

2021

ANNUAL REPORT RAPPORT ANNUEL



THE MANITOBA BAR ASSOCIATION

L'ASSOCIATION DU BARREAU DU MANITOBA

A Branch of the Canadian Bar Association

Une division de l'Association du Barreau canadien

Executive Committee 2020-2021

President Ian Scarth
Vice-President Tanya Keller
Secretary/Treasurer Peter Kingsley, Q.C.
Advocacy and Public Relations Jason Gisser

Membership Tanya Keller
Past President Cynthia Lau
CBA Board Representative John Stefaniuk
Executive Director Stacy Nagle

Elected Council 2020-2021

WINNIPEG JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Kevin Antonyshyn
Kalyn Bomback
Natasha Brown
Silvia de Sousa
Alexandra Dueck-Dunsford
Jason Gisser *
Tyler Grant
Aron Grusko
Joel Lebois
Tanya Keller *
Peter Kingsley, Q.C. *
Cynthia Lau *
Candray Mehkary
Maria Mitousis
Bryton Moen
Ian Scarth *
Jessica Schofield
Dr. Virginia Torrie

CENTRAL/EASTERN JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Kassy Baker

WESTERN/DAUPHIN JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Joshua Dyck
Rhea Majewski

NORTHERN JUDICIAL DISTRICT

Robert Pellizzaro

MLSA Representative

Michael Badejo

CPLED Student Representative

Shea Sanders

** Designated voting member*

STAFF

Executive Director – Stacy Nagle

Member Service Administrator – Melissa Tannahill

Member Service Coordinator – Chelsey Tait

Law Student – Audrey Bews

Special Thanks to MBA Volunteers

Volunteers are the heart of our Branch. Without them, we would not be able to do all that we do. Special thanks to all of our volunteers who go above and beyond, making the Manitoba Bar Association the strongest that it can be. Thank you for generously sharing your time, energy and expertise.

2020 Isaac Pitblado Lectures

Ian Scarth, *Organizing Committee Member*

2021 Law Day Organizing Committee

Tatiana Bubnowicz, *Chair*

Sharyne Hamm

2021 Mid-Winter Conference Committee

Jennifer Litchfield, *Co-Chair*

David Silver, *Co-Chair*

Adriel Agpalza

Danielle Barchyn

Krista Clendenning

Anthony Foderaro

Sarah McEachern

Scott Muir

Jaime Rosin

Meghan Ross

Ian Scarth

Abram Silver

Megan Spencer

Heather Wadsworth

2021 Royal MTC/MBA Production *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*

David DickSchmendiman

Tashia DregerSusanne

Reid Girard.....A Visitor

Benji Greenberg.....Sagot

Daniel Gunn.....Albert Einstein

Ashley KorsunskyA Female Admirer

James McLandress, Q.C.Gaston

Jaime Rosin.....Germaine

Neil SteenPablo Picasso

Geoffrey Toews.....Freddy

Maria Versace.....The Countess

2021 Royal MTC/MBA Joint Production Lawyers Play Committee

Melissa Hazelton, *Chair*

Jason Gisser

John Harvie

Shawn Hughes

Jessica Isaak

Jamie Jurczak

Stacy Nagle

Jeff Palamar

Nalini Reddy

Stéphanie Tétreault

2021 Will Week Committee Representatives

Robert Fabbri

Leilani Kagan

CBA Well-Being Committee Members

Maria Mitousis

Court of Queens' Bench & Bar Liaison Committee

The Hon. Justice Michael Thomson, *Chairperson*

Federal Judicial Advisory Committee for Manitoba

Priscilla Sternat-McIvor

Judicial Inquiry Board

Ken Mandzuik

Law Society of Manitoba President's Special Committee on Lawyer Wellness

Maria Mitousis

Lawyers Financial

Karen Wittman

Legal Aid Advisory Committee Representatives

Wendy Martin White

John Ramsay

Stacy Nagle

Legal Help Centre MBA Board Representative

Nick Slonosky

Legislation & Law Reform Committee

Melanie Bueckert, *Chair*

Steve Falkingham

Kristal Bayes-McDonald

Jason Gisser

Ken Mandzuik

Manitoba Law Foundation MBA Board Representative

Kevin Antonyshyn

Manitoba Law School Foundation Board

Wayne Onchulenko

Provincial Court Bench & Bar Liaison Committee

The Honourable Judge Tim Killeen, *Chairperson*

2021 MBA Distinguished Service Award Recipient:

Donna Miller, Q.C.



2021 Pro Bono Award Recipient:

Christian Monnin, MLT Aikins LLP



2020 MBA Community Involvement Award:

Maria Mitousis



2020 MBA Access to Justice Award:

Wendy Martin White



2020 Isabel Ross (MacLean) Hunt Award:

Jacqueline St. Hill, Q.C.



2020 Headnotes & Footnotes Award:

John Isfeld



2020 Section Activity Award:

Public Sector Lawyers' Section,
Melanie Bueckert, Chair



2020 President's Award of Excellence:

Michael Badejo



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It has been my privilege to serve as the President of the Manitoba Bar Association (MBA) during the 2020-2021 year. There is no question that this was a difficult year as the pandemic continued to result in a loss of life, loss of community and negative economic impacts. With that being said, when looking back on the year, the MBA was able to function and prominently act as the voice of the legal profession.

Over the past year my appreciation has grown for the role that the Canadian Bar Association (CBA) has in advocating for our members, promoting fair justice systems, facilitating effective law reform, upholding equality and eliminating discrimination grew exponentially. Over the past year, we have engaged with the Law Society of Manitoba, the Judiciary, and the Government of Manitoba to improve the administration of justice, promote access to justice and equality.

In addition to routine duties such as attending council meetings, executive meetings, mentorship events, and CBA meetings (the Annual General Meeting, Leadership Forum and Western Branch meetings), as the President I have made a concerted effort this year on the advancement of our strategic objectives and addressing systemic concerns within our profession.

Develop Deep, Smart Member Intelligence

Membership remained strong throughout the year with approximately 1,600 members. A part of our success was due to listening to our members concerns and carrying out our core responsibilities including advocacy, calling for effective law reform, delivering quality professional development and information to members. Throughout the year the MBA engaged with Robson Hall Law School to continue the universal membership for students, faculty and staff. We do not take for granted the membership we have, and regularly evaluate how we can provide value and innovate services for the benefit of our membership.

Professional Development

We continued to provide high quality and relevant professional development for our members through our Sections which delivered ongoing professional development on a wide range of topics. Due to the provincial restrictions, the MBA continued to host section meetings virtually which allowed our members to maintain contact, learn and share ideas. The 2021 Mid-Winter conference was held via Zoom Webinar and saw strong attendance numbers, much to the credit of the organizing committee, staff, Sections, moderators, and speakers; however, unfortunately, the Bench & Bar reception and trade show had to be cancelled.

Advocacy on behalf of the Profession

This year we continued to provide ongoing advocacy on behalf of the legal community, and our justice system. We met with The Hon. Cliff Cullen, Minister of Justice and Attorney General for Manitoba and The Hon. Cameron Friesen following his appointment as Minister of Justice and Attorney General for Manitoba. In addition, we met with the Critic for Justice, Nahanni Fontaine. Among the issues raised were the continued funding of the Public Interest Law Centre (PILC), funding for a remand facility in Thompson, an increase to Legal Aid tariffs, and permanent changes to respective legislation to allow for the virtual execution of documents.

