

# **ANNUAL REPORT** 2015/2016





## INFLUENCE. LEADERSHIP. PROTECTION.

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### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### 2015/2016 MEMBERS



SHARON PRATCHLER, QC President SASK. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE



GAIL WARTMAN, QC Past President MCDOUGALL GAULEY LLP



**CHRISTOPHER WEITZEL** Professional Image Chair SASK. GOVERNMENT INSURANCE



**NEIL ROBERTSON, QC** Vice President



LORA BANSLEY Communications Chair INFORMATION SERVICES CORP.



**BRENDA HESJE** Executive Director CBA SASKATCHEWAN



**EVATT MERCHANT** Treasurer MERCHANT LAW GROUP



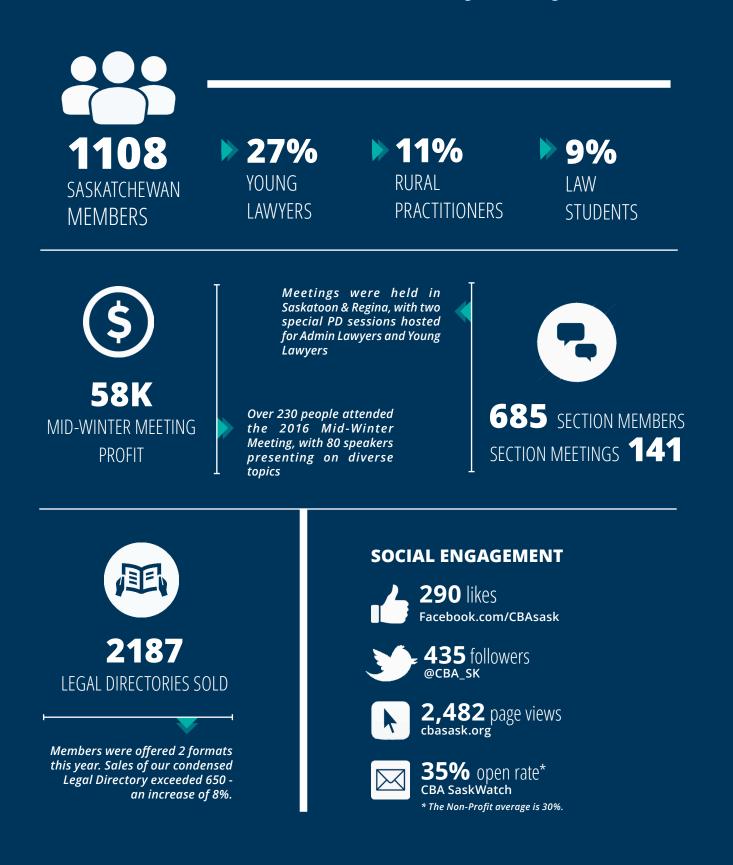
LORELEY BERRA Membership Chair SASK. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE



KAYLA STUCKART Communications Officer CBA SASKATCHEWAN

CBA Saskatchewan's Executive Committee is responsible for the regular activities, planning and administration of the Branch. Committee members are nominated into positions by members of the Branch. The Executive Committee is supported by the Branch Staff, who serve as Ex-Officio members.

## Milestones & Highlights



### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

SHARON PRATCHLER, QC

This year has been one of change and great introspection, at the National level in particular, about what the future looks like for the CBA. As a result, instead of setting out the usual recitation of what the President has been doing this year, I want to focus on the work I have been doing at the National level, to assist in reconciling

all the competing priorities and viewpoints to find a way forward for the CBA.

As with almost all things, we all view the world through our own particular lens or perspective. All of us engage with the CBA in individual ways. Some like to work at the National level, on Committees or Sections. Others focus their energy and interest at the Branch level. Still others are involved in the CCCA as their primary point of interaction and connection with the CBA.

But from whatever point of engagement or perspective you view the value of the organization, I think most people will appreciate that there are benefits if a National organization can work collectively and seamlessly together on advocacy issues that require a strong voice. Our collective voice across the country is much stronger than a regional or local voice, when we wish to speak on national issues.

So how best to provide as much centralization as necessary while at the same time, providing as much decentralization and local autonomy as is possible?

Outlined below are some key highlights which have resonated with me, as I work as Chair of the CBA Re-Think Integration Team over the past few months.

#### THE BURNING PLATFORM

The CBA is in a precarious situation. Its viability is at stake. Members don't see the value of their membership and have been voting with their feet – there is clear evidence for this in the brand audit, other studies and the membership numbers themselves. Market penetration has plummeted from a strong 75% in 1980 to approximately 33% today. The CBA will not survive in its present form. The status quo is not an option.

#### WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE THROUGH THE CBA RE-THINK

- To be an organization for members: member centric, not just volunteer centric
- To ensure that all members across the country have access to an equivalent basic level of services
- To put Sections where most members engage in the CBA – at the heart of the model. This gives members more opportunity to drive type and level of engagement at the local level.
- To maintain meaningful volunteer engagement opportunities in all areas of substance, with a clear path to leadership roles
- To create a more nimble decision making structure throughout the CBA to deliver on the Strategic Directions
- To build coordination mechanisms into the structure, rather than relying solely on goodwill
- To simplify the structure and make it more understandable, with fewer layers and reduced costs
- To decentralize as much as possible and centralize as much as necessary, allocating resources where they are needed to maximize member experience and value – recognizing in this balance that the group as a whole must be empowered to bring cohesiveness and the parts must be empowered to act decisively.

Key elements of the proposed governance model for CBA are set out below. Be brave – be bold – embrace change. That is my message to you today as President.

### KEY ELEMENTS OF THE PROPOSED MODEL

- 1. Robust consultation will permeate the culture of the organization and inform key policies, seeking participation and input from Branches, Sections and members.
- 2. The AGM is restructured.
- 3. National Council is eliminated.
- 4. National Standing Committees are replaced by three Board Committees: Policy; Finance; Governance and Equality.
- 5. The term "Sections" is used to embrace current Sections and Forums (national) and Sections, Forums and Chapters (Branch).
- 6. National Sections Council is eliminated, replaced by a Sections Subcommittee of the Board Governance and Equality Committee.
- 7. Direct member services generally to be delivered at the Branch and local level.
- 8. Several elements balance local autonomy and representation with a streamlined and cost-effective decision-making structure:
  - A CBA Board of 14 members will be selected based on a matrix of diversity, geography, skills and other demographic characteristics. The CEO is a 15th, nonvoting member.
  - Each Branch determines its own governance structure, allowing for variations in local conditions and needs.
  - Clarity in roles and the division of responsibilities among Branch Executives and the Board.
  - Clarity in the Board members' responsibilities, supported by mandatory Board training from the CBA or the Institute of Corporate Directors,

ensuring Board members understand and carry out their role in relation to Branches and Sections.

- Clarity in the composition, roles and responsibilities of the Board Committees.
- Branches, Sections and the Board elect new directors and the President.
- The Sections subcommittee of the Governance and Equality Committee can provide peer-to-peer resolution of coordination and functioning concerns and make recommendations about Section-related matters.
- A new Leadership Forum facilitates communication amongst Board members, Branch Presidents and Section Chairs.
- Coordination and consolidation of budgeting with Branch financial control through:

- Baseline funding for Branches to reflect local characteristics, operational needs and multi-year commitments

- Representatives of small, mid-size and large Branches and the CCCA on the Finance Committee.



SHARON PRATCHLER, QC PRESIDENT

### **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

NEIL ROBERTSON, QC



One of the many nice things about the position of Vice President is the flexibility of involvement. The role is in part to assist and be available to stand in for the President and to learn and prepare for succession to that office. One highlight was representing CBA Saskatchewan at the swearing-in ceremony in Regina on January 8, 2016 of my friend Judge Steven Schiefner.

So apart from participating as a member of the Executive, I carried on much as I have before as a contributing member of the CBA. I attended the Canadian Legal Conference in Calgary in August 2015 and listened in on some meetings of the National Board by teleconference. I represented the Branch on the Right to Know Committee, which sponsored activities in Regina in October 2016, chaired the annual Branch Planning Meeting in Regina in January 2016,

was a member of the organizing committees for the 2016 Mid-Winter Meeting which was held in Regina in February 2016, the Law Day Committee which sponsored events in Regina and Saskatoon in April 2016, the National Administrative Law Spring Conference in Regina in April 2016 and hosted the 2016/2017 Section Orientation meetings in Saskatoon and Regina in April 2016. I presented to the Saskatchewan Public and Municipal Law Section in January 2016, moderated the closing plenary session at the Saskatchewan Mid-Winter Meeting in February 2016, and presented at the National Administrative Law Spring Conference in Regina in April 2016. All of these activities were made enjoyable by the people with whom I volunteered and came into contact.

I especially want to thank Brenda Hesje and Kayla Stuckart for their unfailing support throughout the past year and look forward to working with them in the year ahead.

