



## News & Updates

December 11, 2024

### Membership Fees

Please note that, effective 1 January 2025, and in order to address the impact of inflation and other increases to operational costs, Benchers have approved changes to the following Membership Fees. All other fees, including the base Insurance Premium and the Transaction Levies will remain the same. The following fees are increasing as noted:

Membership Fees	2024	2025
Practising	\$2,000	\$2,100
Federation Fees	\$75	\$93

The Law Society has been able to maintain stability in fees over the last 13 years through careful management of surplus funds and, in fact, has been able to decrease fees. As surplus funds are used and costs increase, our ability to continue doing so has diminished. Even with these fee increases, the combined fees for a practising insured member are still significantly below those paid in 1999. In 1999 the average combined fee per practising insured member was \$5,047. For 2025 the combined fee per Practising Insured member will be \$3,393.

Invoices for Membership Fees will be sent via email the week of 1 January 2025 and, unless payment is via instalment, fees are due **31 January 2025**.

Invoices for the renewal of Professional Law Corporations, along with Form 11.03B, Certified Statement of Disclosure, will be sent the week of 1 January 2025. [Form 11.03B](#) and the annual renewal fees are due on **15 January 2025**.

### Call for Expressions of Interest: Bencher Vacancy in the Western District

The Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador is seeking expressions of interest from members wanting to fill a Bencher vacancy in the Western district.

Dean Porter (Western District) has been appointed as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador effective 29 November 2024. The *Law Society Act, 1999*, provides that Benchers must appoint a person to fill the vacancy.

Any interested member in good standing, who is practicing and residing in the Western District, should submit their name and a brief outline of their qualifications by 2 January 2025. Subject to eligibility, Benchers will appoint one of these individuals to fill the vacancy until June 2025, at which time the person appointed can stand for election for a four-year term.

When reflecting on whether to send an expression of interest, please take into account if you have some, if not all, of the skills and attributes identified in the [Skills Matrix](#). We also ask that you review the following key traits that contribute to effective decision-making:

- The ability to think strategically and analytically and to effectively communicate thoughts and the reasons for them;
- Possession of earned respect of key stakeholder group members, including, but not limited to, the public and the members;
- The ability to work well with others as a member of a collaborative group with decision-making authority and an understanding of the duty to act with due care, diligence, and skill, honestly, in good faith, and in the best interests of the Law Society;
- Demonstrated understanding of the differences between “oversight” and “supervision”;
- Earned reputation for emotional maturity, personal integrity, and honesty; and
- A demonstrated familiarity with the body of knowledge related to both the Law Society’s mandate, governing legislation, policies, and procedures.

**Any interested member in the Western District is asked to send their expression of interest along with a completed [Skills Matrix](#) to Erin Rowe at [erowe@lsnl.ca](mailto:erowe@lsnl.ca) by 2 January 2025.**



### [New Homepage Layout for LSNL Website](#)

We’ve updated the layout of our [homepage](#) to streamline navigation and make it easier for you to find the information and resources you need. This update includes the addition of dropdown menus at the top of the page to enhance your browsing experience.

As always, we’re committed to serving the public interest and supporting our members with access to the best practice resources and more.

If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback about the updated homepage, please feel free to contact Amelia White,



### Devon O'Grady Memorial Award: Honouring a Lawyer's Legacy of Service, Integrity, and Community

In memory of Devon Jonathan O'Grady, a promising young lawyer, dedicated volunteer, and advocate for justice, Devon's loved ones, teammates, and community have created the Devon O'Grady Memorial Varsity Basketball Award. Inspired by his legal career and commitment to fairness, integrity, and community service, this award recognizes a Memorial University Varsity Basketball player who exemplifies these values.

For more information or to contribute to this cause, please click [here](#).



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](#)

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAW SOCIETY

## WELLNESS TOOLBOX

### Wellness Toolbox: Weekly Resources for Your Well-Being

Your wellness toolbox includes resources to support your health and resilience. As a lawyer, prioritizing your well-being is essential for yourself, and those you serve.

Here's a list of resources from the Law Society's [Wellness Toolbox](#) for consideration. Stay tuned for new recommendations each week.

- [Wellness Together Canada](#)
- [How to Stay Sober During the Holidays](#)
- [BounceBack](#)

## 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](#).

Please note that a **new disciplinary decision has been issued** by an Adjudication Tribunal of the Disciplinary Panel of the Law Society.