Given continued concerns about serving vulnerable clients during the pandemic, the MBA worked with the Law Society of Manitoba, the Judiciary, and the Province of Manitoba to extend the Order in Council under *The Emergency Measures Act* allowing for audio-video execution of documents including Last Wills and Testaments, Powers of Attorneys, and Affidavits. Efforts were also made to make remote witnessing permanent.

We had several media requests this year, most notably CBA President, Brad Regehr and the MBA were involved with a joint-statement and media interviews in support of the Judiciary and condemnation of the actions of counsel who hired a private investigator to follow the Chief Justice of Manitoba.

The MBA also participated in the Senior Master Nominating Committee, Judicial Nominating Committee and Queen's Counsel Nomination Committee.

Prepare the Profession for the Future

In guiding the profession toward future and emerging trends, we focused on issues related to COVID-19. In that regard we continued to send regular emails containing court notices and updates to its members from all levels of the Manitoba courts, we hosted section meetings by Zoom; and engaged with the Court about facilitating court hearings. There was strong attendance at virtual networking events, Section activities, and mentorship activities.

Cultivate an Inclusive, Engaged Professional Community

Another mandate of the MBA is to cultivate an inclusive and engaged professional community by providing professional support and addressing systemic issues within the profession. Over the course of the year, the MBA Executive underwent several training sessions on cultural competency training and involved the MBA with the Calls to Action set out by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Organization Infrastructure

Thanks to the efforts of the MLSA representative, Michael Badejo, and the CPLED representative, Shea Sanders, the MBA continued to communicate and work with law students and articling students to better understand and address the concerns facing future lawyers. We greatly appreciate the efforts and leadership of Michael and Shea.

At the end of the year, we said goodbye to Peter Kingsley, Q.C., who held the position of Secretary/Treasurer for three terms and welcome Kevin Antonyshyn to the position of Secretary/Treasurer. With Tanya Keller moving to the role of Vice-President, we welcome Jessica Schofield to the position of Director of Membership.

A tectonic shift in the MBA came with the retirement of Stacy Nagle from her position as Executive Director of the MBA, a position she held since 2001. On behalf of the membership, I want to thank Stacy Nagle once again for her dedication to the development of the MBA and the legal profession during her 20-year career. I know that I speak on behalf of the entire membership when I congratulate Stacy on her well-deserved retirement.



Ian Scarth

Continued on next page.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT *cont'd*

With Stacy's retirement, the MBA extends a warm welcome to Michelle Falk, the new Executive Director of the MBA. Michelle officially started with the MBA on July 26, 2021. Prior to joining the MBA, Michelle spent over six years leading human rights education programs at the Manitoba Association for Rights and Liberties. Michelle has quickly adapted to the challenges of the Executive Director role, and I look forward to working with her over the coming year.

I also wish to acknowledge the efforts of Acting Dean David Asper of Robson Hall Law School for all his efforts and partnership with the MBA in 2020 and 2021. We look forward to working with Dean Richard Jochelson, who was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Law, in the years to come.

At the Law Society of Manitoba, we saw Kris Dangerfield retire from her position as Chief Executive Officer and welcomed Leah Kosokowsky as her successor. We are pleased to continue the strong relationship with the Law Society of Manitoba in the years to come.

Closing

My sincerest thanks to the Executive Committee: Cynthia Lau, Peter Kingsley, Q.C., Tanya Keller and Jason Gisser. The challenges of this past year have been eased by your support and

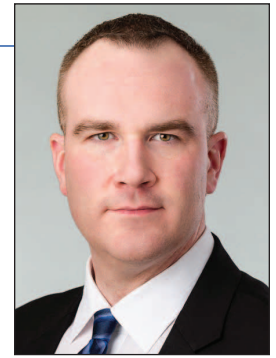
guidance and I thank you for all for your dedication to the MBA. In addition, I want to thank CBA Board representative John Stefaniuk, and all the dedicated MBA Council members, Section leaders, and volunteers who have dedicated their time and energy to promoting the interests of the profession.

We are fortunate to have a very dedicated staff guiding the operations of the MBA: Stacy Nagle, Michelle Falk, Melissa Tannahill and Chelsey Tait. All our staff went above and beyond this past year to keep the MBA running smoothly.

I would also like to acknowledge and congratulate Brad Regehr who served as the CBA President this year and for his outstanding efforts advocating on behalf of the profession and raising awareness about: cultural competency training, Indigenous legal issues, and the tragedy of the residential schools.

Finally, I would like to thank the entire membership of the MBA for the trust that was placed in me to serve as President.

Stay safe, and take care.



Ian Scarth

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It has been my privilege to serve in the position of Vice-President of the MBA in 2020-2021 and I am delighted to continue in this role for our 2021-2022 year. I have found the year to be very rewarding. During the year, I had the opportunity to assist our President, Ian Scarth, wherever necessary, and help represent the MBA at several events and activities, although to be honest, as Ian was serving as Vice-President from September 2020 to December 2020, I felt like he still had taken on the bulk of the duties of Vice-President already. I did attend several meetings, online Law School events and receptions, amongst other activities. These experiences will undoubtedly assist in preparing me for my year as President in 2022-2023.

In my role as Vice-President, I was responsible to provide oversight of Section activity. I have often heard it said that Sections are the lifeblood of the CBA, and one of the most significant benefits of membership. Being involved in Sections provides our members with the opportunity to gain significant professional development and to be able to network (even online) and interact with other members that deal with common interests, challenges, and practice areas.

During the course of this last year, our Sections have done a tremendous job in putting together professional development sessions, as well as other social activities all online. There were 86 Section meetings held in 2020-2021. Attendance was 4,286. That was 10 more meetings than the previous year and 401 more in attendance in 2019-2020. That is an impressive statistic. I

would like to thank our Section Chairs, and all Section volunteers for all the hard work they have done to make it a successful year.

Once again, the Mid-Winter was very well attended and a highly successful event. This event allows lawyers to obtain all their mandatory professional development hours for the entire year. The event also continues to demonstrate the excellent standard of our profession, through the sessions that are provided, and by recognizing the contributions of our members at the awards luncheon. I would like to thank the entire Committee for their hard work in making this event successful. Special recognition goes to our co-chairs, Jennifer Litchfield, and David Silver.

I would like to thank the MBA staff for all their hard work. The entire team under the leadership of Stacy Nagle continued to provide dedicated service to the MBA that we all benefit from. We were pleased and lucky to find and welcome our new Executive Director, Michelle Falk. I would also like to thank the rest of the Executive: Cynthia Lau, Ian Scarth, Peter Kingsley, Q.C., and Jason Gisser. It has been great to be a part of this team, and I look forward to continuing my term as Vice-President in the upcoming year.