Neil Tubertson

NEIL ROBERTSON, QC VICE PRESIDENT

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

EVATT MERCHANT



While CBA Saskatchewan has experienced a significant increase in Revenues in recent years, that increase has been matched by an increase in Operating Expenses as the Branch works to meet the needs of its local members. The table below illustrates our Branch Revenues and Expenses for the past, current, and next budget years.

The Branch Executive Committee conducted a careful review of budget planning in January 2016, resulting in some changes to reduce operating deficits in future years. This review and resulting reductions were done to maintain the sound financial status which the Branch has enjoyed for many years under the prudent administration of our Executive Director, Brenda Hesje.

The total Assets of the Branch as of April 30, 2016, were \$595,183.49 (compared to \$547,101.18, as of April 30, 2015), most of which is held in the Branch's bank and investment accounts

Financial Statements for the Branch, for the year ending August 31, 2015, as prepared by PricewaterhouseCoopers are available on Page 38 in this Annual Report.

EVATT MERCHANT TREASURER

#### **HISTORY OF BRANCH REVENUES & EXPENSES**

	2013/2014 Actual	2014/2015 Actual	<b>2015/2016</b> Actual to Apr 30/16	<b>2016/2017</b> Forecast
REVENUE	\$474,657.97	\$513,229.65	\$603,854.49	\$525,200.00
EXPENSES	\$577,659.41	\$493,120.97	\$389,581.94	\$525,200.00
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(\$1 03,001.44)	\$20,108.68	\$214,272.55	nil

### **PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

GAIL WARTMAN, QC



My year as Past President has been much quieter than last year, and although I enjoyed my year as President, I was glad to step into a year of fewer commitments!

Some of the key committee work for the Past President is chairing the Nominating Committee, which met on March 22, 2016, followed by extensive telephone and email work among the members and the Branch office to develop and confirm a slate of nominees for our various committees.

I also served on the Awards Committee, and was pleased to participate in the decision-making for the recipients of the Distinguished Service Award and the Community Service Award. This committee met on December 17, 2015 and May 10, 2016.

It was also my privilege to represent CBA Saskatchewan in the selection of Queen's Counsel designation recipients. The main meeting for that took place in the office of the Honorable Gordon Wyant, QC, on October 22, 2016.

As a member of the Branch Executive Committee, I attended in-person Executive and Council meetings in mid-October, in Saskatoon, and early February, in Regina. As well, I attended the monthly teleconference Executive Committee meetings. I participated in the annual Branch Executive Planning meeting in Regina on January 8, 2016. I also plan to be present in Saskatoon for the annual Branch meeting on June 16, 2016, and the Executive Committee meeting that will take place on the same day.

Finally, I was pleased to bring greetings on behalf of the CBA at the Bar Admission ceremony in Moose Jaw on December 18, 2015.

As I complete my time on the Executive of the Saskatchewan Branch of the Canadian Bar Association, I extend my thanks to all the other volunteers I have met – and who have become my friends – through these years. And a special thank you to Brenda Hesje, Kayla Stuckart, and Lorraine Coulman, for their great work, their enthusiasm, and their friendship.

gail Martnan

GAIL WARTMAN, QC PAST PRESIDENT

### AWARDS COMMITTEE

TERRY KIMPINSKI, QC



The Awards Committee oversees the administration and awarding of both the Distinguished

Service Award and the Community Service Award.

The 2015/2016 Award Committee members included: Terry J. Kimpinski, QC (Chair); CBA Saskatchewan President Sharon Pratchler, QC; CBA Saskatchewan

Past President Gail Wartman, QC; and the Presidents of the Law Society of Saskatchewan during the respective time period Brenda Hildebrandt, QC and Perry Erhardt, QC.

#### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes significant and exceptional contributions and/or achievements by members of the CBA Saskatchewan: to the legal profession in Saskatchewan; or jurisprudence in Saskatchewan or Canada; to the law or the development of law in Saskatchewan; or involving a significant law-related achievement for the benefit of residents of Saskatchewan.

The Award was given to Bryan Salte, QC, on February 5, 2016 at the Distinguished Service Award Luncheon held in conjunction with the Branch annual Mid-Winter Meeting in Regina.

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**

The Community Service Award recognizes the valuable contributions of our members who have demonstrated outstanding dedication, public service and commitment to their respective communities throughout the Province. This Award is presented annually at the Branch Annual Meeting, in conjunction with the Law Society of Saskatchewan Annual Meeting. This year, the Awards Committee selected the Honourable Peter A. Whitmore of the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal, as the deserving recipient. The Award will be presented to Mr. Justice Whitmore on June 16, 2016 following the CBA Saskatchewan Annual Meeting.

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**CHAIR** Terry Kimpinski, QC LELAND KIMPINSKI LLP

Sharon Pratchler, QC SASK. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

Gail Wartman, QC MCDOUGALL GAULEY LLP

Benda Hildebrandt, QC BRENDA HILDEBRANDT LAW OFFICE

Perry Erhardt OLIVE WALLER ZINKHAN WALLER LLP

### **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

LORA BANSLEY

As Communications Chair I serve as a liaison between the Executive Committee and the Communications Officer for the Branch with regard to the website home page, the eNewsletter CBA SaskWatch, Facebook and Twitter. Kayla Stuckart, CBA Saskatchewan's Communications Officer does a great job with our Branch communications efforts and makes my job extremely easy. She will be greatly missed when she moves to British Columbia this August!

As Communications Chair I also sit on the *BARNOTES* Editorial Board, serving as a liaison between the Board and the Executive Committee. Ashley Smith is the current Editor of *BARNOTES*. She has done a great job of recruiting a Board representative of the legal profession in Saskatchewan and ensuring quality issues are produced with diverse content. Other members of the Editorial Board include: Scott Bell, Kate Crisp, Jared Epp, Jackie Francis, Nolan Kondratoff, Steven Larocque, Amjad Murabit, Michael Sherman, James Streeton and Hannah Zip.

This past year we produced three issues (Summer/Fall, Winter, Spring) and continued with the colour format. Many publications have moved to electronic format and while the CBA has a digital version, we continue to mail a paper copy to all members, except those who have opted to only receive a digital version. The Winter Edition is sent each year to all members of the Saskatchewan Bar.

This year marked the 30th Anniversary of the *BARNOTES* publication. The Winter edition commemorated the celebration with articles from two of the early editors and a great visual feature, looking back at a number of the covers over the years. There have only been 12 Editors of the publication in the 30 years it has been published. I was expecting there to be more than that. I think that is a testament to the commitment and dedication of the volunteers the CBA has. This year CBA Saskatchewan participated in a unique communications project. A University of Regina Public Relations Class worked with various non-profit organizations, one being CBA Saskatchewan, to prepare a Strategic Communications Plan. We asked the group to focus on our Law Day events and to assist us with (1) what CBA Saskatchewan can do to increase public attendance at all Law Day events and (2) what should CBA Saskatchewan do to have increased support from local media outlets.

In preparation of this plan the students conducted an online survey of our membership. We discovered that we have low brand awareness in the province and not many of our members are aware or participate in the Law Day events. They recommended CBA Saskatchewan prioritize our members as a target audience since, once reached effectively, they can help CBA Saskatchewan achieve its ultimate goals with regard to Law Day in Saskatchewan. Our members have a better understanding of the organization and are more aware of the events than other groups in the public. The membership also offers a large network and a wealth of contacts.

Working with the students was an interesting and rewarding experience and provided our Branch with a good perspective from those outside our membership.

### **MID-WINTER MEETING COMMITTEE**

NICHOLAS CANN

The Mid-Winter Meeting was held in Regina on February 4 and 5, 2016 and was a great success. Attendees were treated to distinguished speakers, instructive PD sessions, and socializing with friends and colleagues.

The meeting opened Thursday morning with an update from Justice Minister Gordon Wyant, QC. A concise yet informative discussion of labour arbitration in Saskatchewan was offered during the W.R. (Bob) Pelton Memorial Lecture. Mr. Justice Brown of the Supreme Court of Canada presented on Friday morning on causation, resulting in revisions to more than one Pre-Trial Brief. The Closing Plenary was a discussion on advocacy from the decision maker's perspective with Chief Justice Popescul, Justice Ryan-Froslie, and Kenneth Love, QC.

The PD sessions were varied, allowing attendees to hear presentations on criminal law, real estate, wills, family law, contract law, and advocacy. After a full day of being immersed in education and ethics credits, attendees and guests enjoyed live jazz music, appetizers, door prizes, and more than one Old Fashioned at The Capitol.

The Mid-Winter Meeting would not be possible without the generous support of this years' exhibitors and sponsors: Ashmeade & Low; Canadian Bar Insurance Association / CBA Financial; Do Process Software; Information Services Corporation; McKercher LLP; PotashCorp; Regina Bar Association; Gerrand Rath Johnson LLP; Leland Kimpinski LLP; MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman LLP; Olive Waller Zinkhan Waller LLP; SaskTel; Stewart Title Guaranty Company; Virtus Group LLP; Brunsdon Junor Johnson Appraisals; Globe Printers; LawyerDoneDeal Corp.; AJEFS; ChildView Inc.; Court Call; Crowe & MacKay; First Canadian Title; Law Society of Saskatchewan Libraries; Public Legal Education Association; Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan; SaskTel; Stewart Title Guaranty Company; TitlePlus; University of Saskatchewan, College of Law; and VoicePro Technologies Inc.

