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MEMBER STATISTICS:

(October 3, 2016)

Resident members	154
Non-resident members	204
Total members	358

THE YUKON AMICUS

FEDERATION OF LAW SOCIETIES

*by John Phelps,
Council Member*

As the Council member for the Yukon on the Federation of Law Societies, it continues to be my pleasure to be your representative and to update you on the Federation Council activities. The Council has completed its governance review and is moving towards strategic planning in order to set priorities for the next several years. A strategic planning session will follow the annual conference on October 21, and I look forward to updating you on the established priorities for the organization.

Since my update to you at the AGM in May, I have been appointed to the Model Code of Professional Conduct Law Society Liaison Group. I attended one conference call in September in this capacity, which was largely an introductory session for me to be introduced to the work being done by the group. I look forward to bringing issues to the Executive and to the membership as they arise.



John Phelps

The Federation continues to move forward on a variety of initiatives that I will briefly touch on below.

NCA Update

In 2015–16, the National Committee on Accreditation (NCA) received 1,718 applications for assessment, an 18 percent increase over the previous year. During that same period, 898 Certificates of Qualification were issued, compared to 892 in the previous year.

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NCA candidates wrote approximately 5,000 exams during the year. The NCA holds examination sessions four times a year in at least four Canadian cities, including Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton and Toronto. Applicants may also request permission to write in other cities in Canada and overseas. Examinations are typically written in 30 locations.

This fall, the Federation will carry out a comprehensive program review of the NCA.

Annual conference to focus on preparing legal professionals of tomorrow

The Federation will hold its 2016 Annual Conference in St. Andrews-by-the-Sea, New Brunswick on October 19 and 20. The conference is being planned in partnership with the law school community and will focus on preparing the legal professionals of tomorrow.

Presenters from Canada's law societies and the legal academy will discuss a range of topics dealing with "tomorrow's lawyer," including experiential learning, understanding the respective roles and operating realities of the law societies and legal academy, and responding to the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Federation brief says proposed governance for IP agents would duplicate regulatory requirements

In a submission to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada and the Canadian Intellectual Property Office, the Federation of Law Societies of Canada says the proposed federal governance framework for Intellectual Property (IP) agents would create unnecessary duplicate regulatory requirements for the profession.

The Federation submission was filed in response to a government consultation on a governance and regulatory regime for IP agents. The Federation also notes that duplicate regulation could raise issues involving solicitor-client privilege.

“The Council has completed its governance review and is moving towards strategic planning in order to set priorities for the next several years.”

The Federation brief says that many IP agents are lawyers who are already regulated by provincial or territorial law societies. "There is no public interest reason to subject lawyer IP agents to regulation by two distinct regulatory bodies and the additional regulatory burden, potential conflicts and likely confusion created by such duplication should be avoided."

Federation participates in new Supreme Court appointment process

The Federation of Law Societies of Canada is pleased to participate in the new Supreme Court of Canada appointment process to be used to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Justice Thomas Cromwell.

Federation President Jeff Hirsch has been appointed by the Prime Minister to represent the Federation on a new advisory committee responsible for recommending a short list of functionally bilingual, qualified candidates for appointment of the Court.

Federation at the Supreme Court of Canada

The Federation periodically intervenes at the Supreme Court of Canada on matters of national interest. The Court recently granted leave to the Federation to intervene in the matter of *Green v. Law Society of Manitoba*. The case involves a challenge to a law society's authority to require members to undertake continuing professional development activities and to suspend members for administrative infractions without a hearing. Neil Finkelstein of the Toronto office of McCarthy Tétrault is the lead counsel for the Federation in this matter.

Responding to the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

On the direction of the Federation Council, the Federation Executive has established a working group to develop recommendation on how to best respond to the Calls to Action in the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).

The Council recognized that engaging and consulting with representatives of Canada's Indigenous peoples will be essential in determining next steps. Council also acknowledges the importance of ensuring that the Federation's efforts complement ongoing activity by individual law societies as they also respond to the TRC's report.

2016 consultation on Model Code amendments

The Standing Committee on the Model Code of Professional Conduct recently completed a consultation on proposed amendments involving rules on competence, dishonesty/fraud, and incriminating physical evidence. The consultation also dealt with a new rule addressing responsibilities that arise when a lawyer leaves a law firm. A package of amendments will be circulated at the end of November and submitted to Council for approval at its March 2017 meeting.