Tanya Keller

ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

It has been a pleasure to have served the MBA over the past year as Director of Advocacy and Public Relations. The period of September 1, 2020-August 31, 2021 was the first year of my two-year term as Director. The following are some of the initiatives in which I have been engaged:

Access to Justice

The MBA actively seeks to address access to justice issues. As Director of Advocacy and Public Relations, I attended meetings of the Access to Justice Steering Committee and Stakeholders Committee. The MBA is also a signatory to the City of Winnipeg's Indigenous Accord, and is committed to providing educational opportunities on Indigenous legal issues. This past year, the MBA approved a Land Acknowledgment to be used at the beginning of every MBA event. Another significant project of the MBA this past year was its collaboration with Practice Sections, all three levels of the Manitoba Courts, and numerous other legal community stakeholders to implement a requirement to identify correct pronouns for all participants in the Courts. This work culminated with Practice Directions being issued by all three levels of the Manitoba Courts to clarify how parties and counsel can advise the Courts of their pronouns and forms of address.

Advocacy

The MBA works with its many Section Executives on advocacy initiatives related to issues which are relevant to those specific practice areas or to the entire membership. A few of the issues on which we collaborated with Sections in the past year included remote execution of documents, virtual and remote hearings during the pandemic, and Bill 24 (Amendments to *The Legal Profession Act*, Re: Alternative Legal Services Providers).

Headnotes & Footnotes

The success of *Headnotes & Footnotes* is dependent on the many regular contributors who take time out of their busy schedules to write interesting and informative articles and case summaries. One of those regular contributors was Edward (Ned) Brown, whose articles on real estate law could be found in each edition of *Headnotes & Footnotes*. Sadly, the Manitoba legal community lost Ned in September 2020, and the MBA chose to honour him by renaming the annual *Headnotes & Footnotes* Award as the "Edward (Ned) Brown *Headnotes & Footnotes* Award", awarded to an MBA member whose outstanding contribution to *Headnotes & Footnotes* during the preceding year merits special recognition.

Legislation & Law Reform

The MBA's Legislation and Law Reform Committee actively reviews provincial legislation and alerts the MBA and its Sections as to relevant developments.

MBA Website and Social Media

The MBA Website (www.cba-mb.ca) continues to be a helpful resource to our members, the legal community, and the general public, typically drawing well over 1000 visitors each month. Traffic to the website grows considerably in the November/December period leading up to the annual Mid-Winter Conference, and this year was no exception, with 1950 visitors. The MBA's Twitter presence (@MBBarAssn) continues to grow, with over 670 followers as of the end of the reporting period.

Media Relations

In addition to its online and social media presence, the MBA has an important media relations role, which includes responding to criticism of members (lawyers or judiciary) and highlighting the many achievements of our members in the media.

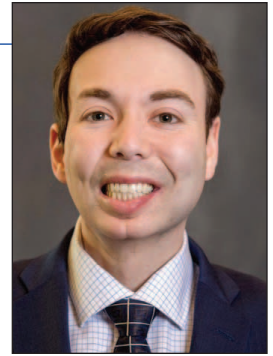
RMTC/MBA Lawyers' Play

While the 2020 Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre (RMTC)/MBA Lawyers' Play performance of *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* could not be in person due to the pandemic, we are very grateful for the cast and the production team for being able to transition the show to a one-night online reading of the play. The online performance raised over \$20,000 towards the RMTC! We look forward to next year's Lawyers' Play musical revue entitled "The World Goes Round", scheduled for May 10-14, 2022.

MBA Awards

Thank you to everyone who responded to my Call for Nominations for MBA Recognition Awards in 2020-2021, by submitting a nomination for one of your fellow MBA members. It was a pleasure to participate in the selection process for these awards, and to give a well-deserved spotlight to a number of incredible Manitoba lawyers. Congratulations to all of the 2021 winners, and I look forward to the award ceremony at the 2022 Mid-Winter Conference.

This past year, our longtime Executive Director Stacy Nagle retired after over 20 years of service. I would like to congratulate Stacy on her remarkable contributions to the MBA and wish her the best in her retirement. I also want to wish a very warm welcome to our new Executive Director Michelle Falk, and highlight Melissa Tannahill and Chelsey Tait for their continued outstanding efforts in the MBA Office. Finally, I would like to thank the MBA Executive: Ian, Tanya, Peter, and Cynthia, for making me feel so welcome, and for being excellent mentors.



Jason Gisser

MEMBERSHIP/MEMBER SERVICES REPORT

The 2020-2021 year was the final of my two terms as the Director of Membership/Membership Services. It was another great year with another record setting membership total. Our over 1,650 members continue to be well served by a wonderful staff and a very supportive Executive Committee and Council. While I would like to take credit for an increase in membership, I must say that our success on this front is due to the hard work and commitment of our now retired Executive Director, Stacy Nagle.

We anticipated that the COVID-19 pandemic might decrease our membership, but we are very appreciative and very proud to say that members continue to see the value in their membership even through these very tough times. Although we may not have been able to gather in person, we were able to rally together and pivot to online networking events, and online continuing education events, becoming the norm. They offered a much-needed break in the monotony of working from home for many of our members. We cannot wait to all get together again in person though, as soon as possible, and when safe.

We continued to coordinate with the MLSA on the mentorship program and with no small thanks to the students, particularly Michael Badejo, our MLSA Representative for stepping up to the plate, we still managed to host two online mixers for students and mentors. Further, with thanks to Shea Sanders, our PREP representative, we were able to host an online event with the articling students, with a small presentation from Maria Mitousis and myself.

In addition, welcome emails were sent out to all new members that outlined the benefits of membership.

Our members continue to benefit from the many services and benefits that the MBA provides. This includes the Continuing Professional Development programs, primarily provided by our Sections, and the Mid-Winter Conference (the show must go on). The MBA also plays an important advocacy role in providing information to the Manitoba Government on numerous issues as it undertakes the reform of many departments that affect the practice of law and our membership.

As Director of Membership, I attended various meetings and functions, including the mentorship reception, PREP student reception, MBA Mid-Winter Conference, and the Family Law Modernization Collaboration Roundtable meetings for stakeholders. I was also pleased to help with organizing a form of Law Day, where high school students were able to hold mock trials virtually in April 2021, with much assistance from our volunteer lawyers.

I thank the MBA staff and fellow Executive Committee members for the support and encouragement I received during the year. I look forward to completing my term in the role of Vice-President on August 31, 2022.



Tanya Keller

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It has been an honour to serve my first term as Past President this year. Over the past five years on the Executive and many more years on Council, I have been really fortunate to have had the most incredible, life-altering experiences.

When I recently attended a mentorship evening, I was asked about the best part of my time with the Bar Association. It has been the friendships and relationships that I have built over the years. There are persons outside my area of practice whom I would not otherwise have encountered. As we recover from the effects of the pandemic, the importance of those connections has been underscored for me.

As Past President, I have had the pleasure of contributing and attending meetings and events throughout this year, including regular meetings for universal law firms (where I continue to learn and be impressed with the collegiality of the profession);

the Past Presidents' "Dinner" to discuss the nominees for the Distinguished Service Award; and to assist with the retirement planning for long-term Executive Director, Stacy Nagle.

It has been a year of change for the MBA, with the transition in leadership and the ongoing efforts to determine the most effective way of working in this new reality.

Thank you to all the MBA Executive team (Ian, Tanya, Jason, Peter, Stacy) and Council for your friendship and commitment to being the voice of the profession. A special thanks to Stacy, Melissa and Chelsey for your dedication and support throughout!



