



NOVA SCOTIA
BARRISTERS' SOCIETY

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The Nova Scotia Barristers' Society Council met **Friday, May 22, 2020** at 9am via videoconference and conducted the following business:

Introductory Matters

1. **Call to Order and Introductory Remarks** – President Carrie Ricker called the meeting to order. She acknowledged that extraordinary circumstances continue to require meetings to be held via Zoom videoconferencing. She expressed thanks to Council's Public Representatives for their dedication and contributions. She noted that it is the final meeting for Public Representative Peggy Gates-Hammond, and she thanked Ms. Gates-Hammond for her work as vice chair of the finance committee, the finance committee task force on expenses, and the strategic planning steering committee.

Discussion of Big Issue

2. **Review of Activity Plan and Strategic Goals and Objectives** – Council discussed preliminary plans for 2020-2021, including whether its priorities should change in the wake of the pandemic. Council agreed that priorities for next year should focus on member engagement, community engagement, and establishing cultural proficiency standards for the profession.

Policies/Processes

3. **Council Task Force Update** – Council received an update from Melanie Petrunia, chair of the task force, about its first meeting. She described the task force's plan, which is to get feedback from the profession about how the pandemic is affecting their lives and practices, which will help inform Council's discussions on how best to support members during this time.
4. **Format of Annual Meeting and June Council Meeting** – Council was informed that due to the pandemic, this year's Annual Meeting will take place via Zoom and will not include an education component. Staff hope to deliver a series of webinars in the next few months in place of this education program. Council's abbreviated meeting on June 12 will proceed as normal, with no separate Council meeting held after the Annual Meeting.
5. **Annual Lawyer Report** – Council approved a number of changes to the Annual Lawyer Report questionnaire in response to requested feedback from the Racial Equity Committee and Gender Equity Committee.
6. **Subsidy of articulated clerks enrolled in PREP without articles** – Council were updated on a policy recommendation by the Credentials Committee to provide the PREP subsidy to students without articles, provided they are resident in Nova Scotia.



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Approvals

- 7. PREP-related regulations for approval** – Council approved regulatory amendments required to complete the transition from the old Bar Admission Program to the new PREP program, administered by CPLED.

Consent Agenda – The following Consent Agenda matters were approved:

- 8. Minutes of April 24, 2020 Meeting**
- 9. Public Representative Appointment**
- 10. Revised Council Policies**
- 11. Council Policy 19**
- 12. Appointment of Scott Campbell to the Court of Appeal Liaison Committee**
- 13. Resignations:** Paula Margaret Anderson, Vikaas Bansal, Mr. Terrence Raeburn Owen Robert Cooper, QC, Balraj Kaur Dosanjh, Amanda Lee Fricker, Raymond Glennie, Michael Patrick Keliher, Erinn Gerard Moore; Mary Lynn Carmichael

Items for information

- 14. 2019-2020 Council Calendar** – Council received the 2019-2020 Council Calendar
- 15. 2019-2020 Engagement Calendar** – Council received the 2019-2020 Engagement Calendar
- 16. 2019-2020 Activity Plan** – Council received the 2019-2020 Activity Plan
- 17. Executive Director Report** – Council received Executive Director, Tilly Pillay QC's report
- 18. President's Report** – Council received Carrie's report
- 19. Education & Credentials Monitoring Report** – Council received the Education & Credentials Department's annual monitoring report

The next meeting of Council is scheduled for July 24, 2020 at 9am.