



LAW SOCIETY

Newfoundland & Labrador

News & Updates

December 4, 2024

Call for Expressions of Interest: Benchers Vacancy in the Western District

The Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador is seeking expressions of interest from members wanting to fill a Benchers 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 by 2 January 2025.

Benchers' Meeting

Please note that the next Benchers' meeting will take place on 9 December 2024. Anyone wishing to attend a Benchers' meeting:

- is required to provide notice of attendance to the Law Society by emailing erowe@lsnl.ca;
- will not be permitted to use audio or video recording devices or communication devices during the meeting;
- shall not speak, unless invited to do so by the President;
- must observe and obey all rulings of the President; and
- 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 9 December 2024, please email erowe@lsnl.ca no later than noon, 5 December 2024.



Benchers' Reception

The President and Benchers of the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador request the pleasure of your company at the Benchers' Reception. Please see the details below:

Where: 196-198 Water Street, St. John's

When: 11 December 2024

Time: 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please send your RSVP to Erin Rowe at erowe@lsnl.ca by 4 December 2024.

Deadline for PLC Licence Applications, Amendments, and Cancellations

Please be advised that all initial applications for, amendments to, or cancellations of Professional Law Corporation (PLC) licences **must be submitted by 6 December 2024** to ensure sufficient time for review and processing before the Christmas break. Applications received after this date may not be processed until the New Year.

The necessary forms are available as follows:

- Form 11.03A: [Application for Licence as a Professional Law Corporation](#). Please carefully review the instructions before completing the form.
- Form 11.03B: [Certified Statement of Disclosure](#). Submit this form, along with the applicable fee and any required supporting documentation, to the Law Society for amendments to your PLC.
- Form 11.07: [PLC Application for Cancellation of Licence](#). If you wish to cancel your PLC licence, please submit this completed form and the required documentation as outlined in section 2.

To view the full notice, please click [here](#).



International Human Rights Day

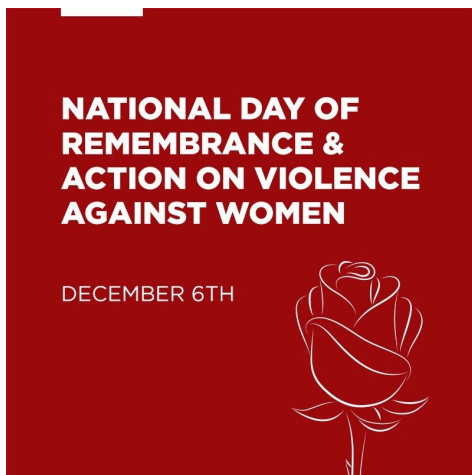
The 76th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) on 10 December 2024, marks a milestone in global rights. Adopted in 1948, the UDHR asserts universal rights regardless of race, religion, or other

factors. It's the world's most translated document, embodying freedom, equality, and justice.

This year's theme is *Our Rights, Our Future, Right Now*. This theme is a call to acknowledge the importance and relevance of human rights in our everyday lives.

Join the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador in celebrating International Human Rights Day. Let's seize this moment to reaffirm our dedication to collective action for a more inclusive and just future.

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



National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women

On the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador joins Canadians across the country in paying tribute to the 14 young women who were senselessly murdered, and 13 others who were injured on 6 December 1989, at the École Polytechnique de Montréal. We honour their memory and unite our voices in condemning the misogyny that led to this tragedy.

The National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women is about remembering those who have experienced gender-based violence and those whom we have lost to it. We encourage you to stand in solidarity with us on 6 December 2024.

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

RESOURCES

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](#)

COMPLAINTS

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.

- [Supporting Loved Ones In Recovery During The Holidays](#)
- [Smokers' Helpline](#)
- [Lifewise Mental Health Peer Support Warm Line](#)

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



Notice from the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador

Please be advised that the replacement of the elevator in the St. John's Supreme Court, General Division courthouse remains ongoing. The elevator is anticipated to be out of operation until 1 March 2025.

If any assistance or accommodation is required to attend a Court proceeding in the St. John's General Division courthouse, please contact the Court directly at inquiries@supreme.court.nl.ca.



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

[Follow Up to the Importance of Early Reporting](#)



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

- Benchers' Reception - *December 11*
- West Coast Benchers' Reception - *December 12*

Third-Party Events

- Aboriginal Law: Critical and Emerging Issues by Osgoode Hall Law School - *December 5*
- 2024 Holiday Party by the Canadian Bar Association - Newfoundland and Labrador Branch - *December 5*
- Atlantic Immigrant Career Loan Fund Online Information Session by the Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia - *December 9*
- Thinking Fast and Slow: Strategies and Tools to Enhance Decision Making by Osgoode Hall Law School - *December 11*
- Managing Difficult Phone Calls by ACHIEVE Centre for Leadership - *December 18*

- De-escalating Potentially Violent Situations by the Crisis & Trauma Resource Institute - *December 19*

[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 - Public Prosecutions (SK)
- Crown Attorney - Public Prosecutions Service (NS)
- Crown Prosecutor - Ministry of Justice (SK)
- Crown Attorney - Department of Justice and Public Safety

[VIEW ALL OPPORTUNITIES](#)

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.