Cynthia Lau

CBA BOARD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

As of September 2021 I began my second year of my two-year term as the Manitoba Bar Association's representative on the CBA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors consists of 15 members – one from each province and territory, the CBA President and the CBA Chief Executive Officer. Approximately half of the Board members are elected in the spring of each year to serve a two-year term. Stephen Rotstein of Toronto succeeded our own Brad Regehr as President, and Steeves Bujold of Montreal became Vice-President. (The election process for the next Vice-President begins early 2022.)

In addition to serving as a director, I chair the Finance Committee (formerly the role of CBA Treasurer). The Finance Committee is responsible for the financial oversight of the CBA and the development and recommendation to the Board of the annual budget. As chair of the Finance Committee, I automatically serve as chair of the Investment Steering Subcommittee and as a member of the Law for the Future Fund Board.

The Investment Steering Committee had a particularly heavy workload. It engaged in a competition to select the CBA's investment manager. The review of a dozen proposals, interviews with five selected applicants and the selection of investment manager took hundreds of volunteer hours.

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to be a major factor in CBA operations. Until September, all board, committee, executive and other meetings were conducted by way of Zoom. It also meant conducting the Board orientation in August by way of Zoom. Most out-of-country activity of CBA's International Development program was suspended (but funders have extended the programs).

CBA professional development successfully moved to online programming, with many programs, such as the Canadian

Corporate Counsel Association's programming, receiving record participation. This has led to an opportunity to examine the best model for ongoing professional development program delivery.

Steve Pengelly completed his term as interim CEO and was replaced by a permanent CEO. Unfortunately, the position became open again in early 2021, but Brad Regehr was able to step in as temporary interim CEO. Fortunately, the CBA was able to engage Professor Paul Paton of the University of Alberta to act as interim CEO effective July 1, 2021.

Paul will complete his term as of December 31, 2021. The CBA is grateful to Paul for stepping in on very short notice to assist at a challenging time, and for his continuing commitment to the CBA. Following some vacation in December, he will return to the Faculty of Law at the University of Alberta as Lawlor Professor of Law and Ethics, from which he has been on leave in order to take up this appointment.

Over the past six months, Paul has dedicated considerable effort towards improving operations, enhancing communications, and supporting the national office leadership team in executing CBA's strategic goals. I very much enjoyed working with him.

Membership growth and enhanced member service continues to be a Board priority and is expected to occupy considerable attention this coming year. We are also looking at completion of a CBA-wide governance review, and an examination of the project priorities for CBA Shared Services.



John Stefaniuk

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The following is a list of the activities undertaken by the MBA in 2020/2021 under the five strategic pillars included in the Association's strategic plan. This year continued to be a challenge for the Association given the COVID-19 pandemic.

Develop Deep, Smart Member Intelligence

Deepen the knowledge and understanding of Members to better assess their aspirations, needs and satisfaction levels. Smarter data will lead to more relevant communications with Members and leading-edge offerings that equip them for success.

- The MBA Executive Committee members monitor monthly membership statistics, monthly web-site usage, twitter reports and email open and click through rates.
- In 2020/2021 the MBA moved to an on-line evaluation system for Section and Mid-Winter education sessions.
- Monthly meetings with the managing partners of CBA/MBA Universal Firms (firms with 10 or more lawyers with 95% CBA members) continued in 2020/2021.

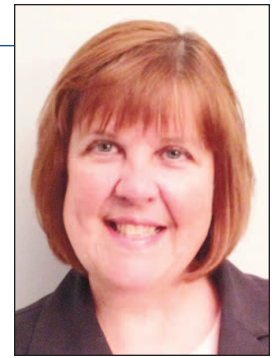
Deliver Distinct & Relevant Professional Development

Deliver professional development (PD) that includes both substantive education and skill development. Substantive education is important and will continue. Skills development offerings will be enhanced. Skill development is broadly defined and will be determined based on member needs, and includes cultural competence and skills and tools for self-improvement and personal success. An increased emphasis will be placed on delivering offerings both in English and French.

- The MBA, the University of Manitoba Faculty of Law and The Law Society of Manitoba featured the 2020 Isaac Pitblado Lectures on November 20, 2020. The conference was entitled, "Virtually Everything You Need to Know About Advocacy".
- The 2021 MBA Mid-Winter Conference was held on-line on January 21 & 22, 2021. The conference featured 16 continuing professional development (CPD) sessions, which provided over 39.5 hours of CPD, including 2 hours of EPPM, and an Awards Ceremony. The MBA was pleased to receive sponsorship from the following for the CPD sessions and the Awards Ceremony: CBIA|Lawyers Financial, Teranet, Stewart Title, MDD Forensic Accountants, Lawton Partners, Leegals Express Legal Services, Chicago Title, TitlePlus, Red River Group, ADR Institute of Manitoba, Facilitated Solutions, Childview and Lawyer Done Deal. Over 400 people attended the CPD sessions. For the first time, in lieu of providing speaker gifts to presenters and moderators, a donation was made to Snowflake Place who was selected to be the conference charity.
- In 2020-2021, over 4,000 members attended 86 Section meetings (includes three business meetings and two networking events) that provided 132.5 hours of CPD (including 27.5 EPPM hours), many offered at no charge for members. Section meeting and events in 2020/2021 were all held over Zoom. Usually the MBA Section CPD session are held over the lunch hour, however, in 2020-2021, a half day (morning)/two session CPD on technological competence was held.
- The MBA continues to offer the ability for members to join Sections on-line. There is no cost to join any of the 36 MBA Sections.
- The MBA also promoted other CBA on-line and Law Society of Manitoba CPD programs.

Advocate on Behalf of the Profession

Focus on issues that shape the legal profession, improve the law, or advance the Rule of Law, including access to justice, through means such as interventions and influencing the legislative process. Inform and solicit feedback from Members at all levels.



Stacy Nagle

- Representatives from the MBA met with the Attorney General and Minister of Justice for Manitoba.
- The MBA Legislation and Law Reform Committee reviews legislation introduced and forwards it to Section representatives for their information and possible comments.
- Representatives from the MBA participated at Legal Aid Advisory Committee meetings.
- Representatives from the MBA were appointed to work with the Canadian Chapter of the International Association of Women Judges to examine what obstacles women face in the practice of law.
- The MBA President, or their representative, participates on the Provincial Court Judicial Nominating Selection Committee. The MBA also has a representative on the Federal Judicial Advisory Committee and the Judicial Inquiry Board.
- The MBA President, or their representative, participates on the Queen's Counsel Advisory Council.
- Responded to media inquiries.
- Representatives of the MBA continue to participate on the Family Law Modernization Collaboration Table.
- The MBA Family Law Section Chair spoke at the Legislative Committee hearing on March 22, 2021, regarding Bill 24 *The Legal Profession Act* particularly dealing with regulating and licensing paralegals and limited practitioners. In addition, members of the Family Law Section Executive met with the Law Society to discuss this Bill.
- Members of the MBA Family Law Section Executive met with the Deputy Attorney General and other government officials to provide feedback on the Family Law modernization efforts.
- The MBA Securities Law Section sent a letter to the Manitoba Securities Commission requesting that the reinstate a Securities Advisory Committee.
- A nomination submitted by the MBA Women Lawyers' Forum Section for Isabel Ross MacLean Hunt to receive recognition as a Manitoba 150 Trailblazer was successful.
- The MBA, including the Aboriginal Law, Child & Youth Law, Civil Litigation, Constitutional and Human Rights Law, Criminal Justice, Equality Issues, Family Law and Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGIC) Sections worked collaboratively with the Court of Appeal, the Court of Queen's Bench, the Provincial Court to implement a requirement to identify correct pronouns for all participants in our courts.
- Due to COVID-19, it was not possible to hold Law Day open houses in 2021. However, the MBA did arrange for lawyers to work with six high school classes to prepare a mock trial that was presented on-line in front of a Judge.