I would like to thank the 2016 Mid-Winter Meeting Planning Committee for their dedication and hard work putting this year's program together.

Be sure to mark your calendars and save the date for next year's Mid-Winter Meeting in Saskatoon on February 2 and 3, 2017!

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**CHAIR** Nicholas Cann MCKERCHER LLP

#### **CLE PROGRAM**

Azure-Dee Ashton SASKPOWER CORP. Angela Eiffert INFORMATION SERVICES CORP. Jana Linner MACPHERSON LESLIE & TYERMAN LLP Neil Robertson, QC

#### **SOCIAL EVENTS**

Jeremy Ellergodt MCKERCHER LLP Will Egan SASKTEL

#### **BRANCH SUPPORT**

Brenda Hesje Kayla Stuckart

### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

GAIL WARTMAN, QC



Pursuant to Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch Bylaw 13(2), the Nominating Committee has submitted the following slate of candidates to the Executive Director. Bylaw 13(2) states, "The Nominating Committee shall submit to the Executive Director not less than forty-five (45) days before the day fixed for the Annual Meeting of the Branch, a report setting out the names of those nominated by the Committee for election to the positions outlined in Bylaw 13(1)(c) and (d), which shall be submitted to the Annual Meeting for approval, and if members at the Annual Meeting so desire, they may nominate other candidates, and if other candidates are nominated, an election shall be held according to the procedure established at the Annual Meeting." The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the names of the following persons for offices of the Branch for the next annual period, September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017.

#### **BRANCH COMMITTEES**

- Awards: Terry Kimpinski, QC
- Judicial Compensation & Benefits: Neil Robertson, QC
- Legislation and Law Reform Review: Kathryn Gilliss
- Membership: Loreley Berra
- Mid-Winter Meeting: Charmaine Panko
- Nominating: Sharon Pratchler, QC
- Pro Bono: Brenda Yuen
- Professional Image: Christopher Weitzel
- Queen's Counsel: Sharon Pratchler, QC
- Resolutions, Constitution & Bylaws: Robert Thornton, QC

#### **JUDICIARY REPRESENTATIVES**

- · Court of Appeal for Saskatchewan: Chief Justice Robert Richards
- · Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan: Justice Ron Mills
- Provincial Court of Saskatchewan: Judge Pat Reis

#### **ABORIGINAL LIAISON**

• Kathy Hodgson-Smith

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAIR Gail Wartman, QC MCDOUGALL GAULEY LLP

Megan Dolo FARM CREDIT CANADA

Kylie Head, QC SASK. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

Reché McKeague SASK. REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

Sharon Pratchler, QC SASK. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

### **PRO BONO COMMITTEE**

NICOLE SARAUER



The CBA Saskatchewan Pro Bono Committee continued to work to facilitate and promote pro bono work in a variety of ways over the past year. A brief summary of these activities follows:

#### **BARNOTES ARTICLES**

A Pro Bono Spotlight piece is regularly submitted for publication in *BARNOTES*. The idea behind this column is to promote pro bono work within the province and also to provide information and resources to lawyers engaged in providing pro bono services.

#### **PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS AND OUTREACH**

Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan carries the mandate of improving access to justice through the work of pro bono legal services throughout the province. Over this past year, PBLS has expanded services, reaching out to more individuals in need through a growing roster of volunteer lawyers. Of particular note, in the fall of 2015 PBLS partnered with Pro Bono Law Alberta to offer a full day legal clinic to individuals in Lloydminster, helping to service an area traditionally under-assisted by both organizations. It was so successful that a similar clinic was held again in the spring of 2016, with more clinics planned for the future.

Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan is grateful to CBA Saskatchewan for providing funding for PBLS's Disbursement Fund, helping to eliminate traditional barriers to pro bono volunteer work.

Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan, in partnership with the Law Society of Saskatchewan awarded Janice Gingell with the annual Pro Bono Service Award in recognition for her outstanding pro bono contributions to the province, and for her work with CLASSIC in Saskatoon in particular.

#### NATIONAL PRO BONO COMMITTEE

The Committee Chair continues to be involved with the National Pro Bono Committee and was sitting as the Chair of the Committee until stepping down this past spring of 2016. Currently the committee is involved in initiatives to reduce barriers to pro bono delivery nationwide.

The Committee Chair is pleased with the progress seen in promoting access to justice issues and the need for pro bono services over the past year in Saskatchewan. Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan has seen a steady increase of volunteers from Saskatchewan lawyers, which allows Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan to serve more clients each year.

Thank you to the lawyers who volunteer their time as well as to CBA Saskatchewan for the financial assistance it provides the disbursement fund, which covers out of pocket expenses for lawyers taking on pro bono files.

### **PROFESSIONAL IMAGE COMMITTEE**

CHRISTOPHER WEITZEL



Law Day 2016 was Thursday, April 14. Events celebrating the signing of Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms took place across Canada. Here in Saskatchewan we had the opportunity to engage and inform the public about the Charter and various aspects of the justice system with a variety of events throughout the month.

#### **CROMWELL LUNCHEON**

#### APRIL 6TH

Together with the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, we brought back the Law Day Luncheon! On April 6th, we hosted Justice Cromwell, who offered some reflections on the current state of access to legal services.

#### **MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION**

#### APRIL 16

The Mock Trial Competition recreates the dramatic centre of the justice system by allowing high school students to play roles in trial, including prosecutor, defence counsel and witness. This year saw 6 teams compete at the Saskatoon Queen's Bench Court House, with St. Mary High School from Prince Albert taking home the McKercher Cup!

#### **RUN FOR THE LAW FUN RUN**

#### APRIL 16

Over \$4,100 was raised in support of CLASSIC and the Native Law Centre. Our Saskatoon Fun Run, sponsored by MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman saw over 35 people in attendance.

#### LYNN SMITH MEMORIAL RUN

#### APRIL 23

Over \$3,000 was raised for Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan, as family and friends gathered in Regina for the 3rd annual Lynn Smith Memorial, held in honour of Lynn Smith, QC. Lynn was a strong CBA supporter and Past-President of CBA Saskatchewan. He was an avid runner and a partner at McDougall Gauley LLP, sponsor of the event.

#### **MULTIMEDIA CONTESTS**

This event provides an opportunity for Grade 5 - 8 students to learn and demonstrate an understanding of the rights of Canadians through visual arts and written/verbal works. This year the contest focused on section 2 of the Charter. Submissions were on display April 16th at the Court of Queen's Bench (Saskatoon) during the Mock Trial Competition. Over 60 submissions were received, with 4 individuals each taking home a \$50 cash prize.

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS



#### CHAIR Christopher Weitzel SASK. GOVERNMENT INSURANCE

#### MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

Andrew Dickson THE W LAW GROUP

#### LAW DAY FAIR

Bonnie Reddekopp CJC & CO LLP

Charmaine Panko PANKO COLLABORATIVE LAW & MEDIATION

#### MULTIMEDIA CONTEST

Megan Lorenz MCDOUGALL GAULEY LLP

#### CROMWELL LUNCHEON

Neil Robertson, QC

#### **FUN RUNS**

Tom Baldry MACPHERSON LESLIE & TYERMAN LLLP Andrea Johnson

MILLER THOMSON LLP

#### **BRANCH SUPPORT**

Brenda Hesje

#### **LEGAL RESOURCES FAIR**

APRIL 14 & APRIL 17

In partnership with the Regina Public Library and Saskatoon Public Library, we co-hosted a Legal Resources Fair on April 14th in Regina and on April 17th in Saskatoon. These events provide an opportunity for the public to learn about the application of law and gain some awareness about legal practice in Canada. There were a number of displays and legal presentation by a wide array of community and governmental legal services organizations.

#### LAW IN YOUR LIFE

Hosted in partnership with PLEA, the Regina Public Library and Saskatoon Public Library, this program provided the public with a series of informative legal sessions hosted by volunteer lawyers throughout April.

#### LAW IN FILM

Hosted at the Regina Public Library Film Theatre, this event featured historical legal films shown throughout April.

Thanks to the generous support of all our Law Day sponsors - MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman LLP, McDougall Gauley LLP, McKercher LLP, Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice, The W Law Group, Thomson Jaspar & Associates and WMCZ Lawyers. And special thanks to those who came out to support our Law Day events and to the hard work of our Law Day Planning Committee.

### **RESOLUTIONS, CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS**

ROBERT THORNTON, QC



As the Branch Bylaws were reviewed and amended in 2014, the Branch Executive Committee and the Resolutions, Constitution and Bylaws Committee have not undertaken a review of the Bylaws this year.

