



THE CANADIAN  
BAR ASSOCIATION  
Yukon Branch

## SPRING 2016 NEWSLETTER

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

Happy Spring and welcome to the second edition of the CBA Yukon Branch's newsletter! Your Executive has been very busy in the past few months with National President Janet Fuhrer's visit to the Yukon and the organization of the Yukon Branch's first Mid-Winter meeting in many years. Both events met with great success. Janet (rightly) described the Yukon as "[Canada's best kept secret](#)" in CBA's national newsletter, thus providing great exposure to our



region to more than 37,000 CBA members across the country. Back at the Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre, around 40 members of the Bar (both CBA members and non-members) attended a full day of CLEs and social events made possible thanks to our wonderful volunteers and staff. The positive feedback received is encouraging, and hopefully signals the beginning of a new annual tradition in our jurisdiction.

On the National front, members of the Executive and two voting Council members travelled to Ottawa on February 20-21 to attend the National Mid-Winter meeting. In the context of the Re-Think project, the CBA National Council adopted a new [Strategic Direction](#) to orient the future direction of the

organization. The Re-Think Steering Committee also presented the two [governance models](#) that are being developed for feedback. The CBA is currently carrying out consultations across the country on this subject. Take a look at these models and let us know what you think they would mean for our jurisdiction, and for the organization nationally. Alternatively, you can share your feedback directly with the Re-Think Steering Committee by emailing [cbarethink@cba.org](mailto:cbarethink@cba.org).

As always, if you have any questions, comments or suggestions to improve the services we offer, please do not hesitate to contact us at [cbayukon@northwestel.net](mailto:cbayukon@northwestel.net)

Geneviève Chabot, President, Yukon Branch

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**SAVE THE DATE!** This year's Law Day Fun Run and Walk will be held on **April 29, 2016!** Start your walking/running season off on the right foot and help a local charity develop an access to justice project!

**Spring Social Event:** Keep an eye out for our next social event, where we will celebrate Spring and the contribution of some of our devoted staff and volunteers to the CBA Yukon.

**Aboriginal Law Section:** CBA Yukon's Aboriginal Law section is planning the upcoming year's events and activities and would like to invite all members to contribute to this process.

The CBA Aboriginal Law Co-chairs, Mark Radke and Eden Alexander, will be hosting a meeting on April 5, 2016 (time and location to be determined) where members are invited to submit their ideas for section events and activities over the 2016/2017 term. A brainstorming session concerning topics pertinent to Aboriginal Law in the Yukon will be facilitated and event/activities ideas will be discussed to gauge member interest.

Those interested in attending should contact [eden.alexander@justice.gc.ca](mailto:eden.alexander@justice.gc.ca); members unable to attend may submit their contributions via email to the same address.

For further information on any of these events, contact Laura at [cbayukon@northwestel.net](mailto:cbayukon@northwestel.net)

## CBA NATIONAL PRESIDENT JANET FUHRER'S VISIT TO THE YUKON

National President Janet Fuhrer stopped by Whitehorse February 24-26 to promote CBA initiatives and meet with local officials. First on her agenda was a dinner at Antoinette's with the Executive and the judiciary. We thank Judges Veale and Cozens for accepting our invitation.



The next day, Janet met with the local media to discuss topics of interest for CBA nationally and locally. Joined by our Vice-President Melissa Atkinson, Janet notably talked about access to justice and the need for greater funding for *Gladue* reports in the sentencing of aboriginal offenders. These topics were also on the agenda for Janet's meetings with the Hon. Brad Cathers, Minister of Justice, and Jim Tucker, President of the Law Society of Yukon.



Meanwhile, at the Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre, the CBA Yukon held its Mid-Winter meeting. Janet graciously accepted to participate in two sessions. In the first one, she took part in a panel on the topic of access to justice. In the second session, Janet, a renowned expert in intellectual property law, shared her insight into the preservation of traditional knowledge in Canada.



After two busy days, Janet enjoyed some time off taking advantage of what the Yukon has best to offer. In addition to attending various Rendezvous events, she visited the Wildlife Preserve and Takhini Hot Springs with members of the Yukon Branch's Executive. Read what Janet had to say about her experience in the Yukon, which she calls "Canada's best kept secret", [here](#).



## CBA YUKON MID-WINTER MEETING

The CBA Yukon was pleased this year to bring back its Mid-Winter meeting, an event that had not been held in our jurisdiction for a number of years. The event took place on February 25 at the Kwanlin Dun Cultural Centre.



The attendees enjoyed more than 6 hours of CLEs on various topics including access to justice, ethics, property law, privacy and access to information, and intellectual property law. The event was followed by a cocktail reception to welcome CBA National President Janet Fuhrer to the Yukon.