[DISCIPLINARY DECISIONS](#)

[HEARINGS](#)

[COUNSELS & CAUTIONS](#)



### Updated Call for Papers: Charity and Law in Canada – Part II

The [Law Commission of Canada](#) is pleased to share an updated call for papers for Part II of Charity and Law in Canada: *Looking Around: Current Challenges and Directions for Charitable Organizations in Canada*.

This Call for Papers seeks proposals for papers addressing current issues,

questions, and concerns in the regulation and administration of charitable organizations in Canada.

\$10,000 CAD will be provided for each completed paper, and proposals must be submitted by the extended deadline of 18 December 2024.

For more information, please click [here](#).



### 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

[First 24 Hours: Effectively Responding to a Cyber Attack](#)



**University  
of Manitoba**

### Launch of the ITL Program: Empowering Internationally Trained Legal Professionals

The [Faculty of Law at the University of Manitoba](#) is excited to announce the launch of the [Internationally Trained Lawyer \(ITL\) Program](#), designed to support internationally trained legal professionals seeking to build a legal career in Canada.

This program offers a clear, flexible pathway for students and lawyers educated outside of Canada to obtain the academic credentials necessary for a Certificate of Qualification from the [Federation of Law Societies of Canada's](#)

[National Committee on Accreditation](#) (NCA). Applications are now being accepted for the Fall 2025 cohort.

#### Key Benefits

- Meet NCA educational requirements while developing practical legal skills.
- Access career services to help secure articling positions.
- Gain insights into Canadian legal systems, including Indigenous Legal Orders.

For more information, please click [here](#).



#### [New Opportunity to Publish Legal Notices](#)

Lawyers seeking alternatives to traditional print media for posting legal notices in Newfoundland and Labrador may find the following of interest:

[AllNewfoundlandLabrador](#) now offers a convenient option for publishing legal notices in its daily online newspaper. This digital service provides a modern alternative to traditional print publications, reaching a growing and engaged audience with daily weekday updates.

For more information, please [click here](#).



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](#).

#### *Law Society Events*

- West Coast Benchers' Reception - *December 12*

### Third-Party Events 2024

- Managing Difficult Phone Calls by ACHIEVE Centre for Leadership - *December 18*
- De-escalating Potentially Violent Situations by the Crisis & Trauma Resource Institute - *December 19*

### Third-Party Events 2025

- Stress Management by ACHIEVE Centre for Leadership - *January 8*
- Intellectual Property Law: The Year in Review by the Law Society of Ontario - *January 17*
- Critical Incident Group Debriefing by the Crisis and Trauma Resource Institute - *January 21*
- The Civil Litigator's Survival Guide to Evidence by Osgoode Hall Law School - *January 22*
- Calculating Income for Child Support: Top Ten Cases by the Law Society of Saskatchewan - *January 22*
- Aboriginal Law: Critical and Emerging Issues by Osgoode Hall Law School - *February 3*
- Conference on Addiction, Mental Health and the Law by the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice - *February 3*
- Conflict Resolution Skills by ACHIEVE Centre for Leadership - *February 18*

[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

- Crown Prosecutor - Ministry of Justice (SK)
- Lawyer - The Department of Justice, Legal Services Division (NS)
- Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson - Muskrat Falls Project Land Use and Expropriation Arbitration Panel
- Staff Solicitor - Legal Aid NL (Grand Falls-Windsor area)
- Staff Solicitor - Legal Aid NL (Corner Brook area)
- Crown Prosecutor - Public Prosecutions (SK)
- Crown Prosecutor - Ministry of Justice (SK)
- Crown Attorney - Department of Justice and Public Safety

## 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.

[James Perry Gill](#)

Born January 7, 1975; died November 30, 2024.

Last place of residence was Bonavista Bay.

Any member with information regarding the Last Will and Testament is asked to contact Paul Perry, (709) 536-7275.

[Marion Louise Brett](#)

Born July 01, 1943; died July 23, 2020.

Last place of residence was Lewisporte.

Any member with information regarding the Last Will and Testament is asked to contact Darren Brett at (705) 835-6124.

## VISIT US



You are receiving this communication in accordance with your membership with the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador.

This is a mandatory communication.