Since the 2015 Annual Meeting, there have been no resolutions of Branch Council other than customary motions approving the Branch budget, Council Meeting Minutes and Council Meeting agendas.

Respectfully submitted this 30th day of May, 2016.



# **BRANCH SECTIONS** 2015/2016

### **ADMIN & LABOUR LAW NORTH**

ROBERT FROST-HEINZ



This year the Administrative & Labour Law North section held four luncheon meetings. Attendance ranged from ten to twelve per meeting.

The section Vice Chair, Kit McGuinness, attended the National Section Meetings in Ottawa, Ontario this year. I was pleased to have Kit come on as Vice Chair of the section for 2015/2016, and he will assume the role of Chair of the section for next year. We were also pleased to have Brent Matkowski agree to serve as Secretary for the 2015/16 term. Brent will occupy the Vice Chair spot in the coming year.

#### **2015/2016 MEETINGS**

• September 15, 2015

"Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission – Update on Directed Mediation" with Scott Newell, Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission

• October 20, 2015

"Employment Standards Update and Primer" with Glen McCrorie, Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety, Employment Standards Division

• November 17, 2015

"Update on the Saskatchewan Labour Relations Board" with Kenneth Love, QC, Saskatchewan Labour Relations Board

• March 16, 2016

"Dispute Resolution at the Labour Relations Mediation Office" with Pete Suderman, Ministry of Labour Relations and Workplace Safety, Labour Relations and Mediation

I have enjoyed the opportunity to serve as Chair of this section, and would take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the speakers, for their time and expertise in presenting to our group, as well as our section members whose attendance and participation make the section possible.

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE



Robert Frost-Heinz MACPHERSON LESLIE & TYERMAN LLP

#### **VICE CHAIR**

Kit McGuinness MILLER THOMSON LLP

#### SECRETARY

Brent Matkowski MACPHERSON LESLIE & TYERMAN LLP

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

Robert Frost-Heinz MACPHERSON LESLIE & TYERMAN LLP

### **ADMIN & LABOUR LAW SOUTH**

RONNI NORDAL



I am pleased to submit my first annual report as Chair of the Admin & Labour Law South section. My fellow executive members are Vice Chair Heather Robertson and Secretary Lynn Sanya.

I am also pleased to advise that the 2015/2016 section year was a success for our section. Though we are small in numbers, we were mighty in projects and in achieving goals.

#### **2015/2016 MEETINGS**

Our section held 6 lunch meetings with presentations by:

- Joanne Moser: Chair, City of Regina Board of Revision
- Kenneth Love, QC: Chair, Saskatchewan Labour Relations Board
- Minister Don Morgan: Labour Relations & Workplace Safety .
- Madam Justice J. McMurtry: Court of Queen's Bench •
- Peter Suderman: Executive Director, Labour Relations & Mediation
- Greg Fingas: Gerrand Rath Johnson LLP .

The final session of 2015/2016 was a joint meeting with the Privacy & Access Law South section and the two sections are planning on combining again in 2016/2017.

A crowning achievement for our section was hosting the 2016 Administrative Law Spring Outreach Event, sponsored by the CBA National Admin Law Section. A planning group - consisting of Juliana Saxberg, Neil Robertson, QC, Jana Stettner and myself - organized an event for CBA members, lawyers and administrative tribunal members from across the provincee. With almost 80 attendees and a day full of 4 informative panels consisting of practitioners, decisions makers and Court of Qeen's Bench and Court of Appeal Justices, the April 25th event was a highlight of the year.

Planning for 2016/2017 is ongoing and we hope to increase membership and attendance in our section.

#### SECTION **EXECUTIVE**



### **RICHMOND NYCHUK LLP**

#### **VICE CHAIR**

Heather Robertson GERRAND RATH JOHNSON LLP

#### SECRETARY

Lynn Sanya **REGINA QU'APPELLE HEALTH REGION** 

#### **LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP**

Ronni Nordal RICHMOND NYCHUK LLP

### **BUSINESS LAW NORTH**

DEREK HOFFMAN



The section had a successful roster of presentations during the 2015/2016 schedule. Many thanks to the speakers who volunteer their time and expertise to impart their knowledge on our members.

#### 2015/2016 MEETINGS

#### • September 23, 2016

"Purchase and Sale of a Business – Employment Issues" with Shannon Whyley, MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman LLP

#### • October 28, 2015

Joint Meeting with Securities Law North - "Role of the Corporate Secretary in Private and Public Companies" with Patricia Warsaba, McKercher LLP

#### • November 25, 2015

Joint Meeting with Aboriginal Law North - "On Reserve Lending & Financing" with Aaron Starr, McKercher LLP

#### • January 27, 2016

Joint Meeting with Canadian Corporate Counsel North - "Essential Contract Clauses That Are Sometimes Overlooked or Misunderstood" with

Dan Anderson, MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman LLP

#### • February 24, 2016

"The Business of Justice Innovation: Making Access to Justice Work for Business Clients" with Glen Gardner, Ministry of Justice

• March 23, 2016 "Business Valuations" with Nadine Wightman, MNP

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE

#### CHAIR

Derek Hoffman MACPHERSON LESLIE & TYERMAN LLP

#### **VICE CHAIR**

Christopher Porter MCKERCHER LLP

#### SECRETARY

Jacqueline Shaw MCDOUGALL GAULEY LLP

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

Derek Hoffman MACPHERSON LESLIE & TYERMAN LLP

### **CANADIAN CORPORATE COUNSEL NORTH**

BRYAN AUGÉ



The Canadian Corporate Counsel Association (CCCA) North section had another successful year with six lunch and learn sessions held this year (as listed below). Attendance ranged from 5 – 15 attendees per meeting.

I attended the CCCA National meetings (2 in person) this year as the non-voting delegate from Saskatchewan and will transition to the voting delegate from Saskatchewan next year.

This is my first year acting as Chair of the section, and will hold the position for another year before transitioning to my Vice Chair, Jeff Benjamin of Canpotex Ltd.

#### 2015/2016 MEETINGS

- October 21, 201 "Environmental Law Update - Allocating Environmental Risk in Light of Legislative Changes" with Chris Masich, McKercher LLP
- November 18, 2015
   "Leading Practices for the Progressive Law Department" with Richard Stock, Catalyst Consulting
- January 27, 2016
   Joint session with Business Law North "Essential Contract Clauses that are Overlooked or Misunderstood " with Dan Anderson, MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman LLP
- February 17, 2016
   "Impact Benefit Agreements and Collaboration with Aboriginal Groups" with Jamie Dickson, Des Nedhe Development
- March 16, 2016
   "Corporate Compliance & Ethics Programs" with Angela Giroux, PotashCorp
- April 20, 2016
   "Alternative Legal Careers: Panel Discussion" with Eric Cline, K

+ S Potash, Leanne Bellegard, PotashCorp, and Leah Howie, Law Reform Commission

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE



CHAIR Bryan Augé CAMECO CORPORATION

#### **VICE CHAIR**

Jeff Benjamin CANPOTEX LTD.

#### SECRETARY

Erin Eccleston CAMECO CORPORATION

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

Bryan Augé CAMECO CORPORATION

### **CANADIAN CORPORATE COUNSEL SOUTH**

VALERIE MACDONALD



The section had another successful year with six section meetings held over the course of 2015/2016. Canadian Corporate Consel Association (CCCA) South hosted five "Lunch and Learn" sessions and one social event. The luncheon sessions were generally well-attended with approximately 15 to 20 participants on average.

The Section Executive for 2016/2017 are: Section Chair – Azure-Dee Ashton, SaskPower Corporation; Section Vice-Chair – Jamie Patterson, SaskTel; Section Secretary and Legislative and Law Reform Committee Representative– Kenneth Ring QC, Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Incoming CCCA South Chair, Azure-Dee Ashton, and continuing CCCA North Chair, Brian Augé, will act as provincial representatives on the 2016/ 2017 CCCA National Executive Committee. The CCCA North and South Chairs alternate as the voting member from Saskatchewan. Mr. Augé will have the Saskatchewan voting position in 2016/2017.

#### **2015/2016 MEETINGS**

• September 16, 2015

"Annual Kick-Off Reception and Section Planning Meeting" with Jamie Patterson, graduate of the CCCA, Certified In-House Counsel Program

- October 8, 2015 "General Counsel's Role in Crisis Situations" with Rachelle Verret Morphy, SaskPower Corporation
- November 19, 2015
   "Leading Practices for a Progressive Law Department" with Richard Stock, Catalyst Consulting
- January 21, 2016

"Topical Issues for In-House Counsel: Significant Transactions; Good Faith and Contractual Performance; and CASL – Computer Program Installation Provisions" with Glen Lekach and Peter Bergbusch, Miller Thomson LLP

- March 17, 2016
   "Electronic Records and Managing Electronic Files" with Randy Brunet, MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman LLP
- April 21, 2016
   "Corporate Social Responsibility: One Corporation's Story" with

Greg Willner and Brenda Stasuik, Farm Credit Canada

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE



#### VICE-CHAIR

Azure-Dee Ashton SASKPOWER CORPORATION

#### SECRETARY

Jamie Patterson SASKTEL

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

Jamie Patterson SASKTEL

### **ENVIRONMENTAL & RESOURCES LAW SOUTH**

JONATHAN KALMAKOFF & ANGELA STOLZ





The Saskatchewan Environmental & Resources Law Section scheduled 6 luncheon meetings in the 2015/2016 year. Legislative, regulatory and case law developments are listed in detail at the end of this report.