- Representatives from the MBA participated in an on-line advocacy workshop hosted by the Ontario Bar Association.
- A letter was sent to The Law Society from the MBA Immigration Law Section regarding and access to justice issue with Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada.
- The MBA continues to participate on the Law Society of Manitoba's Access to Justice Committee and Sub-Committees.

Prepare the Profession for the Future

Building on a strong Futures foundation, further elevate CBA's leadership thinking to guide the profession toward a future that is in-step with emerging trends, needs and opportunities. See things before others see them and inspire Members to lean into the future.

- Various Section meeting topics, including sessions at the MBA Mid-Winter Conference and articles contained in *Headnotes & Footnotes* focused on preparing the profession for the future.
- Continued to offer education sessions to lawyers to further our goals established in the City of Winnipeg's Indigenous Accord. A land and water acknowledge is now included at all MBA meetings.
- Various well-being sessions were offered and a communications strategy was developed and executed for Lawyer Well-Being Week in May 2021.

Cultivate an Inclusive, Engaged Professional Community

Build a more powerful, inclusive, diverse and engaged professional community across Canada. Prioritize building membership among groups such as law students, articling students and young lawyers. Encourage Member exchange of knowledge, discourse on professional issues and peer-to-peer support. Facilitate interpersonal connections in person and, importantly, online.

- The 2020/2021 mentorship program matched 67 law students with lawyers and held two on-line networking events.
- The MBA and the Law Society hosted an on-line event for first year law students in September 2020.
- An on-line event was also held by the MBA for CPLED/PREP students.
- The MBA President spoke at the on-line Call to the Bar ceremony in October 2020 and in June 2021.
- The MBA also provides a financial prize (Solomon Greenberg Prize in Advocacy) for the first and second place students in the Robson Hall moot court competition.
- MBA Past-Presidents met to make a recommendation regarding the Distinguished Service Award recipient and discuss other matters.
- The MBA/Royal MTC on-line reading of *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* was held on April 9, 2021.
- MBA has a membership with Kids & Company Daycare. MBA members are guaranteed a full-time or part-time childcare spot within six months.

- The MBA has been working with The Law Society of Manitoba to establish a Peer Support Program that would be set up as separate non-profit organization. Once established this program will replace the MBA Lawyers Helping Lawyers program.
- Members of the MBA Executive attended regional bar meetings.
- Various membership recruitment and retention activities were held in 2020-2021.
- Ten editions of *Headnotes & Footnotes* were prepared and distributed. Some members choose to receive the newsletter via a link to a pdf version or an on-line magazine format on the MBA web-site instead of a paper copy.
- Approximately 700 copies of the 2021 Legal Directory and 600 copies of the Legal Directory and Dayplanner were sold.
- On average www.cba-mb.ca has over 1,000 visitors each month.

Organizational Infrastructure

- I participated on bi-weekly video conference meetings of the CBA Management Team, meetings of the CBA Leadership Forum, Western branch meetings and mid-size branch meetings. I also attend CBA Board of Directors meetings and the CBA Annual General Meeting as an observer.
- Council and Executive Committee orientation sessions were held.
- The MBA continues to use twitter (@MBBarAssn) to promote its activities.
- Thank you letters were sent to MBA volunteers.
- All MBA staff receive yearly written evaluations.
- Staff is encouraged to take professional development.
- An audit was conducted and no concerns were identified.

As you are aware, I have retired from the MBA and Michelle Falk started working for the MBA in July 2021 as the MBA Executive Director. I do want to sincerely thank the volunteers that I have had the privilege of working with during my career. Manitoba is often the envy of other branches in the CBA because of our great relationships with the Courts, the Law Society, Robson Hall, and other legal organizations. I also want to acknowledge the great work of the 2020-2021 MBA staff: Audrey Bews, Chelsey Tait and Melissa Tannahill. I will miss working with all of you.

I wish Michelle all the best and hope she finds the role of Executive Director as rewarding as I have over the past 20 years. I am confident that Michelle will lead the Association to reach new heights.

Thank you to all the CBA members in Manitoba for providing me with opportunity of being the MBA Executive Director.

SECRETARY / TREASURER'S REPORT

Attached are the audited financial statements for the MBA for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2021 prepared by Jenkyns Smith, Chartered Accountant Ltd. This is the ninth year that the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations (ASNFPO), which the MBA adopted effective September 1, 2012. Several items are worthy of note:

- This fiscal year was fully encompassed by the COVID-19 Pandemic. While this is not the first world wide pandemic the MBA has faced I trust it will remain a once in a century event. Our way of doing business was challenged on every front and yet, despite the significant challenges, we have weathered it well.
- To allow our budget to match up with the CBA budget and statements our revenue and expense categories have been organized in accordance with our strategic plan areas. This is the third year that we have organized our financial accounts this way.
- The MBA is a not for profit. This means that we are expected, as much as possible, to neither make nor lose money. At the same time it is reasonably prudent to not exhaust our funds each year so we attempt to control our operational surplus through the use of small deficit budgets. This year was the exception, it was not intended to be a small deficit. We planned for a deficit of over \$132,000 recognizing the challenges facing the profession due to COVID-19. However, many assumptions we made did not happen. Our membership did not plummet and our expenses were, as always, expertly managed by Stacy Nagle. As a result I am pleased to report a surplus of \$69,282.
- The aggregate of Current Assets and Long Term Investments at year-end grew from \$524,241 to \$558,087. The Long Term Investments were increased by \$10,152 earned from value increase and interest. Our investments are now broken into Equity funds worth \$145,026, (57% of total investments by value) an increase of \$8,008 over last year and GIC's worth \$106,490 (43% of total investments by value) an increase in value of \$104 over last year with an additional \$1,240 in cash in the investment account for a total of \$1,344. Roughly 50% of the GIC's will mature every

year providing the MBA with a balance between consistent guaranteed growth and available funds should they be required. The Equity Funds will still allow us to capture overall market growth income.

- Our aggregate revenue decreased again this year from \$561,471 to \$550,208 this year.

It should be noted that the only area which actually decreased was the Professional Community which is made up of sponsorships of various activities which, of course, were severely limited this year. Our expenses also decreased from \$519,329 in FYE 2020 to \$478,525. This means our loss of income was more than made up by the decrease in expenses. The decrease on both sides was due to the impacts of COVID-19.

