations outlined in the *Law Society Act, 1999*, Law Society Rules, and Code of Professional Conduct, they serve as supportive tools. While not exhaustive, they provide valuable insights.

Please remember that every practice management question should be considered within your unique context, and professional judgment is very important.

[Reading Suggestions for Practice Management](#)

LAW OFFICE ORGANIZATION & ADMINISTRATION

Disciplinary Matters

Through the disciplinary process, the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador reviews and assesses the professional conduct of its members. These assessments are made based on ethical standards outlined in the *Law Society Act, 1999*, along with the [Law Society Rules](#) and the [Code of Professional Conduct](#).

DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS

HEARINGS

COUNSELS & CAUTIONS



[Not So Risky Business Blog by CLIA](#)

The [Canadian Lawyers Insurance Association \(CLIA\) Not So Risky Business Blog](#) aims to assist legal professionals in practice management, error avoidance, and gaining a deeper insight into insurance coverage requirements. Every Wednesday, CLIA's blog will cover informative topics such as loss prevention tips, fraud alerts, cyber awareness, wellness, and more.

You can also [subscribe to receive notifications of new posts directly to your inbox](#).

Recent Articles

- [Lawyer Sabbaticals: A way to reduce burnout and errors?](#)
- [Multifactor Authentication](#)

New professional development course by Continuous, Adult and Lifelong Learning (CALL)

Legal French for Beginners



15% EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT

October 1, 2024, to August 16, 2025
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:30 to 8 pm
No previous French experience is required

<https://bit.ly/MUNLegalFrench>



Ministère de la Justice
Canada

Department of Justice
Canada



The Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador website has an events section with updated CPD opportunities, events, conferences, and more. A list of recordings is available [here](#).

Upcoming Events

- Introduction to Family Dispute Resolution by the Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia - *September 12*

- 6-Part Mediation Guest Lecture Series by the Commonwealth Lawyers Association - *September 19*
- Family Mediation - Theory, Skills, and Practice by MDW Mediation - *September 19*
- Deposing Difficult Witnesses by the Seminar Partners - *September 19*
- Family Law Information Session by the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador - *September 25*
- The Future of Artificial Intelligence in Public Law Decision Making by the Commonwealth Lawyers Association - *September 26*
- Legal French for Beginners Series by the Fédération des Francophones de Terre-Neuve et du Labrador - *October 1*
- Killer Correspondence by the Toronto Lawyers Association - *October 1*
- Workplace Investigation Pitfalls & How to Avoid Them by the Seminar Partners - *October 10*
- CLIA Peace of Mind Virtual Conference - *October 24*
- Preventing & Dealing with Will Drafting Errors by the Seminar Partners - *November 7*

[VIEW ALL EVENTS](#)

Did you know that the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador website has a News section with updated information on job opportunities, professional development, notices, and more? Visit our website today to check out some of the great online resources available.



Current Opportunities

- Deputy Chief Prosecutor - Crown Prosecutors (AB)
- Corporate Commercial Securities Lawyer - McLennan Ross (NT)
- Labour and Employment Lawyer - McLennan Ross (NT)
- Legal Support Navigator - The Journey Project
- Chief Prosecutor - Ministry of Justice (AB)
- Crown Prosecutor - Crown Prosecutors (AB)
- Agent of the Director of Public Prosecutions - Public Prosecution Service of Canada

[VIEW ALL OPPORTUNITIES](#)

Search for a Will

Members are reminded that they may only disclose the contents of a will where authorized to do so. By sending this search for a will, the Law Society is not in any way authorizing disclosure to the individual initiating the request. Members must assess whether that individual is entitled to review or know the contents of the will.

Rita Marie O'Brien

Born March 28, 1920; died July 16, 2024.

Last place of residence was St. John's.

Any member with information regarding the Last Will and Testament is asked to contact Paula Marie Doyle at (709) 687-3762.

You are receiving this communication in accordance with your membership with the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador." style="color: rgb(77, 77, 77);">**VISIT US**



This is a mandatory communication.