#### 2015/2016 MEETINGS

- September 24, 2015
   "Supply Planning in the Saskatchewan Electricity Sector" with Guy Bruce, SaskPower
- October 8, 2015)
   "The Environment Today" with The Honourable Cam Sawn, Deputy Minister of Environment
- *January 28, 2016* "Toxic Torts" with C. Beth Hardy, SaskPower
- February 25, 2016
   "Duty to Consult in Mineral Exploration & Development" with James Fyfe, Saskatchewan Government, Ministry of Justice Public Law, Aboriginal Law
- March 24, 2016) "EMPA 2010 Enacted and Saskatchewan Environmental Code Chapters Now in Effect" with Randy King, Saskatchewan Justice, Counsel to the Ministry of Environment
- April 28, 2015
   "Environmental Insurance" with George Boire, Environmental Practice Leader, Marsh Canada Limited.

#### SECTION MEMBERSHIP

The Saskatchewan Environmental and Resources Law South section had 8 full members and 4 noticeonly members, for a total of 12 members, in the 2015/2016 year.

#### **LEGISLATIVE & REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS**

The following legislative and regulatory developments occurred in the 2015/2016 year:

• Environmental Management and Protection Act, 2010 S.S. 2010, c. E-10.22 (proclaimed June 1, 2015)

#### **CASE LAW DEVELOPMENTS**

The following environmental case law was reported during the 2015/2016 year:

- Boart Longyear Inc. v. Mudjatik Enterprises Inc. 2016 SKCA 22
- Environmental law Environmental liability Civil litigation Appeals Miscellaneous grounds Appeal by Boart Longyear Inc. ("Boart") from Chambers decision dismissing

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE

#### **CO-CHAIR** Jonathan Kalmakoff SASKPOWER CORPORATION

#### **CO-CHAIR** Angela Stolz

MCDOUGALL GAULEY LLP

VICE CHAIR Vacant

SECRETARY

Vacant

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

Jonathan Kalmakoff SASKPOWER CORPORATION application to amend statement of claim to add new cause of action dismissed — Claim was for damage to equipment and business losses as result of flood — Chambers judge appropriately concluded that it was plain and obvious that Boart's proposed claim had no reasonable chance of success — In order to bring itself within cause of action of s. 15(3)(a) (i) of the *Environmental Management and Protection Act*, it was necessary for Boart to plead that corporate defendants' actions caused adverse effect on environment or harm to human health and alleged facts necessary to support that — *The Environmental Management and Protection Act*, s. 15(3)(a)(i).

- Roberts Properties Inc. v. Saskatchewan Power Corp. 2016 SKCA 31
- Civil litigation Civil procedure Pleadings Striking out pleadings or allegations Grounds False, frivolous, vexatious or abuse of process Costs When not awarded Appeal by Roberts from order striking claim against SaskPower and three cities dismissed Roberts claimed basic service rates charged to bulk-metered properties were too high Uncontroverted evidence showed rate schedules were publicly available, set by statute, and superseded any common law duty on part of SaskPower to set reasonable rates Claims against cities for portion of overcharged fees remitted to them was derivative of claim against SaskPower and had no chance of success No costs should have been awarded Saskatchewan Court of Queen's Bench Rules, Rule 173.
- Natural resources law Public utilities Operation of utility Terms and conditions of service Collection
  of rates and charges Appeal by Roberts from order striking claim against SaskPower and three cities
  dismissed Roberts claimed basic service rates charged to bulk-metered properties were too high —
  Uncontroverted evidence showed rate schedules were publicly available, set by statute, and superseded
  any common law duty on part of SaskPower to set reasonable rates Claims against cities for portion of
  overcharged fees remitted to them was derivative of claim against SaskPower and had no chance of success
   No costs should have been awarded Power Corporation Act, s. 8.

### FAMILY LAW NORTH

DEBORAH GILES



The Family Law North section hosted five luncheons between September, 2015 and May, 2016.

On September 24th, 2015 a local lawyer, Sheri Woods spoke on practical advice and developments in the area of independent legal representation of children and youth. Three pieces of legislation have recently been amended in our jurisdiction to deal with the issue of counsel for children, namely *The Queen's Bench Act, The Provincial Court Act,* and *The Public Guardian and Trustee Act.* 

On October 26th, 2015 in a joint Family Law North and Aboriginal Law North meeting we had Chris Angeconeb from Ottawa discuss *The Family Homes on Reserves and Matrimonial Interests of Rights Act.* The discussion centered around the impact on family property litigation in the context of a family home being located on a reserve in light of this relatively new legislation.

In our third meeting of the year on November 26th, 2015 we had the Honourable Justice Gwen V. Goebel (who is also a former Chair of the Family Law Section in Saskatoon). She spoke to us regarding a view from the bench on notable substantive and procedural matters.

On February 25th, 2016 we had Nadine Wightman, who is a chartered Business Valuator speak to us on disclosure requirements so that proper valuations can be performed and use the appropriate valuation ie: liquidation method vs. going concern method based on the type of business.

On March 24th, 2016 Gregory Walen, QC, spoke on the Spousal Support Advisory Guidelines and the changing landscape with respect to how our court is utilizing them.

We have an exciting program planned for the 2016/2017 year with all new topics and engaging speakers!

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE

#### CHAIR Deborah Giles

SCHARFSTEIN GIBBINGS WALEN FISHER LLP

#### **VICE CHAIR**

Samantha J. Neill SCHARFSTEIN GIBBINGS WALEN FISHER LLP

#### SECRETARY

Leslie G. Tallis SCHARFSTEIN GIBBINGS WALEN FISHER LLP

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

Deborah L. Giles SCHARFSTEIN GIBBINGS WALEN FISHER LLP

### **FAMILY LAW SOUTH**

**KENDRA JACOBS** 



This section deals with law and practice relating to the family unit, relationships between members of the family and the family and society, and matters related thereto; the establishment, jurisdiction, procedure and organization of the courts and other tribunals dealing with these matters, and the practice of the lawyers before such courts and tribunals.

#### 2015/2016 MEETINGS

#### • September 24, 2015

"Access to Justice, Discussion with the Ministry of Justice" with Glenn Gardner, Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice

• October 22, 2015

"Costs in Family Law Matters" with Justice R.W. Elson, Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan

- November 26, 2015
   "Dispute Resolution Office New Initiatives" with Gina Alexander and Robbie Behr
- January 28, 2016
   "Family Law Pre-trial Conferences What Works and What Doesn't" with Justice J.A. Tholl, Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan
- March 24, 2016
   "Chambers Practice at the Court of Appeal" with Justice G.R. Jackson, Saskatchewan Court of Appeal
- April 21, 2016
   "Flat Fee Billing" with Gregory Walen, QC, Scharfstein Gibbings Walen Fisher LLP

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE

CHAIR Kendra Jacobs GERRAND RATH JOHNSON

#### VICE-CHAIR

David Couture KANUKA THURINGER LLP

SECRETARY

Vacant

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

Kendra Jacobs GERRAND RATH JOHNSON

### **PUBLIC SECTOR & MUNICIPAL LAW SOUTH**

STEVEN DRIBNENKI



The Public Sector and Municipal Law South section held six luncheon meetings per year in Regina. Guest speakers address topics of interest to members of the Section. The section combines the areas of public sector and municipal law, so the Executive focuses on topics of interest to lawyers in both of these areas of practice.

#### 2015/2016 MEETINGS

#### September 22, 2015

"Introducing SUMA and SARM: What We Do" with Steven Dribnenki, Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association, and Andrew Svenson, Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities

SUMA and SARM representatives discussed the role these organizations have for their municipal members and the province.

• October 27, 2015

"P3s, Procurement, & Provincial Partnerships: Update on Tendering and Trade Agreements" with Chris Hambleton and Theo Litowski, Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice

An update on procurement practices by the province and the New West Partnership Trade Agreement.

• November 24, 2015

"The Changing Environment: Managing Contaminated and Abandoned Sites under the New Environmental Code" with Jeff Paterson, Ministry of Environment

Update on the new Environmental Code proclaimed on June 2015, results-based regulations, and the orphaned environmentally impacted site fund.

• January 26, 2016

"The Role of Reeve & Lessons Learned" with Neil Robetson, QC

Reflections by interim appointed reeve of the Rural Municipality of Sherwood on serving on council

• February 23, 2016

"The Aftermath of the Sherwood Inquiry: Conflict of Interest Issues" with Honourable Jim Reiter, Min. of Gov. Relations

The minister discussed the inquiry into allegations involving the Rural Municipality of Sherwood and resulting legislative amendments.