- The MBA continues to be fiscally prudent and financially strong, putting it on a solid foundation for the realization of its short and long-term strategic goals. We are entering our third year under the cloud of COVID-19 with \$499,886 in Net Assets at the end of the year and \$536,575 in cash and easily redeemable investments.
- This is my last report as Treasurer of this organization. I have been fortunate that in each year I have been able to report an operational surplus ranging from \$27,811 in 2019 to \$69,645 in 2018. While I am technically responsible for the budget, all the credit for the hard work and excellent care should go to our past Executive Director, Stacy Nagle and her team. I know that Stacy has left some very big shoes to step into. I am also confident that Michelle Falk is up to this challenge and I leave this organization, as Dean Scaletta left it before me, in excellent fiscal shape. It has been truly a pleasure and an honour to work with five talented and capable Presidents - Brad, Melissa, Mark, Cynthia, and Ian. I have learned and grown so much from all the members of the leadership team over my six years than I can ever hope to repay. I thank you all and for your patience, your knowledge, your time and understanding.



Peter Kingsley, Q.C.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Manitoba Bar Association

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Manitoba Bar Association (the Association), which comprise the statement of financial position as at August 31, 2021, and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at August 31, 2021, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with ASNPO, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Winnipeg, Manitoba

January 22, 2022



Jenkyns Smith, Chartered Professional Accountants

The financial statements and notes presented are excerpts from the complete financial statements. To obtain a full set of the financial statements please contact the branch.

Statement of Financial Position 31 August 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$283,819	\$256,571
Accounts receivable	5,915	1,996
Goods and services tax recoverable	3,042	1,269
Prepaid expenses	<u>6,494</u>	<u>13,339</u>
	299,270	273,175
LONG TERM INVESTMENTS (Notes 2, 3)	252,756	242,604
CAPITAL ASSETS (Notes 2, 4)	<u>6,063</u>	<u>8,462</u>
	558,089	524,241
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable	\$ 45,718	\$ 82,407
Deferred revenue (Note 2)	<u>12,485</u>	<u>11,230</u>
	58,203	93,637
NET ASSETS		
General Fund	493,825	422,142
Capital Fund	<u>6,061</u>	<u>8,462</u>
	499,886	430,604
	\$558,089	\$524,241

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures Year Ended 31 August 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
REVENUE		
Professional Community	\$55,109	\$86,908
Professional Development - Sections	3,207	2,279
Professional Development - Other	157,511	145,433
Operational Infrastructure	<u>334,381</u>	<u>326,851</u>
	550,208	561,471
EXPENSES		
Governance	14,522	30,495
Professional Community	43,170	64,600
Professional Development	57,405	94,732
Prepare for the Future	750	750
Operational Infrastructure	<u>362,678</u>	<u>328,752</u>
	478,525	519,329
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS	71,683	42,142
CAPITAL FUND		
Amortization	<u>(2,401)</u>	<u>(3,077)</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$69,282	\$39,065

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Year Ended 31 August 2021

	GENERAL FUND	CAPITAL FUND	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$422,142	\$8,462	\$430,604	\$391,539
Excess of membership revenue over expenses	71,683	(2,401)	69,282	39,065
Transfer to Capital Fund for purchase of equipment	-	-	-	-
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$493,825	\$6,061	\$499,886	\$430,604

Statement of Cash Flows Year Ended 31 August 2021

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash receipts from customers	\$536,698	\$551,132
Cash paid to suppliers and employees	(508,368)	(460,123)
Interest received	10,843	10,205
Goods and services tax	(1,773)	647
Cash flow from (used by) operating activities	37,400	101,861
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of capital assets	-	(10,863)
Purchase of marketable securities	(10,152)	(8,451)
Cash flow used by investing activities	(10,152)	(19,314)
INCREASE IN CASH FLOW	27,248	82,547
Cash - Beginning of Year	256,571	174,024
CASH END OF YEAR	\$283,819	\$256,571

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year Ended August 31, 2021

1. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

The Manitoba Bar Association, a branch of The Canadian Bar Association, is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the economic, professional and social interest and well-being of its members throughout the province of Manitoba. The Manitoba Bar Association represents approximately 1,600 members of Manitoba's legal profession including: lawyers, judges, law students and law professors.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of presentation

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNFPPO).

Financial Instruments

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. In subsequent periods, financial assets with actively traded markets are reported at fair value, with any unrealized gains and losses reported in income. All other financial instruments are reported at amortized cost, and tested for impairment at each reporting date. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale, or issue of financial instruments are expensed when incurred.

Capital assets

Capital assets are stated at cost less accumulated amortization. Capital assets are amortized over their estimated useful lives at the following rates and methods:

Computer equipment 3 years straight-line method

Furniture and fixtures 5 years straight-line method

The Association regularly reviews its capital assets to eliminate obsolete items.

Investments

Investments are classified as held for trading and are recorded at market value.

Revenue Recognition

Manitoba Bar Association follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Endowment contributions are recognized as direct increases in net assets.

Restricted investment income is recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted investment income is recognized as revenue when earned.

Seminar fees are recognized as revenue when the seminars are held.

Deferred revenue

Deferred revenue reported in the General Fund relates to revenue collected for the legal directory which will not be issued until the subsequent year.

Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Such estimates are periodically reviewed and any adjustments necessary are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

3. INVESTMENTS

	2021	2020
Cash and savings accelerator account	\$ 1,240	-
Equity funds	\$145,026	\$136,218
Guaranteed investment certificates	106,490	106,386
Investments are recorded at market value.	<u>\$252,756</u>	<u>\$242,604</u>
Investment Income earned for 2021 was \$10,843 (2020 was \$10,207) which is recorded under Operational Infrastructure.		

4. CAPITAL ASSETS

	2021		2020	
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Cost	Accumulated Amortization
Computer equipment	\$20,991	\$20,471	\$33,110	\$32,072
Furniture & Fixtures	<u>17,571</u>	<u>12,028</u>	<u>17,571</u>	<u>10,147</u>
	\$38,562	\$32,499	\$50,681	\$42,219
Net Book Value		<u>\$6,063</u>		<u>\$8,462</u>

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS *cont'd*

Year Ended August 31, 2021

5. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The association is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments and has a comprehensive risk management framework to monitor, evaluate and manage these risks. The following analysis provides information about the association's risk exposure and concentration as of August 31, 2021.

Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the potential that a counter party will fail to perform its obligations. The association is exposed to credit risk from customers. In order to reduce its credit risk, the association reviews a new customer's credit history before extending credit and conducts regular reviews of its existing customers' credit performance. An allowance for doubtful accounts is established based upon factors surrounding the credit risk of specific accounts, historical trends and other information. The association has a significant number of customers which minimizes concentration of credit risk.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The association is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its receipt of funds from its customers and other related sources, long-term debt, obligations under capital leases, contributions to the pension plan, and accounts payable.

6. COMMITMENTS

On November 1, 2019 the Association entered into a 84 month lease for its office, terminating on October 31, 2026. Annual Base rent is as follows for the periods November 1, 2019 to October 31, 2020 \$32,448 per annum, November 1, 2020 to October 31, 2022 \$34,944 per annum, November 1, 2022 to October 31, 2024 \$37,440 per annum, and November 1, 2024 to October 31, 2026 \$39,936 per annum plus common area costs. So long as the Association is not in default of the Lease the Association will not be required to paid the annual basic rent for the following periods: the months of November 2019, October 2020, October 2021, October 2022, October 2023, and October 2026.

