



News & Updates

April 23, 2025

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

MAY 8

Artificial Intelligence in Legal Practice: Ethics, Innovation, and Regulation

REGISTER

MAY 23

Court of Appeal: Rule Changes, Court Procedures, Technology, and Advocacy
limited capacity

REGISTER

JUNE 11

The Anatomy of a Personal Injury Claim - Best Practices, Caselaw, and Trends

REGISTER

VIEW ALL EVENTS HERE

OTHER DATES OF INTEREST

May 7 - Preventive Justice: The Quest for Certainty in Predicting Future Harm

May 12 - Well-Being in the Legal Profession – Concrete Strategies for Positive Change

May 13 - Mental Health, Well-being, and Issues Facing Law Students/Young Lawyers

May 14 - Mindful Business Charter

May 15 - Well-being is a Team Sport

May 21 - Trauma-Informed Lawyering: Free Training for the Journey Project Legal Support Service

May 29 - Kenneth LeDrew Disciplinary Hearing

June 17 - Gregory Stack Disciplinary Hearing

Reminder: 2025 Bencher Election

We will be continuing with the electronic voting process this year, utilizing the services of Truverus (formally ClearPicture). Please be assured that Truverus is a neutral third party; your vote will not be shared with anyone, and only the overall vote totals will be reported by Truverus.

An invitation from Truverus was sent on 22 April 2025 to provide you with a secure password and link to proceed with your vote. All invitations, reminders, and final reminders will come directly from Truverus. The email will come from the following address: "Law Newfoundland Bencher Elections 2025"
invitation@truverusfeedback.com.

This year, there are four nominees for three vacancies in the Eastern District. The nominees are as follows:

- Lauren Chafe, KC
- Carey Majid, KC
- Joe Thorne
- David Williams

Benchers' Meeting

Please note that the next Benchers' meeting will take place on Friday, 6 June 2025, at 9:30 am. 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 RSVP by noon, Monday, 2 June 2025, to Erin Rowe at erowe@lsnl.ca if you plan to attend the Benchers' Meeting.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador will be held, in person, at 2:00 pm on Friday, 6 June 2025 at the Law Society Building, 196-

Please RSVP by noon, Monday, 2 June 2025, to Erin Rowe at erowe@lsnl.ca if you plan to attend the AGM.

Annual Dinner and Cocktail Reception

The Law Society's Annual Dinner and Cocktail Reception will be held on the evening of Friday, 6 June 2025 at the Emera Innovation Exchange.

Cost: \$100.00 per person (\$86.95 + \$13.05 HST)

Cash Bar: 6:30 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Dress: Business Suit, Semi-Formal

To RSVP, please complete the [registration form](#) and send it to Erin Rowe at erowe@lsnl.ca, no later than 29 May 2025.



Opportunity to Get Involved with the Law Society

Take part in the dynamic and crucial work of the Law Society as we strive to regulate the practice of law and uphold the public interest.

Your voice matters, and your contribution is invaluable. We're currently seeking expressions of interest for the following opportunity:

The Law Society's Disciplinary Panel

- Review the Terms of Reference for the Disciplinary Panel Committee [here](#)
- Mandatory adjudicator training will be provided for members of the Disciplinary Panel. Find further details in a message from the Chair of the Disciplinary Panel, David Eaton, KC, available [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 9 May 2025.



Consultation: Draft Competency Framework for Entry to Practice

We are seeking your feedback on a draft [Competency Framework for Entry to Practice](#). This proposed framework outlines the knowledge, skills, and professional behaviours expected of newly called lawyers and is intended to replace the current [Articling Skills and Experience Checklist](#).

The framework is a key step in ensuring that lawyers enter the profession equipped to practise competently and ethically.

We welcome your input as we enter the consultation phase. In particular, we encourage you to consider:

- Do the listed competencies reflect what we expect of new lawyers?
- Are there gaps or unnecessary overlaps?
- Is the language clear, specific, and accessible?

Please click [here](#) for more information and to **share your feedback via email to Christian Hurley at churley@lsnl.ca by 16 May 2025.**

Thank you for supporting this important initiative. Your insights will help shape the final framework and ensure it reflects the realities of legal practice in Newfoundland and Labrador.



New Research on AI in Criminal Justice Released by LCO

The [Law Commission of Ontario](#) (LCO) has released [AI in Criminal Justice](#), a series of research papers exploring the use of AI within the criminal justice system. While AI presents potential benefits, it also raises significant concerns, including risks of false arrest, biased policing, privacy violations, and reduced access to justice.

The project includes an Executive Summary, Consultation Questions, and four Issue Papers covering topics such as:

- AI use by law enforcement
- AI in bail, sentencing, and recidivism assessments
- AI at trial and on appeal
- AI in systemic oversight

To access the papers and learn more, please click [here](#).



Notice: US Border Searches & Electronic Devices

Lawyers traveling to the US should be aware that US border agents have the authority to request passwords to unlock electronic devices during inspections. If you refuse, your devices may be confiscated. This is particularly relevant for those carrying sensitive client or practice-related information.

Lawyers in various jurisdictions have reported that their phones have been searched at the border, highlighting the risk involved.

For guidance on crossing the US border with electronic devices, members are encouraged to reference [*Information for lawyers on border searches and electronic devices*](#).



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

- [Wellness Toolkit: Assertiveness/Setting Boundaries](#)
- [Do You Need Excess Insurance?](#)
- [Good Communications: Don't Forget Generational Considerations](#)
- [Free Well-Being Webinars: Well-Being in the Legal Profession Week](#)



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 AND ADMINISTRATION

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.

- [Smokers' Helpline](#)
- [The Trauma Informed Lawyer Podcast](#)
- [Tips on How to Stay Calm in Crisis](#)

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



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

- Executive Director - Department of Justice and Public Safety (NB)
- Manager, Family Justice Legal Services - Manitoba Justice
- Crown Attorney - Department of Justice and Public Safety
- Crown Prosecutor - Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice
- Paralegal - African Nova Scotian Justice Institute
- Director - African Nova Scotian Justice Institute
- Appeal Board Member - Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
- Board Member - PLIAN
- Legal Advisor - Memorial University Interdisciplinary Committee for Ethics in Human Research
- Associate Lawyer - Mills Pittman Twyne Law Offices
- Lawyer - Department of Justice and Public Safety

[VIEW ALL OPPORTUNITIES](#)

CONNECT WITH US



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

This is a mandatory communication.