March 22, 2016

"Dealing with Self-Represented Litigants and Sovereign Persons" with Tom Irvine, QC, and Chrystal Atchison

Discussion on municipal and provincial encounters with difficult selfrepresented litigants and the sovereign persons' movements.

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE



#### CHAIR

Steven Dribnenki SUMA

#### **VICE CHAIR**

Leanne Lang SASK. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

#### SECRETARY

Jayne Krueger REGINA CIRTY SOLICITORS OFFICE

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

Tom Irvine, QC SASK. MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

### **REAL PROPERTY & WILLS SOUTH**

MARC KELLY



Our Section had looked into splitting into two groups: (1) Real Property and (2) Wills and Estates. We sent out a survey to our members and they indicated that there was not enough support to have two separate sections. As such, we left it as one section.

#### 2015/2016 MEETINGS

• October 19, 2015 "Business Transition Planning" with Allison Anderson, SuccessionMatching.com

- November 16, 2015 "The Condominium Property Act, 1993 amendments" with Marc Kelly, Kanuka Thuringer LLP
- January 18, 2016
   "Tax Implications of Owning Foreign Property" with Asma Gehlen, MNP
- February 22, 2016
   "Q&A Session Regarding New Builds in the City of Regina" with Stephan Germann, City of Regina
- April 18, 2016
   "Update from the Association of Regina Realtors" with Gord Archibald, Association of Regina Realtors

Law Reform Commission of Saskatchewan has prepared some consultation papers with respect to *The Homestead Act,* 1989 and *The Intestate Succession Act,* 1996. The Commission is planning to come to one of the meetings in the fall of 2016 to present on the papers.

The Law Society of Saskatchewan is currently joining with the Law Societies of Alberta and Manitoba in the initial stages of consultation on the principles of compliance-based entity regulation and how they can be applied in the law practice setting and jurisdiction. They are also including a broad discussion about the use of Alternate Business Structures. This could have a potential impact the profession in the area of real estate and estates. This matter is just in the early stages of consultation and question and answer.

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE

#### CHAIR Marc Kelly KANUKA THURINGER LLP

#### **VICE CHAIR**

Jeff Norwig MCDOUGALL GAULEY LLP

#### SECRETARY

Lynsey Gaudin MACPHERSON LESLIE & TYERMAN LLP

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

Lindsay Oliver OLIVE WALLER ZINKHAN WALLER LLP

### **SECURITIES LAW NORTH**

JOSEPH GILL



Securities Law North held six lunch sessions during the 2015-2016 year. Our goal for the 2015/2016 year was to focus on a number of relevant securities law topics which had not been discussed in presentations in prior years. We wanted to provide our members with the opportunity to hear useful practice advice from senior lawyers as well as to obtain insight into new and emerging forms of raising capital.

#### 2015/2016 MEETINGS

• September 9, 2015

"Regulatory developments on advance notice bylaws" with Elizabeth Nash, Robertson Stromberg LLP

#### October 14, 2015

"Overview of best practices and practical insights when working with geologists and other professionals in securities transactions" with Danny Anderson, MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman LLP

• November 25, 2015

"Discussion on the role of the corporate secretary in private and public companies as well as best practices when serving in that role" with Patricia Warsaba, McKercher LLP

• February 10, 2016

"Update on recent regulatory developments relating to equity crowdfunding" with Alixe Cormick, Venture Law Corporation

• March 9, 2016

"Overview of U.S. securities regulation with a particular focus towards Canada-U.S. cross-border transactions" with Guy P. Lander, Carter Ledyard & Milburn LLP (New York)

• April 13, 2016

"Summary of recent regulatory developments and updates on the regulatory activities of the Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority of Saskatchewan" with Sonne Udembga, Securities Division, Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority of Saskatchewan

#### **POLICY DEVELOPMENTS**

The Securities Law North Section did not recommend or take any policy positions this year.

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE

#### **CHAIR** Joseph Gill

MCKERCHER LLP

#### **VICE CHAIR**

Michael Wright ROBERTSON STROMBERG LLP

#### SECRETARY

Katrina Wagner MACPHERSON LESLIE & TYERMAN LLP

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

Joseph Gill MCKERCHER LLP





The Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity Community (SOGIC) Forum was established to address the needs and concerns of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and two-spirited members within the Association; provide a forum for the exchange of information, ideas and action on legal issues relating to sexual orientation and gender identity; encourage lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and two-spirited lawyers to actively participate in the work of the Association; develop and provide continuing legal education and other professional development programs on legal issues relating to sexual orientation and gender identity; and develop member services relevant to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and two-spirited members of the Association.

#### **SECTION ACTIVITIES**

This year SOGIC presented a continuing legal education session on February 5th at the Mid-Winter meeting entitled "Gender Identity, Gender Expression, and the Law." Over the past number of years, transgender people have become more visible than ever before. Celebrities like Caitlyn Jenner and Laverne Cox have brought transgender people further into the realm of public consciousness. Notwithstanding this increased visibility, those whose gender identity or expression do not meet stereotypes based on their sex/gender assigned at birth continue to face not only misunderstanding, but social marginalization, harassment and violence. Tribunals, courts, governments, policy makers, and institutions have been increasingly called upon to apply legal, regulatory, and human rights frameworks to issues of gender identity and expression, and new developments are occurring at a breakneck pace. These developments are having an impact in a variety of areas including human rights, employment law, corrections policy, citizenship and immigration, the provision of government services, vital statistics, and health care. This session provided a broad overview of this dynamic area of the law. Nicole Nussbaum, national chair of SOGIC, presented.

Our Chair attended the National SOGIC meeting in Toronto on April 29 and 30, 2016, and reported on section activities and relevant legal developments in Saskatchewan.

Although there will be no regularly scheduled luncheon meetings, SOGIC will plan a number of meetings on relevant topics for the upcoming year. We also plan to present a continuing legal education session at the next Mid-Winter Meeting.

SOGIC is interested in partnering with other sections to have luncheon meetings on shared areas of interest.

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE

#### **CHAIR** David Culleton JUSTICE CANADA

VICE CHAIR

Vacant

#### SECRETARY

Vacant

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

David Culleton JUSTICE CANADA

### WILLS, ESTATE & ELDER LAW NORTH

HANNAH KAZMAN

The Wills, Estates and Elder Law North section deals with law and practice relating to will, trusts, estates and their administration and matters including taxes and duties related thereto; the jurisdiction, procedure and organization of courts dealing with the foregoing matters, the establishment of such courts, and the practice of lawyers before such courts. The objectives of the Elder Law section are tri-fold: (i) to improve the law affecting seniors; (ii) to educate the public, the individual Bars, the Judiciary and members of the Association on important Elder Law issues; and (iii) to foster professionalism in the practice of Elder Law through communication among Elder Law practitioners.

We are pleased to report that we had many successful and insightful presentations for the 2015/2016 year. Our sessions were held on the third Thursday of the month at the Saskatoon Club and well-attended by full section members and roving members.

#### 2015/2016 MEETINGS

• October 22, 2015

"The Intersection of Family Law and Estates" with Sean Sinclair, Robertson Stromberg LLP

- February 18, 2016
   "Executor Insurance Mitigating Risk on Estate Files" with Jane Tracogna and Seleena Reid, Erasure Insurance
- March 17, 2016
   "When Capacity Issues and Real Estate Transactions Collide" with Connie den Hollander, Knott den Hollander
- April 21, 2016
   "Drafting Intersposual Contracts for the Golden Years" with Marilyn Penner, WMCZ Lawyers
- May 19, 2016
   "Beneficiary Designations: Insurance, Pensions, RRSP's & Wills Perspectives and Impacts" with Terry McBride, Raymond James Ltd

There are several sessions already planned for the 2016/2017 year. Our executive for 2016/2017 will see Jan King return to her position as chair of the Wills Estates & Elder Law North section and we are currently looking for a Vice-Chair and Secretary for the upcoming season.

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE

#### CHAIR

Hannah Kazman WMCZ LAWYERS

#### **VICE CHAIR**

Jan King WMCZ LAWYERS

#### SECRETARY

Vacant

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

Hannah Kazman WMCZ LAWYERS

### WOMEN LAWYERS FORUM NORTH

MICHELLE OUELLETTE, QC



The Women Lawyers Forum North has a small but enthusiastic membership, often joined by those with Roving Section Memberships. Our meetings generally include experienced practitioners and newer members of the Bar. In 2015/2016 we met for four meetings, three of which took place in the evening, and one at noon. The group has decided that we will try alternating noon and evening meetings to accommodate the personal circumstances of as many people as possible.

#### 2015/2016 MEETINGS

• October, 2015

Our invited guest was Ijeoma Udemgba, Executive Director of International Women of Saskatoon. Ijeoma spoke to our group on the topic of "Challenges Facing Immigrant and Refugee Women in Saskatoon". This topic was timely given the Refugee crisis.

