



News & Updates

24 September 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 DATES OF INTEREST

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2 October 2025: LEAF-NL Launch Event with Guest Speaker Dr. Kerri Froc (Free Event)

13 November 2025: Trauma-Informed Restorative Justice for Healthier Schools, Communities, and Systems in NL

14 November 2025: The Declaratory Judgment: Its Availability and Its Limitations

[VIEW ALL EVENTS HERE](#)



CALENDAR

Benchers' Meeting

Please note that the next Benchers' meeting will take place on 3 October 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 on 29 September 2025 to Erin Rowe at erowe@lsnl.ca if you plan to attend the Benchers' Meeting.



Department of Justice
Canada

Ministère de la Justice
Canada

[Update on Federal Child Support Tables](#)

Please be advised that new Federal Child Support Tables will come into effect on 1 October 2025. The updated tables can be accessed here. [here](#).

[The Department of Justice Canada](#) is expected to release further guidance in the near future. This change also applies to support orders and agreements made under provincial legislation.

Newfoundland and Labrador incorporates the Federal Tables by reference in section 2(g) of the *Child Support Guidelines Regulations* under the *Family Law Act* (NL Regs. 40/98):

- “*table*” means a child support table set out in Schedule I of the Federal Child Support Guidelines enacted under the Divorce Act (Canada).



[Provincial Court Notice](#)

The temporary operational changes introduced at St. John's Provincial Court on 22 September 2025 will continue into next week.

- Point of Entry #2 will be closed, resulting in courtrooms 7, 8, and 9

being inaccessible by the media and the public.

- Courtroom #7 will be operating with in-person access available to lawyers, using the entryway near the Criminal Division. Media and members of the public wishing to have access via telephone can contact stjohns@provincial.court.nl.ca.
- Prior to attending the Courthouse, please check the online docket to see the courtroom assigned to your matter at the Provincial Court of Newfoundland and Labrador. Some matters will be postponed while others will be triaged and assigned a courtroom on the morning and afternoon of the appearance.

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

National Day
for Truth and
Reconciliation
September 30th



National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

The Law Society of Newfoundland and Labrador is committed to promoting reconciliation with Indigenous peoples through the ongoing implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Calls for Justice. As part of this commitment, our office will be closed on 30 September 2025, in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. This day offers an opportunity to engage with and explore the rich cultures, voices, experiences, and stories of Indigenous peoples. We encourage everyone to wear an orange shirt and learn to observe this important day meaningfully. Read 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

- [Wellness Toolkit: Emotional Intelligence](#)
 - [Bite Size CPD: Practice Management](#)
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Courtroom Accessibility

Supporting People with Hearing Loss



In Newfoundland and Labrador, courtrooms must be accessible to people with disabilities, including those who are hard of hearing. This ensures equal access to justice. This resource highlights ways to remove communication barriers, explains the duty to accommodate, shares best practices, and outlines supportive resources when barriers are experienced.

Removing Information and Communication Barriers

The legal system must serve everyone equally. When people with hearing loss can't access or understand courtroom proceedings, they are excluded from the very system meant to protect them. True justice requires fairness in both law and process, which includes the ability to fully communicate and access information.

The Duty to Accommodate

Courts have a legal obligation to provide supports or make alternative arrangements for people with disabilities, up to the point of undue hardship. Supports and arrangements could include:

- ✓ Providing assistive listening devices (FM systems, hearing loops)
- ✓ Providing meeting minutes or plain-language summaries
- ✓ Allowing access to captioning or text-to-speech apps on personal devices

Best Practices for Hearing Accessibility

- ✓ Ensure close proximity and clear sightlines for lip reading (e.g., circle or square seating)
- ✓ Reduce or eliminate background noise and ensure the space is well-lit
- ✓ Use group listening systems (e.g., WiFi streams and DM systems)
- ✓ Reserve seats in the front for people with hearing loss and other disabilities

Finding Support

Talk to your lawyer, the crown attorney, or Victim Services to discuss any disability-related supports you may need while in the courtroom. Looking to file an inquiry about accommodation barriers? Contact: humanrights@gov.nl.ca.

The **Canadian Hard of Hearing Association Newfoundland and Labrador (CHHA-NL)** advocates for and supports people with hearing loss across the province. Questions? Contact: 1-888-753-3224 | info@chha-nl.ca.



ThinkHumanRights.ca



@nlhumanrights



**University
of Manitoba**

Applications Now Open: Internationally Trained Lawyer Program 2026–2027

The [University of Manitoba](#) is now accepting applications for the [Internationally Trained Lawyer Program](#) for the 2026 - 2027 academic year will open on 1 October 2025. Applications will be accepted until 31 March 2026, with a final deadline of 30 April 2026, for the submission of all required documents.

Please click [here](#) to view the application requirements.



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.

- [Counselling Options](#)
- [DoorWays](#)
- [Helplines and Navigator](#)

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](#).



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

- Lawyer - Browne Fitzgerald Morgan & Avis
- Associate Lawyer - Stewart McKelvey
- Legal Counsel - Nunatsiavut Government
- Associate Lawyer (Family Law) - Poole Althouse
- Associate Lawyer (Civil Litigation) - Poole Althouse
- Board Member - Golf NL
- Crown Prosecutor - Ministry of Justice (SK)
- Board Members - Easter Seals NL
- Telephone Legal Advice Lawyer - Assistance Services Group
- Crown Prosecutor - Public Prosecutions (SK)

[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.

Phyllis Morgan

Born 13 December 1932; died 11 August 2025.

Last place of residence was St. John's.

Any member with information regarding the Last Will and Testament is asked to contact Alysa O'Keefe at

Stephen Wayne Smith

Born 25 November 1974; died 12 September 2025.

Last place of residence was St. John's.

Any member with information regarding the Last Will and Testament is asked to contact Debbie Decker at

Yvonne Myers

Born 8 December 1951; died 23 August 2025.

Last place of residence was St. John's.

Any member with information regarding the Last Will
and Testament is asked to contact Kim Myers at
myers_kimberly@hotmail.com

Stephen Wayne Smith

Born 25 November 1974; died 12 September 2025.

Last place of residence was St. John's.

Any member with information regarding the Last Will
and Testament is asked to contact Debbie Decker at
(902) 847-1229.

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.