7. CONTINGENT LIABILITY

A contingent liability exists in connection with the Manitoba Bar Association's payroll for its employees. At this time the occurrence of a loss is pending investigation and is not determinable, and the amount of a loss if any cannot be reasonably estimated.

Section Chairs 2020-2021

Within brackets, the first figure indicates the number of members enrolled, and the second figure indicates the number of meetings, events or continuing professional development programs held in 2020/2021.

Aboriginal Law (167; 2)

Jessica Barlow, Co-Chair
Jared Wheeler, Co-Chair

Administrative Law (224; 4)

John Isfeld, Chair

Alternative Dispute Resolution (203; 0)

Vacant

Animal Law (64; 3)

Elizabeth McCandless, Co-Chair
Catherine Skinner, Co-Chair

Business Law (295; 1)

Brant Harvey, Chair

CCCA (Canadian Corporate Counsel Association) (316; 5)

Michael Jason, Co-Chair
Cory Shangreux, Co-Chair

Child & Youth Law (119; 7)

Alex Gilroy, Co-Chair
Wendy Martin White, Co-Chair

Civil Litigation (299; 6)

Kalyn Bomback, Chair

Constitutional/Human Rights (264; 8)

Bryton Moen, Chair

Construction & Infrastructure Law (148; 1)

Bailey Harris, Chair

Criminal Justice (204; 3)

Melissa Hazelton, Co-Chair
Wendy Martin White, Co-Chair

Elder Law (99; 3)

Sharon Tod, Chair

Entertainment, Media and Communications Law (102; 0)

Robert Sokalski, Chair

Environmental, Energy and Resources Law (86; 0)

Vacant

Equality Issues (143; 1)

Laurelle Harris, Chair

Family Law (273; 5)

Jurgen Feldschmid, Chair

French Speaking Common Law Members (54; 0)

Vacant

Health Law (117; 0)

Elisabeth Olson, Chair

Immigration Law (142; 4)

Sofia Mirza, Chair

Insolvency Law (95; 3)

Dr. Virginia Torrie, Chair

International Law (89; 2)

Philip Watts, Chair

Labour & Employment Law (211; 4)

Kristen Worbanski, Co-Chair
Darcie Yale, Co-Chair

Law Practice Management (185; 0)

Vacant

Legal Research (190; 8)

David Davis, Chair

Municipal Law (104; 1)

Diana King, Co-Chair
John Prystanski, Co-Chair

Public Sector Lawyers (97; 4)

Melanie Bueckert, Chair

Real Property (292; 3)

Jason Bryk, Chair

Securities Law (104; 2)

Don MacDonald, Chair

SOGIC Manitoba (72; 2)

Joel Lebois, Co-Chair
Eli Milner, Co-Chair

Small, Solo and General Practice (138; 1)

Sidney Laviolette, Chair

Taxation Law (135; 2)

David Silver, Chair

Technology, Intellectual Property & Privacy Law (162; 2)

Andrew Buck, Chair

Transportation Law (44; 0)

Joseph Barnsley, Chair

Wills, Estates and Trusts (306; 6)

Charlotte McCurdy, Chair

Women Lawyers (376; 3)

Kim Antonio, Co-Chair
Katherine Bayer, Co-Chair
The Hon. Justice Annette Horst, Judicial Co-Chair

Young Lawyers (491; 2)

Jessica Carvell, Chair

MBA Branch Statistics

<i>Members</i>	<i>Sections</i>
1,626	36
<i>Section Membership</i>	
6,067	



2020/2021 SECTION ACTIVITY

Aboriginal Law

January 21, 2021

Mid-Winter CPD – Aboriginal Law or Indigenous Law – what's the difference?
Building Connections Networking Event for Indigenous Law Students (*joint event with Law Society of Manitoba and MLSA*)

March 8, 2021

Administrative Law

October 28, 2020

Filing of Complaints with the Human Rights Tribunal (*joint session with Labour & Employment Law Section*)

January 22, 2021

Mid-Winter CPD – Spoiler Alert! What's Happening in Administrative Law?

May 5, 2021

Legal Research when appearing before an Administrative Tribunal (*joint session with Legal Research Section*)

May 13, 2021

Arbitrations and Appeals (*joint session with Civil Litigation Section*)

Animal Law

October 20, 2020

"Ag-Gag" Laws in Canada

December 16, 2020

The *Jane Goodall Act*: Legislative efforts to strengthen animal protection and recognize animal interests in Canada

June 10, 2021

Recent Developments in Service Animals & The Law

Business Law

January 21, 2021

Mid-Winter CPD – Corporate Insights and Taxation of Partnerships (*joint session with Taxation Law Section*)

CCCA (Canadian Corporate Counsel Association)

October 6, 2020

House of Cards: Insolvency Strategies and Your Supply Chain

December 11, 2020

Ethics for In-House Counsel

February 22, 2021

Tips and Traps: Governance Issues Edition

March 26, 2021

COVID-19 Vaccinations: Workplace & Employee Considerations – Labour, Employment and Privacy Law (*joint session with Public Sector Lawyers' Section*)

June 17, 2021

Effective Negotiation for Legal Counsel

Child & Youth Law

September 25, 2020

Child Protection Dockets and MYC and Youth Bails

November 9, 2020

MCHP JustCare Study - The Overlap Between the Child Welfare and Youth Criminal Justice Systems: Documenting "Cross-Over Kids" in Manitoba

February 4, 2021

Summary Judgment in Child Protection Proceedings (*joint session with Constitutional/Human Rights Law Section*)

February 18, 2021

Child Protection in the Provincial Court (*joint session with Constitutional/Human Rights Law Section*)

February 26, 2021

Watson applications in Child Protection proceedings (*joint session with Constitutional/Human Rights Law Section*)

June 14, 2021

Exploring s.38(1)(b) of the *Child and Family Services Act*

June 25, 2021

MYC and Youth Bails – A Primer

Civil Litigation

October 21, 2020

Insolvency Law for Civil Litigators (*joint session with Insolvency Law Section*)

December 7, 2020

Advocacy and Procedure in Manitoba in the Era of COVID-19: Comments from Chief Justice Joyal on the recent Practice Directions on Remote and Off-Site Trials

January 22, 2021

Mid-Winter CPD – Self-Represented Litigants: A Primer on Ethics, Procedure and Professionalism

April 19, 2021

Construction Deficiencies and Limitation Periods (*joint session with Construction & Infrastructure Law Section*)

May 12, 2021

Everything You Need to Know about Administrative Procedure before the Municipal Board, the Land Value Appraisal Commission and Generally (*joint session with Municipal Law Section*)
Arbitrations and Appeals (*joint session with Administrative Law Section*)

May 13, 2021

Constitutional/Human Rights

November 17, 2020

Safe Third Country Agreement (*joint session with Immigration Law Section*)

December 14, 2020

s.24(1) – An Overview for the Criminal Law Practitioner (*joint session with Criminal Justice Section*)

February 4, 2021

Summary Judgment in Child Protection Proceedings (*joint session with Child & Youth Law Section*)

February 18, 2021

Child Protection in the Provincial Court (*joint session with Child & Youth Law Section*)