• November 2015

We hosted a presentation on "How to say No!" by Life and Career Coach, Angela Marshall, which was very well received.

• December 2015

December's meeting was a very valuable discussion on "Business and Marketing Strategy – Safe and Effective Use of Social Media", lead by Kathee Le of Refresh Inc.

• March 2016

In March, Caroline Gorsalitz, Vice-President Corporate Development and Legal Affairs, Cameco Corporation presented "Incorporating Leadership into your Personal Brand", in a session that drew raves from attendees.

• April 2016

April brought us "An Overview of the Domestic Violence Court & Domestic Violence Court Case Worker Program" by Matt Miazga, Crown Prosecutor, and Roseann Morphy, Domestic Violence Court Case Worker.

• *June 2016* A year-end social and brain-storming event closed off a busy year.

The WLF has an ambitious list of potential topics for the 2016/2017 season. While the program has not been finalized our discussions will generally be on topics geared toward women in the legal profession.

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE

#### **CHAIR** Michelle Ouellette, QC MCKERCHER LLP

VICE CHAIR

Vacant

#### SECRETARY

Terri Uhrich K + S POTASH CANADA

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

Michelle Ouellette, QC MCKERCHER LLP

### **YOUNG LAWYERS NORTH**

MIKE BUCHINSKI



Young Lawyers North meets monthly between October and April as a way for lawyers to promote camaraderie among junior lawyers in professional and social activities. These activities foster discussion and interchange of ideas relative to the duties, responsibility and problems of junior lawyers, aid and promote advancement of junior lawyers, and encourage their interest and participation in activities of the Canadian Bar Association.

This year's section meetings were held at our traditional location at the Saskatoon Club over the noon hour and we focussed on inviting speakers to speak about topics and issues important to Young Lawyers. The CBA classifies lawyers under 40 with under 10 years of practice experience as Young Lawyers.

#### **2015/2016 MEETINGS**

- October 8, 2015
   "Navigating Trust Conditions"
   Nolan Dooley, McDougall Gauley, and Drew Pearson, McKercher
   LLP
- November 12, 2015
   "Managing Your Financial Health: Considerations for Young Professionals"
   Chris Lambris, TD Financial, and Murray Porubanec, Fidelity Investments
- February 11, 2016
   "Increasing Your Value: Incorporating Community Involvement into Practice"
   Charmaine Panko, Panko Collaborative Law & Mediation, and Michelle Ouellette, Q.C., McKercher LLP
- March 10, 2016
   "Advocacy: The View from the Other Side"
   The Honourable Mr. Justice B.J. Scherman, Court of Queen's Bench of Saskatchewan
- April 14, 2016
   "Incorporating Technology into a Legal Practice" Craig Zawada, Q.C., WMCZ Lawyers
- May 12, 2016
   "Happiness and Stress Management as a Young Lawyer"
   Marilyn Poitras, College of Law, University of Saskatchewan

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE

**CHAIR** Mike Buchinski BODNAR LAW

#### **VICE CHAIR**

Megan Lorenz MCDOUGALL GAULEY LLP

#### SECRETARY

Kelsey O'Brien MCKERCHER LLP

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

Mike Buchinski BODNAR LAW

### **YOUNG LAWYERS SOUTH**

CHRISTINA KERBY



This section was created to promote the activities and interest of young lawyers in the Association by: imposing responsibility at an early age; affording an opportunity of exchanging professional ideas among lawyers of similar age and experience; sponsoring programs of particular interest to young people including young lawyers, university or high school students; and the study of problems peculiar to the young lawyer.

The 2015/2016 CBA Young Lawyers South Section Executive was made up of Christina Kerby (Chair), Nicole Hamm (Vice-Chair), and Kristél Kriel (LLR Rep), however Nicole Hamm took over most of the Chair responsibilities due to Christina Kerby's relocation in January. The section meetings this year were all luncheons held at the Hotel Saskatchewan, in Regina. The Section was also pleased to see another Young Lawyers event in Regina titled "Using your Law Degree to Build Your Reputation, Stay Resilient and Earn Respect", in which speakers Meghan McCreary, MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman LLP, Valerie Macdonald, Farm Credit Canada & Sharon Pratchler, QC, Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice presented to a group of Young Lawyers during a lunch at Crave Kitchen and Wine Bar, Regina.

#### **2015/2016 MEETINGS**

- October 8, 2015
   "Financial Planning & Your Future" Nadège Koskamp and Amanda Roest, Investors Group
- November 12, 2015
   "Ethical Considerations for Young Lawyers"
   Valerie Payne, Complaints Counsel, The Law Society of Saskatchewan
- February 11, 2016
   "Mental Health Concerns for Lawyers"
   James Korpan, McDougall Gauley LLP & Nicole Sarauer, Pro Bono Law Saskatchewan
- March 10, 2016
   "Q & A with a Justice of the Court of Appeal for Saskatchewan" The Honourable Justice Neal Caldwell, Court of Appeal of Saskatchewan
- May 12, 2016
   "Future Regulation of the Profession"
   Perry Erhardt, QC, Olive Waller Zinkhan & Waller LLP

The Young Lawyers South section met five times from October to May to discuss various topics of interest to the group with a variety of speakers. This year we were very fortunate to have a wide range of fascinating speakers, including Mr. Justice Neal Caldwell of the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal.

#### SECTION EXECUTIVE



#### CHAIR Christina Kerby MACPHERSON LESLI

MACPHERSON LESLIE & TYERMAN LLP

#### **VICE CHAIR**

Nicole Hamm OLIVE WALLER ZINKHAN & WALLER LLP

#### SECRETARY

Nicole Hamm OLIVE WALLER ZINKHAN & WALLER LLP

#### LEGISLATION & LAW REFORM REP

Kristél Kriel MACPHERSON LESLIE & TYERMAN LLP



# **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** YEAR ENDED AUGUST 2015

# Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch

Financial Statements (Unaudited) August 31, 2015



December 23, 2015

#### **Review Engagement Report**

#### To the Members of Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch

We have reviewed the statement of financial position of Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch as at August 31, 2015 and the statements of operations, changes in fund balances and cash flows for the year then ended. Our review was made in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations for review engagements and accordingly, consisted primarily of inquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied to us by Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch.

A review does not constitute an audit and, consequently, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that these financial statements are not, in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations.

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Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP

**Chartered Professional Accountants** 

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP 128 4th Avenue South, Suite 600, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada S7K 1M8 T: +1 306 668 5900, F: +1 306 652 1315

"PwC" refers to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an Ontario limited liability partnership.

# Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch

Statement of Financial Position (Unaudited) As at August 31, 2015

	0	<b>o</b>	2015	2014
	General Fund	Sections Fund	Total	Total
	s	Fund \$	rotai \$	10tai \$
			·····	······
Assets				
Current assets				
Cash	135,696	-	135,696	132,934
Short-term investments (note 2)	42,732	-	42,732	40,377
Accounts receivable	4,270	-	4,270	3,327
Due from general fund	-	47,780	47,780	-
Prepaid expenses	1,500	-	1,500	-
	184,198	47,780	231,978	176,638
Investments (note 2)	229,268	41,372	270,640	263,885
Property, plant and equipment (note 3)	14,498		14,498	17,063
rioporty, plant and oquipmont (note o)			11,100	,000
	427,964	89,152	517,116	457,586
Liabilities and Fund Balances				
Current liabilities				
Accounts payable	-	-	-	2,513
Unearned revenue (note 4)	22,785	9,045	31,830	8,870
Due to sections fund	47,780	-	47,780	-
	70,565	9,045	79,610	11,383
Commitments (note 5)				
Fund balances				
Unrestricted	44,549	80,107	124,656	160,778
Internally restricted operating reserve	312,850		312,850	285,425
	357,399	80,107	437,506	446,203
	427,964	89,152	517,116	457,586