The Executive would like to thank the organising committee comprised of Chair Marlaine Anderson-Lindsay and members Tom Ulyett and Heather McFadgen, as well as all the presenters and moderators for their time.

## 2016 NATIONAL MID-WINTER MEETING

On February 20-21, members of the Executive, as well as two voting Council members, attended CBA's Mid-Winter Meeting of Council in Ottawa. In the course of this 1½ day meeting, many topics of interest for CBA nationally were discussed. Notably, Council passed a host of resolutions, including resolutions on the accommodation of maternity in court gowning directives, business principles on forced labour, labour trafficking and illegal or harmful child labour, and accommodation of trans persons in correctional or detention facilities. The Mid-Winter 2016's resolutions are available [here](#).

Another topic of interest at the Mid-Winter meeting was the [Re-Think](#) steering committee's update to Council. As you may be aware, CBA is involved in an exercise to examine modifications to the mandate and governance structure of the organization. Following extensive consultation with members, as well as many (many) meetings of the Board of Directors, the Steering Committee presented to Council a [Strategic Direction](#) document, as well as two different [governance models](#). While the Strategic Direction document was unanimously approved by Council, more work is needed to finalize the governance model that will eventually be implemented in the Fall of 2016. You are invited to share your feedback on these governance models by emailing us at [cbayukon@northwestel.net](mailto:cbayukon@northwestel.net) or the Re-Think Steering Committee directly at [cbarethink@cba.org](mailto:cbarethink@cba.org)

Other highlights from the Mid-Winter meeting include speeches by the Minister of Justice and Attorney-General of Canada the Hon. Jody Wilson-Raybould, and the Minister of Veteran Affairs the Hon. Kent Hehr, as well as a panel on entity regulation.

## DO LAW DIFFERENTLY: FUTURES FOR YOUNG LAWYERS

*From CBA National*

The world outside of law school can be seen as full of challenges or opportunities, depending on how prepared you are to face the challenges and seize the opportunities. The CBA Legal Futures Initiative, in cooperation with CBA-Young Lawyers, has developed a tool that can give you a bit of a head-start.

Written by Jordan Furlong, a leading legal futures thinker, [Do Law Differently: Futures for Young Lawyers](#) lays out for law students and young lawyers the current state of the legal profession, provides information about the skills those new to the profession will need to succeed in it, and opens up the range of opportunities to holders of a law degree.

The guide also features interviews with 26 #NewLaw pioneers – people like Pascale Pageau, founder and president of Delegatus, who’ve found new ways to practice law successfully in a profession beset by an uncertain economy, globalization, and rapid technological changes. They’ve responded creatively to demands from clients who are increasingly certain about what they want – and don’t want – from their legal professionals.

The guide provides information about skills and competencies that you’ll need to know, and suggests resources to those who want to explore any of the options further.

Do Law Differently, launched at the CBA Mid-Winter meeting of Council, is offered in conjunction with a new Facebook site, a closed group where law students and young lawyers can gather to talk about the future, and their ideas for meeting it head on.

Do Law Differently – it’s a suggestion and a necessity.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteering with the CBA Yukon is one of the best ways to fully enjoy the benefits of your membership. Professional development, networking and travel opportunities are all at your fingertips! For information on any of the positions listed below, or to submit an application, please email Laura at [cbayukon@northwestel.net](mailto:cbayukon@northwestel.net)

### National Standing Committees

The CBA is currently seeking candidates for its National Standing Committees for 2016-2017. All CBA members are eligible to apply for positions on the following committees:

- Access to Justice
- Awards
- Communications
- Equality
- Ethics and Professional Responsibility
- International Initiatives

- Judicial Compensation & Benefits
- Legislation and Law Reform
- Resolutions, Constitution and Bylaws
- Legal Aid Liaison
- Professional Development
- Supreme Court of Canada Liaison

For further details on the mandate and time commitment for each committee, click [here](#). For information and an application form, click [here](#) or contact us at [cbayukon@northwestel.net](mailto:cbayukon@northwestel.net). Your application must be sent to us by **April 15, 2016**.

### **Yukon Legal Services Society Board of Directors**

The Minister of Justice is seeking recommendations from the CBA for an appointment to the Board of the Yukon Legal Services Society. If you are interested in submitting your name, please email Laura at [cbayukon@northwestel.net](mailto:cbayukon@northwestel.net) with your [application form](#), résumé, and a brief statement of your interest.

## **CONTACT US**

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Sent on Behalf of the CBA

This message is sent on behalf of the Canadian Bar Association by its Yukon Branch. You can contact the Yukon Branch at PO Box 31712, Whitehorse, YT, Y1A 6L3 or [yt-cba.org](http://yt-cba.org) and you can contact the CBA at 500-865 Carling Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1S 5S8 or [www.cba.org](http://www.cba.org)

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