

# MINUTES

Canadian Bar Association - Northwest Territories Branch

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009; 12:15 p.m.

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### Attendance:

Amy Groothuis  
Andre Duchene  
Betty-Lou McIlmoyle  
Catherine Cushman Biddle  
Don Large  
Eileen Blackmore  
Elaine Keenan Bengts  
Greg King  
Ian Rennie  
Jack Williams

Janice Walsh  
Karen Lajoie  
Leanne Dragon  
Loretta Bouwmeester  
Malinda Kellett  
Margo Nightingale  
Sarah Kay  
Sheila MacPherson  
Shirley Walsh  
Sonya Saunders

Staff  
Linda Whitford  
Amy LeBlanc  
Ben Russo

Special Guests  
Gillian Marriot  
Guy Joubert

### Call to Order, Welcome

A/President Janice Walsh called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm and welcomed our visitors, Gillian Marriot [CBA Alberta Branch], Guy Joubert [CBA National President] and Loretta Bouwmeester, former President of the CBA – Northwest Territories Branch.

### Approval of Agenda

MOVED BY:  
SECONDED BY:

Karen Lajoie  
Betty-Lou McIlmoyle

THAT the Agenda be accepted as presented.

**Carried**

### Approval of the Branch Mid-Winter Minutes [13 February 2009]

The minutes of the Branch Mid-Winter Meeting of 13 February 2009 were circulated, reviewed and discussed. It was then:

MOVED BY:  
SECONDED BY:

Sheila MacPherson  
Karen Lajoie

THAT the Minutes of the Branch Mid-Winter Meeting of 13 February 2009 be accepted as amended to include Jack R. Williams as having attended.

**Carried**

### Business Arising from the Minutes

**Secretary-Treasurer Position:** Linda Whitford reported that on May 21, 2009 the Call for Nominations regarding the Secretary Treasurer position was sent to all active CBA Members. No nominations received in advance of the deadline. In an Executive and Council Meeting on July 13, 2009, Malinda Kellett agreed to let her name stand for the position and therefore, on

September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 the Executive will be as follows:

Janice Walsh, President  
Elaine Keenan Bengts, Vice President

Malinda Kellett, Secretary Treasurer  
Sheldon Toner, Past President

**Community Service Award:** Margo Nightingale has been nominated to receive the 2009 Community Service Award which will be presented at the Presidents' Dinner in September.

#### **New Business**

**By-Law Amendments:** Janice Walsh advised the meeting that Sheldon Toner, Malinda Kellett and Sonya Saunders have conducted a review of our Branch By-Laws and after researching other jurisdictions, have proposed a series of amendments which will cover off succession in the event of an executive position vacated mid-term; nomination and election of council positions; and how sections conduct their business. Discussion followed. The final draft will be before the 2010 Winter Meeting for adoption.

#### **Branch President's Report**

The report of the Janice Walsh, A/President was received as information.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

The following Financial information was presented to the Meeting:

##### **Audited Financial Statements 08-09**

**MOVED BY:**

Elaine Keenan Bengts

**SECONDED BY:**

Malinda Kellett

THAT the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending 31 August 2008 be approved.

**Carried**

##### **YTD Financial Statements**

Comparative Gross Margin Income Statement: As noted in the Agenda, this is a comparison of our income and expenditures to June 30, 2009 vs. our budget for the year. We anticipate being within budget for all revenue accounts except "interest income" and for all expenses except "Miscellaneous" which contains the expenses for our share of the Presidents' Dinner which was an add-on after the budget was approved.

##### **Adoption of the Budget – 2009/2010**

The budget for the 2009-2010 fiscal year was circulated, reviewed and discussed. It was then:

**MOVED BY:**

Elaine Keenan Bengts

**SECONDED BY:**

Malinda Kellett

THAT the budget for the 2009-2010 Fiscal year be approved.