**Approved by the Executive Committee** Guil & Ulus (0abhl Member of Council Member of Council

# Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch

# Statement of Operations (Unaudited)

For the year ended August 31, 2015

				Sections		2015		2014
	Ger	neral Fund		Fund		Total		Total
		\$		\$		\$		\$
Devenue								
Revenue	\$	218,440	¢		\$	010 440	\$	010 745
Memberships and CBA rebates	Φ	109,297	\$	-	Ф	218,440 109,297	Φ	219,745 120,569
Mid-winter meeting Legal directory sales and advertising		70,465		-		70,465		59,435
Section levies		70,403		57,163		57,163		38,375
Section administration levies		_		22,731		22,731		23,360
Section meals		-		12,880		12,880		13,980
Sub-lease		11,066		-		11,066		10,800
Law day		10,300		-		10,300		12,500
Interest income		9,697		258		9,955		9,352
Canadian Bar Insurance Association license fees		6,996		-		6,996		6,662
Miscellaneous		4,030		-		4,030		2,880
National sponsorship		2,645		-		2,645		2,611
Bar notes advertising		1,960		070		1,960		4,525
Job board advertising		1,750		•		1,750		-
		446,646	,	93,032		539,678		524,794
Expenditures						,		
Salaries and benefits		203,188				203,188		198,368
Mid-winter meeting		68,222		-		68,222		73,409
Section lunch		-		52,690		52,690		46,389
National meetings		43,436		-		43,436		39,695
Office and administration		36,977		-		36,977		52,768
Rent		33,614		-		33,614		33,086
Legal directory		25,886		-		25,886		27,286
Promotion		16,805		-		16,805		24,871
Executive		14,777		-		14,777		18,370
Bar notes		9,425				9,425		12,376
Law day		8,722		-		8,722		46,649
Accounting fees		5,670		-		5,670		4,610
Articling student forum		4,455		-		4,455		2,979
Section planning		3,498		-		3,498		7,596
Council Service awards		3,423		-		3,423 3,348		8,184
President's dinner		3,348		-		2,795		1,756
Amortization		2,795 2,565		-		2,795		1,387 2,912
				-				
Committees Branch annual meeting		1,864		-		1,864		3,807
Miscellaneous		1,280 735		-		1,280 735		865 2,958
Section - other		- 135		5 		- 135		1,291
		490,685		52,690		543,375		611,612
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures before the following		(44,039)		40,342		(3,697)		(86,818)
Special projects CLASSIC		-		-		-		(5,000)
Pro Bono Saskatchewan		(5,000)				(5,000)		(5,000)
	3	(5,000)				(5,000)		(10,000)
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	\$	(49,039)	\$	40,342	\$	(8,697)	\$	(96,818)

Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch Statement of Changes in Fund Balances

Statement of Changes in Fund Balances (Unaudited) For the year ended August 31, 2015

		General Fund	Sections Fund	2015	2014
	Internally restricted operating				
	reserve \$	200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200 - 200	Unrestricted Unrestricted \$ \$	Total \$	Total \$
Fund Balances - Beginning of year	285,425	98,282	62,496	446,203	543,021
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures for the year	Ľ	(49,039)	40,342	(8,697)	(96,818)
Interfund transfers (note 6)		22,731	(22,731)		
Allocation of operating reserve (note 6)	27,425	(27,425)			
Fund Balances - End of year	312,850	44,549	80,107	437,506	446,203

# Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch

Statement of Cash Flows (Unaudited) For the year ended August 31, 2015

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Cash provided by (used in)		
<b>Operating activities</b> Deficiency of revenue over expenditures for the year Items not affecting cash	(8,697)	(96,818)
Amortization	2,565	2,912
	(6,132)	(93,906)
Changes in non-cash working capital Accounts receivable Prepaid expenses Accounts payable Unearned revenue	(943) (1,500) (2,513) 22,960	18,096 3,427 2,513 (15,180)
	18,004	8,856
	11,872	(85,050)
Investing activities Purchase of investments Proceeds on sale of investments Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(41,378) 32,268 	(7,931) 153,192 (3,852)
	(9,110)	141,409
Net change in cash	2,762	56,359
Cash - Beginning of year	132,934	76,575
Cash - End of year	135,696	132,934

### 1 Summary of significant accounting policies

#### Nature of organization

The Provincial Council of the Saskatchewan Branch of the Canadian Bar Association is the governing body of the provincial organization which has the duty to carry on the work of the Branch and advance the objects of the Canadian Bar Association at the provincial level.

The objective of the Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch (the CBA, SK Branch) is to serve as an advocate for all members of the legal profession.

The CBA, SK Branch is exempt from income tax under Section 149 of the Income Tax Act.

#### **Basis of accounting**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not for profit organizations (ASNPO).

#### Cash

Cash consists of cash on hand, balances with banks and investments which mature within three months of the date of acquisition.

#### Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost. Amortization is provided over the assets' estimated useful lives using the straight line method and the following rates:

Office equipment	15 years
Computer hardware	5 years
Computer software	3 years
Artwork	N/A

In the year of acquisition, amortization is recorded at one-half of the annual rate. Artwork is protected and preserved and is not amortized.

#### **Financial instruments**

Financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivable, investments, and accounts payable. Investments consist of term deposits, guaranteed investment certificates and fixed income bonds.

These financial instruments are initially recorded at fair value and subsequently measured at amortized cost. Amortization is recorded on a straight- line basis. Related party transactions are measured at the exchange amount.

Financial assets are tested for impairment at the end of each reporting period when there are indications that an asset may be impaired.

## 1 Summary of significant accounting policies

#### **Revenue recognition**

The association uses the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions and maintains two funds - General Fund and Sections Fund.

The General Fund accounts for the organization's program delivery and administrative activities associated with general membership.

The Sections Fund accounts for membership fees and luncheon activities of the 33 sections of the CBA, SK Branch.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the appropriate fund in the year received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Restricted contributions related to general operations are recognized as revenue of the General Fund in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. All other restricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the appropriate restricted fund.

Membership fees received in advance are deferred and recorded as revenue in the period to which they relate.

#### **Use of estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with ASNPO requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

#### Contributed materials and services

Contribution of materials and services are recognized both as contributions and expenses in the statement of operations only when a fair value can be reasonably estimated and when the materials are used in the normal course of the association's operations and would otherwise have been purchased. The amount of contributed materials and services recognized in the financial statements is nil (2014 - nil).

### 2 Investments

Investments consist of:

	2015 \$	2014 \$
General Fund		
GIC (cost: 2015 - \$41,378; 2014 - \$nil; interest earned at 2.3%; maturing June 2020)	41,809	-
Fixed income bond (cost: 2015 - \$42,090; 2014 - \$42,090; interest earned at 4.7%; maturing March 2019)	43,899	42,090
GIC (cost: 2015 - \$47,326; 2014 - \$47,326; interest earned at 2.3%; maturing June 2018) Fixed income bond (cost: 2015 - \$47,325; 2014 - \$47,325; interest	49,797	48,658
earned at 5.59%; maturing January 2018) GIC (cost: 2015 - \$39,703; 2014 - \$39,703; interest earned at 2.5%;	50,754	48,715
alo (cost: 2015 - \$00,700, 2014 - \$00,700, interest earned at 2.5%; maturing June 2017) GIC (cost: 2015 - \$37,552; 2014 - \$37,552; interest earned at 3.1%;	43,009	41,947
maturing June 2016) GIC (cost: 2015 - \$nil; 2014 - \$34,501; interest earned at 3.7%;	42,732	41,455
redeemed during the year)	-	40,284
Sections Fund Term deposit (cost: 2015 - \$40,901; 2014 - \$40,901; interest earned		
at prime less 2.25%; maturing December 2016)	41,372	41,113
	313,372	304,262
Less: Current investments	(42,732)	(40,377)
	270,640	263,885

# 3 Property, plant and equipment

			2015	2014
	Cost \$	Accumulated amortization \$	Net \$	Net \$
Office equipment	12,445	7,675	4,770	5,524
Computer hardware	10,275	6,060	4,215	5,574
Computer software	2,710	2,197	513	965
Artwork	5,000	(=)	5,000	5,000
	30,430	15,932	14,498	17,063

#### 4 Unearned revenue

Unearned revenue consists of the following:

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Prepaid advertising	22,785	2,280
Prepaid administration levies	9,045	6,590
	31,830	8,870

### 5 Commitments

The association's total obligations under various operating leases for equipment are as follows:

	\$
2016	15,416
2017	4,980
2018	4,980
2019	4,980
2020	3,735
	34,091

The association is in the process of renegotiating their operating lease for occupied premises which expires on December 31, 2015. Operating lease rent expense for occupied premises for the year ended August 31, 2015 amounted to \$33,614 (2014 - \$33,086).

#### 6 Fund transfers

An amount equal to the Section administrative levies is transferred from the Sections Fund to the General Fund each year to cover the administrative costs the General Fund incurs on behalf of the Sections Fund.

The internally restricted operating reserve is maintained in an amount equal to fifty percent of the current year's budgeted expenditures. As a result, \$27,425 (2014 - \$6,875) was transferred from the unrestricted General Fund.

#### 7 Financial instruments

#### **Credit** risk

The association, in the normal course of business, is exposed to credit risk from its members and customers. The association's financial assets that are exposed to credit risk consist primarily of accounts receivable.

#### Interest rate risk

The association's exposure to interest rate risk pertains to investments, which are subject to future changes in interest rates.

#### Liquidity risk

#### 7 Financial instruments

Liquidity risk is the risk that the association will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they become due. Liquidity risk also includes the risk of not being able to liquidate assets in a timely manner at a reasonable price. The association's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will always have sufficient cash flows to fund its operations and to meet its liabilities when due, under both normal and stressed conditions.

#### **Other risks**

The association does not consider itself to have significant exposure to currency risk, market risk, or other price risk.

### 8 Comparative figures

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to current year's financial statement presentation.