February 26, 2021

Watson applications in Child Protection proceedings (*joint session with Child & Youth Law Section*)

March 25, 2021

Warrantless Searches: Electronic Devices at the Border

May 18, 2021

Best Practices for Virtual Court

June 11, 2021

Best Practices in JADR for Employment Law Practitioners (*joint session with Labour & Employment Law Section*)

Construction & Infrastructure Law

April 19, 2021

Construction Deficiencies and Limitation Periods (*joint session with Civil Litigation Section*)

Criminal Justice

December 14, 2020

s.24(1) – An Overview for the Criminal Law Practitioner (*joint session with Constitutional/Human Rights Law Section*)

June 8, 2021

Top Supreme Court/Court of Appeal cases for 2020-2021

June 21, 2021

Welcome to the Practice of Criminal Law

2020/2021 SECTION ACTIVITY



Elder Law

December 21, 2020
January 22, 2021

June 16, 2021

Update on Medical Assistance in Dying
Mid-Winter CPD - A Few Shades of Grey... Attorney's Compensation and the Court's Dispensation Power
Who is my client? Balancing Ethical Obligations, Family Dynamics and Business Considerations in Wills, POAs and HCDs for older clients (*joint session with Small, Solo General Practice Section and Wills, Estates and Trusts Section*)

Equality Issues

January 21, 2021

The Business Case for Equity: Why Inclusive Workplaces are Successful

Family Law

January 21, 2021
January 21, 2021
February 24, 2021
February 25, 2021

June 15, 2021

Mid-Winter CPD – Family Law Year in Review
Mid-Winter CPD – Family Law in the Pandemic Era
The Child Support Recalculation Service and Maintenance Enforcement: What's New?
Assisted Reproduction and Divorce or Death: Important Legal Considerations for Clients (*joint session with Wills, Estates and Trusts Section*)
Standard Clauses Version 6: how to draft orders that won't be rejected

Immigration Law

October 14, 2020
November 17, 2020

March 23, 2021
May 18, 2021

Navigating Orders in Council during the Covid 19 Pandemic
Safe Third Country Agreement (*joint session with Constitutional/Human Rights Law Section*)
Update from CBSA Enforcement Branch
Update from Service Canada regarding LMIA's, GTS, etc.

Insolvency Law

October 21, 2020
December 15, 2021

January 21, 2021

Insolvency Law for Civil Litigators (*joint session with Civil Litigation Section*)
Insolvency Law Section Annual CPD/Holiday Event (*joint session with MAIRP*)
Mid-Winter CPD – Crown Priorities in Insolvency

International Law

December 10, 2020

March 4, 2021

IncoTerms 2020: What you need to know
Home and the World – Planning for the Multijurisdictional Estate (*joint session with Wills, Estates and Trusts Section*)

Labour & Employment Law

October 28, 2020

Filing of Complaints with the Human Rights Tribunal (*joint session with Administrative Law Section*)

November 23, 2020
January 21, 2021

June 11, 2021

Legal Research

October 1, 2020
October 23, 2020
January 21, 2021

January 21, 2021

March 3, 2021
April 6, 2021

May 5, 2021

June 22, 2021

Labour & Employment Law 101 Panel
Mid-Winter CPD – Workplace Investigations
Best Practices in JADR for Employment Law Practitioners (*joint session with Constitutional/Human Rights Law Section*)

Legal Technology and “Innovation” – The Rapidly Changing Practice of Law
Open Source Software for Legal Research
Mid-Winter CPD – Manitoba Law Reform Commission: Current Areas of Law Reform
Mid-Winter CPD – The Rapid Development and Effect of AI in The Practice of Law and Legal Research
Researching Indigenous Laws
Legal Research in a Global Pandemic: Experiences and Lessons Learned
Legal Research when appearing before an Administrative Tribunal (*joint session with Administrative Law Section*)
Annual Year End Wrap Up

Municipal Law

May 12, 2021

Everything You Need to Know about Administrative Procedure before the Municipal Board, the Land Value Appraisal Commission and Generally (*joint session with Civil Litigation Section*)

Public Sector Lawyers

September 15, 2020

December 1, 2020
March 26, 2021

June 23, 2021

Lawyers acting as Attorneys, Executors or Administrators in their personal capacity (*joint session with Wills, Estates and Trusts Section*)
COVID-19 Roundtable: Working from Home – What the He*?!
COVID-19 Vaccinations: Workplace & Employee Considerations – Labour, Employment and Privacy Law (*joint session with CCCA Section*)
COVID-19 Roundtable & Year-End Update

Real Property

November 5, 2020

January 22, 2021

July 27, 2021

Old System and Real Property Applications
Mid-Winter CPD – New Builds and Construction: Condominiums and Development Agreements
Property Tax Adjustments

Securities Law

October 29, 2020
May 6, 2021

Securities Regulatory Update
Recent Developments in Securities Regulation



2020/2021 SECTION ACTIVITY

Small, Solo and General Practice

June 16, 2021 Who is my client? Balancing Ethical Obligations, Family Dynamics and Business Considerations in Wills, POAs and HCDs for older clients (*joint session with Elder Law and Wills, Estates and Trusts Section*)

SOGIC Manitoba

March 3, 2021 2SLGBTQIA + Legal Community Members Virtual Panel Discussion
March 17, 2021 Discussion on the CBA-BC – Gender Inclusive Pronouns Practice Directive

Taxation Law

January 21, 2021 Mid-Winter CPD – Corporate Insights and Taxation of Partnerships (*joint session with Business Law Section*)
January 22, 2021 Mid-Winter CPD – Current Issues in Tax Law

Technology, Intellectual Property & Privacy Law

April 21, 2021 Technological Competence – What is it and What does it Mean for Lawyers in Manitoba
April 21, 2021 Cyber Privacy and Data Protection

Wills, Estates and Trusts

September 15, 2020 Lawyers acting as Attorneys, Executors or Administrators in their personal capacity (*joint session with Public Sector Lawyers' Section*)

December 9, 2020
January 22, 2021

February 25, 2021

March 4, 2021

June 16, 2021

Women Lawyers

December 3, 2020

January 22, 2021

March 23, 2021

Young Lawyers

November 4, 2020
January 22, 2021

Bodies and Graveyards
Mid-Winter CPD – A Few Shades of Grey...Attorney's Compensation and the Court's Dispensation Power
Assisted Reproduction and Divorce or Death: Important Legal Considerations for Clients (*joint session with Family Law Section*)
Home and the World – Planning for the Multijurisdictional Estate (*joint session with International Law Section*)
Who is my client? Balancing Ethical Obligations, Family Dynamics and Business Considerations in Wills, POAs and HCDs for older clients (*joint session with Elder Law and Small, Solo and General Practice Section*)

Roundtable Discussion – Planning for a successful return to work after maternity leave
Mid-Winter CPD – Resilience in 2021: Mentorship, Perseverance and Growth
How to be your own Advocate in the Legal World

Ask A Young Lawyer Anything!
Mid-Winter CPD – Introducing and Developing a Trauma-Informed Legal Practice



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1500 - 444 St. Mary Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3C 3T1
tel/tél : 204-927-1210 | fax/télé : 204-927-1212 | admin@cba-mb.ca | www.cba-mb.ca