

Public Sector Lawyers' Forum Section Report 2019-2020

The Public Sector Lawyers' Section began the 2019/20 year with an online survey of MBA members who work in the public sector, in an effort to increase member engagement. In the fall, we successfully nominated Donna Miller, Q.C. for the CBA's John Tait Award of Excellence, which was presented at the MBA's Mid-Winter awards luncheon in January 2020.

In an effort to keep Section members apprised of relevant legislative developments, the section circulated pertinent government news releases to section members. As well, on February 10, 2020, the section held an in-person meeting on the new *Public Service Act*, which was well attended.

Our local Section has also been very involved with the work of the national Public Sector Lawyers' Section, regularly participating in National Section Executive meetings. The CBA's Public Sector Lawyers' Section moved a resolution "Affirming the Role of Public Sector Lawyers" at the CBA's February 2020 AGM. The CBA's Public Sector Section organized a variety of lunchtime teleconference sessions throughout the year. I moderated the March 6, 2020 teleconference session on "Legal Counsel at the Supreme Court of Canada".

In April 2020, the MBA's Public Sector Lawyers' Section organized a video conference session on "Religious Freedom in the Public Sector", building on another resolution that was passed at the CBA's AGM.

The Section continues to look for ways to partner with other sections and provide useful professional development sessions and networking opportunities for its members. Ideas for future section events are always welcome!

Submitted by,
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