National Admission Standards Project

The Federation Council has accepted a recommendation from the National Admission Standards Project Steering Committee that all work stop on developing a national tool for assessing the competencies in the National Competence Profile. The recommendation was made after extensive consultations with law societies that followed circulation in September 2015 of the Committee's proposal for the development of a national qualifying assessment system for admission to the legal profession in Canada.

The Committee concluded that there is not a critical mass of law societies ready to move forward with this work. Consideration is being given to continuing work on other aspects of the National Admissions Standards project,

including the update of the National Competency Profile and development of a good character standard.

Federation President visiting the Yukon

For the first time since our friend and Yukon member Tracy-Anne McPhee was the President, the sitting President of the Federation of Law Societies is scheduled to visit Whitehorse on November 2 and 3 of this year. Jeff Hirsch will accompany Jim Tucker and me to Old Crow on November 2 to participate in planned Law Society of Yukon discussions with the Old Crow community members on access to justice issues in their community. On November 3 we are planning a visit with Kwanlin Dün First Nation representatives to hear about their community initiatives to address justice-related issues. Jeff will also provide interviews to local press representatives on Federation activities. He will end the day by presenting to the membership on access to justice. A social will follow his presentation.

If there are specific issues you would like to speak to Jeff about, contact me and I will make every effort to accommodate your request.

I hope to see all of you at the CLE and the social event on November 3.



UPCOMING DATES AND DEADLINES

Canadian Lawyers Insurance Association (CLIA)

For those of you with mandatory professional liability insurance coverage, the Notice of Levy will be sent in November 2016. The deadline to submit your payment will be Thursday, December 15, 2016.

Membership

Annual Membership Renewals (Form 13) will be sent out in December, and memberships must be renewed by January 31, 2017. You are required to have one hour of CPD for every month of active practising status. With the year end quickly approaching, now is the time to check to see if you need obtain more eligible CPD hours before December 31 in order to meet your requirements for 2016.

If you do not intend to renew your membership, please contact the Law Society well in advance of the deadline to discuss resignation or change of status options.

Professional Corporations

For those of you with Professional Corporations, renewal notices will be sent out shortly. The deadline to submit your renewal document (Form 35) is November 30, 2016.

Christmas Social

Date in December TBA.

DISCIPLINE REPORT

Rule 112 Referral

A Rule 112 referral is a way of resolving a complaint against a lawyer. The Discipline Committee Chair can make a Rule 112 referral as an alternative to referring the matter to a committee of inquiry for a hearing into the lawyer's conduct. To do so requires the consent of the lawyer, and involves a confidential meeting between the lawyer against whom the complaint is made and two members of the Discipline Committee.

The possible outcomes of a Rule 112 referral range from a dismissal of the complaint, to the undertaking of remedial steps, or the imposition of any of the sanctions provided for in the *Legal Profession Act*, with the consent of the lawyer.

Anonymous summary of a recent Rule 112 referral

A member of the public complained that the Member was in a conflict of interest by accepting a retainer to act as defence counsel in a criminal matter when another lawyer from the Member's firm was defending a co-accused. The Member expressed the view that a conflict did not exist, because he practised as an independent law corporation. The complaint was referred to two members of the Discipline Committee for review and disposition, pursuant to Rule 112.

The two members of the Discipline Committee noted that the Member's webpage, office signage, and other marketing materials suggested that he practised as a member of a firm with another lawyer, not as a sole practitioner in an office-sharing arrangement. Practising as an independent law corporation was not sufficient to establish the Member as a sole practitioner. The facts giving rise to the complaint therefore could be found to be conduct deserving of censure because, if the Member practised as a member of a firm the acceptance of the retainer to act for the complainant could be a conflict of interest contrary to rule 3.4-1 of the Code of Professional Conduct. Alternatively, if the Member was a sole practitioner in an office sharing arrangement, the marketing of his professional services could be considered misleading, confusing or deceptive, contrary to rule 4.2-1.

The Member confirmed that he would continue his practice as a member of a firm with another lawyer and established a conflict check system, to the satisfaction of the two members of the Discipline Committee. It was directed that no further action be taken in relation to the complaint.



LONG WORKING HOURS AND DEPRESSION

By Rebecca Bromwich, Canadian Bar Association

According to a 2015 survey by *Legal Week* (subscription required), 82 percent of partners and senior lawyers at leading U.K. and U.S. law firms think their long hours at work are harming their health. These results are from a survey of 267 senior lawyers at major U.S. and U.K. firms. The majority of lawyers surveyed report that, in addition to working long hours during the week, they return to work every weekend. Further, over 10 percent said they work 70 hours or more in an average week, and that is only the thin edge of the wedge: 34 percent of respondents work 60 hours or more per week, and 75 percent work at least 50 hours every week. Respondents were not junior lawyers or new calls, but senior practitioners at high levels in law firm hierarchies.

