

# Technology Impact Advisory Group (TIAG)

## BACKGROUND

- The Technology Impact Advisory Group (TIAG) was appointed in spring 2000 with a mandate to be the principal coordinating body for the development and implementation of the CBA's technology vision and strategy. In order to be relevant to its members and to effectively project itself as a forward-looking, innovative and modern association, the CBA must assist its members in their efforts to compete effectively in a technology-driven, rapidly changing legal environment.
- TIAG was chaired by Laird Hunter. The other members of the group were Dolores Gedge of the ABA; Pam Owen-Going of the Department of Justice; David Johnston, President of the University of Waterloo; and Mairi MacDonald, Domenic Crolla, Michel Racicot, and Simon Chester, all in private practice.
- In June 2001, TIAG issued a preliminary report outlining the role of the CBA in contributing to the ability of Canadian lawyers to succeed in a digital world; the role of TIAG as a catalyst for issue identification and organizational change; issues for TIAG's consideration; and a range of possible projects for consideration by the CBA.
- In February 2002, TIAG developed an action plan in response to its June 2001 report. The action plan suggested that the CBA develop a web-based centre for law practice and technology resources, which would include several components, including news, features and basic guides to practice issues. The action plan was approved by the Board of Directors in June 2002.

## CURRENT STATUS

- The CBA has developed PracticeLink, an on-line practice portal targeted to lawyers working alone or in small firms.
- In April 2003, a CBA PracticeLink test site was emailed to close to 5000 members requesting feedback. Response was overwhelmingly positive.
- The [CBA PracticeLink](#) site was launched during the CBA's 2003 Canadian Legal Conference. In August 2004, CBA PracticeLink won the Award of Excellence of the Association of Continuing Legal Education Directors of North America.

## NEXT STEPS

- The site is regularly updated and refreshed. New content is continuously being developed.