



## News & Updates

January 15, 2025



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](#)

CLIENT IDENTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION

### 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.

- [Centre for Addiction and Mental Health](#)

- [What Makes Lawyers Happy?](#)
- [The Litigator and Mental Health](#)

## 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](#)



### [You're Invited: Swearing-In Ceremony](#)

The Honourable Justice Dean A. Porter will be sworn in as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador on Friday, 24 January 2025, at 10:00 a.m., in Courtroom No. 1, 309 Duckworth Street, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador.

The Honourable Raymond P. Whalen, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, will preside. The Proclamation will be read by the Registrar of the Supreme Court. Chief Justice Whalen will then administer the Oaths of Office, formally introduce Justice Porter and request invited speakers to respond.



**Canada**

### [Federal Survey for Lawyers on the Treatment of Survivors of Sexual Assault](#)

In March 2024, the Office of the [Federal Ombudsperson for Victims of Crime](#) (OFOVC) [launched a systemic investigation](#) into how survivors of sexual violence are treated within the Canadian criminal justice system.

Key Updates:

- [Stakeholder survey is now live](#) - your participation is encouraged (10-30 minutes to complete)
- The deadline for the [survivor survey has been extended - share your experience](#)
- [Written submissions are still being accepted](#)

All contributions are welcome until 16 February 2025. Your input is invaluable in shaping actionable recommendations to remove barriers and improve access to justice for survivors of sexual violence. For more information or to participate please click [here](#).



Department of Justice  
Canada

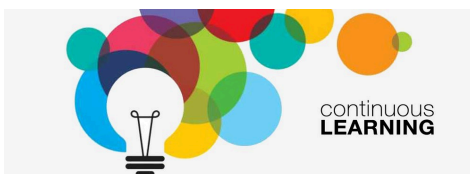
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Ministère de la Justice  
Canada

## 2025 National Family Law Survey

The [Department of Justice Canada](#) is launching the *2025 National Family Law Survey* to gather valuable insights on the impact of recent amendments to the Divorce Act, which came into effect on 1 March 2021. The survey will focus on key topics such as the best interests of the child, relocation, family violence, children's views, and family dispute resolution, as well as the public legal education materials developed to support these changes.

This anonymous survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete and will be open from 13 January 2025 to 24 February 2025. For more information or to participate, please click [here](#).



## Building Confidence and Assertiveness Series

[Human Skills Development](#) has launched the first in a series of articles aimed at helping individuals strengthen their confidence and assertiveness. These essential skills are invaluable in the legal profession, supporting personal

development, effective communication, and the ability to navigate complex interactions with authority and respect.

#### Article Highlights:

- Defining confidence and assertiveness
- Characteristics of confident individuals
- Tools to gain personal empowerment
- Strategies for maintaining confidence in difficult situations
- Building confidence in others

Human Skills Development invites you to explore this series and consider how these tools can contribute to your professional growth. Learn more [here](#).



#### CLIA Not So Risky Business Blog

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

- [Cyber Awareness Resources](#)



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](#).

- 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*
- The Evolution of Rights in Newfoundland and Labrador by the Newfoundland and Labrador Human Rights Commission - *January 23*
- Atlantic Immigrant Career Loan Fund Information Session by the Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia - *January 27*
- Recent Developments in the Law of Damages and Injunctions by Thomson Reuters - *January 30*
- 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*
- Neurodiversity 101 by the Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia - *February 7*
- AI in Regulation Conference by MDR Strategy Group - *February 11*
- 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

- Trust Compliance Auditor - Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador
- Associate Lawyer - Stewart McKelvey
- Deputy Prothonotary – Prince Edward Island Court of Appeal & Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island
- Legal Counsel - the Law Society of the Northwest Territories
- Reviewer - Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
- Board Member - Newfoundland and Labrador Legal Aid Commission
- Children's Lawyer - Department of Justice and Public Safety (PEI)
- Law Professor - University of Moncton
- Legal Counsel - Nunatsiavut Government
- Court Officer IA (Bilingual) - Department of Justice and Public Safety
- Manager, Operations and Projects - Nova Scotia Department of Justice
- Solicitor IV - NL Health Services
- Crown Prosecutor - Public Prosecutions (SK)
- Solicitor - City of Saint John

## 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.

[Justin David Francis](#)

Born June 5, 1984; died October 23, 2024.

Last place of residence was Corner Brook.

Any member with information regarding the Last Will and Testament is asked to contact Melissa May at [mmay@poolealthouse.ca](mailto:mmay@poolealthouse.ca).

[Laura Brown Gillingham Newman](#)

Born 12 March 1952; died August 9, 2023.

Last place of residence was Horwood.

Any member with information regarding the Last Will and Testament is asked to contact Leigh-Ann Brown at [leahc19@gmail.com](mailto:leahc19@gmail.com).

[Shirley Edith Dwyer](#)

Born August 16, 1937; died November 17, 2024.

Last place of residence was Shearstown.

Any member with information regarding the Last Will and Testament is asked to contact Mike Hoyles at [m.hoylesbb@gmail.com](mailto:m.hoylesbb@gmail.com).

## 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.