**Carried**

### **Appointment of Auditor**

The meeting was advised that Charles Jeffries has been the CBA Auditor for a number of years and their service is acceptable and the fee reasonable. It is therefore recommended that they be appointed as auditor for the CBA for the year ending 31 August 2009.

**MOVED BY:** Elaine Keenan Bengts  
**SECONDED BY:** Malinda Kellett

THAT Charles Jefferies be appointed as auditors for the year ending 31 August 2009.

***Carried***

### **Section Reports**

Aboriginal Law – Karen Lajoie (attached)  
Administrative Law – Paul Smith (attached)  
Criminal Law – Kelly Payne  
Elder Law – David MacDonald (Section Newsletter attached)  
Environmental Law – VACANT (Section Newsletter attached)  
Family Law – Betty Lou McIlmoyle

It was reported to the meeting that the Family Law Section meets regularly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. Meetings are well attended. Two lunch and learn programs are scheduled. Elaine will be attending the Family Law Conference in St. John's, NL in August.

Labour and Employment Law – Austin Marshall (attached)

It was then:

**MOVED BY:** Karen Lajoie  
**SECONDED BY:** Sheila MacPherson

THAT the Section Reports be accepted as presented.

***Carried***

### Section Activity Award

Janice Walsh announced that the Section Activity Award for 2008-2009 is awarded to the Young Lawyers Conference for the work on Law Week.

### **Other Reports**

- The meeting received reports from the following:
- Civil Bench and Bar – Katherine Peterson, QC (Written)
- Criminal Bench and Bar – Caroline Wawzonek (Written)
- CBIA / CBAF – Sarah Kay
  - <http://www.barinsurance.com/>
  - <http://www.barfinancial.com/html/home.htm>
- Lawyers Professional Assistance Conference – Donald Large, QC
  - <http://www.lpac.ca/>
- Membership – David Hastings
- Public Sector Lawyers – Sonya Saunders
- Young Lawyers & Law Day – Shirley Walsh (Written)

### **CBA National President – Guy Joubert**

CBA National President Guy Joubert reported to the meeting on events planned for the CLC in Dublin; Becoming a CBA Leader and the recommendations of the Committee who studied the barriers to leadership; and aspects of the CBA's Strategic Plan including the recruitment and retention of members. He thanked the Branch for their hospitality during his visit.

### **Alberta A/President - Gillian Marriot**

A/President Gillian Marriot of the Alberta Branch recapped some of the activities happening within Alberta and Pro Bono Alberta where she is the Executive Director. She confirmed their support of the Northwest Territories Branch. She thanked the Branch for their hospitality during her visit.

### **Other Business**

Members interested in serving on the **Branch Council** were encouraged to advise the Executive Director.

**Dublin CLC** – Information on the CLC was provided to the Members. A number of members from the NWT are attending.

**Resolutions to be debated at Council** – The resolutions to be debated at council were provided to the meeting. Of particular interest is resolution 09-03-A covering CBA Membership for Public Sector Lawyers in the Northwest Territories. Members were encouraged to review the resolutions and provide any comments to the Executive Committee prior to their departure for Dublin.

**Presentation of Pins** – Pins for years of service were presented to members. In attendance to receive them were:

Less than Five: Eileen Blackmore; Andre Duchene

5+: Betty-Lou McIlmoyle

15+: Margo Nightingale

35 +: Donald Large

Note: Austin Marshall received his +35 Pin the day before at the reception in the Boardroom for the visitors.

**Wine Draw** – During the course of the meeting members were asked to write down why they belonged to the CBA – the suggestions were then tossed in a hat and two names drawn for a complimentary bottle of wine. The winners were:

**Jack Williams** – Membership enhances the ability to meet lawyers from all jurisdictions across Canada

**Greg King** – Access to information relevant to the Practice of Law locally and nationally; great CLE

**Sheila MacPherson** – Low Insurance Rates, Good CLE Opportunities, and Linda's cooking

**Malinda Kellett** – Opportunities for me to continue my legal education; networking among colleagues

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business of the Meeting, it was adjourned at 1:30 pm