Currently, a movement is building to acknowledge and remove the stigma from mental health issues, especially with depression, that are troubling a statistically large number of lawyers. Notable leadership has been taken in this advocacy by Ontario Bar Association (OBA) President Orlando Da Silva, who sees fighting the stigmatization of mental health struggles as a significant aspect of his presidency with the OBA. Similarly, the Canadian Bar Association's Michele Hollins has shed light on her struggles with depression in order to counter the stigma faced by others. This advocacy is complementary to longstanding support made available by LPAC, the Legal Profession Assistance Conference of the CBA, to lawyers facing mental health issues.

Without question, when leaders in our profession tell their stories about struggling with mental health, this advocacy is brave. It is important to remove the stigma from mental health concerns. However, when advocacy focuses on the struggles of individuals, the systemic and contextual circumstances that those individuals are facing can get blurred in the background. It is precisely those circumstances that the *Legal Week* study reveals that should be brought into view.

A MEMBER'S FEEDBACK

“I think it [YLAP] is an invaluable program. Counselling is a crucial aspect to maintaining wellness in a lawyer's life. I have used the services of Nimco & Associates through the YLAP program. I much prefer this program to what is available to Yukon government employees, as I am able to schedule directly with the local organization providing the counselling services rather than having to call a toll-free number belonging to a massive corporation whose staff barely know where Whitehorse is. I've been very pleased with the services provided by Nimco, having used them several times now.

I want to express my gratitude to the Law Society for providing this service through YLAP. Thank you!”

YUKON LAWYERS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

YLAP — Yukon Lawyers Assistance Program — provides confidential support, education and referrals for Law Society members suffering from alcohol and/or chemical dependence, stress, anxiety, depression or just about any type of personal problem.

YLAP services cover 12 hours per year of private and confidential professional counselling for personal or work-related difficulties.

Strictly Confidential • Non-Disciplinary
Compassionate • Independent

The service is provided by Nimco & Co. and is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Call 668-4058 any time.

As was determined in 2012 study published in the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, long hours of work and lack of sleep produce depressive symptoms. The study's authors, Drs. Takahashi Amagasa and Takeo Nakayama came to the conclusion that decreasing workload “reduces the occurrence of major depressive disorder ... by controlling factors in the occupational environment.” These findings are consistent with the recommendations of the recently released Canadian National Standard for Psychological Health and Safety in the workplace, discussed by blogger Alysia Davies earlier this year.

In light of the *Legal Week* study, and the findings of psychologists about long hours of work, it stands to reason that any advocacy initiatives undertaken to address lawyers' mental health should go hand-in-hand with measures taken to address the systemic conditions in which lawyers work: both the individual and the systemic dimensions of lawyers' health should be simultaneously brought into focus in order for our profession to be liveable for practitioners, and provide the best legal services to all.

Rebecca Bromwich is a lawyer for equality and law reform at the Canadian Bar Association.

Reproduced with permission, Canadian Bar Association, CBA Solutions Series, Practical Solutions for Everyday Problems, April 21, 2015, “Long working hours and depression.” www.nationalmagazine.ca/Blog/April-2015/Long-working-hours-and-depression.aspx

UPCOMING CLEs

The Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Committee has the following CLEs scheduled:

- Boundaries and Healthy Practice – October 27, 2016;
- Children, Experts and the Law – October 28, 2016;
- Access to Justice – November 3, 2016;
- Administrative Law – December 8, 2016.

The CLE Committee is also working on the following topics for CLEs: insurance law; tax law; and immigration law.

The Law Society of Yukon makes every effort to ensure that locally offered CLEs are accredited by the Law Society of British Columbia and may be applied towards the British Columbia mandatory 12-hour continuing professional development requirement.

CPD: Please remember to keep track of the CLEs you attend in 2016. You will be required to attend the mandatory 12 hours of continuing professional development and report it annually on your membership renewal documentation (Form 13).

- Course name
- Provider (e.g., CBA, Law Society)
- Format (in person, DVD, webinar)
- Role (attendee, presenter, author)
- Date (day and month)
- Number of hours

Please note that unless otherwise stated **all** CLEs organized by the Law Society of Yukon will count toward your required CPD hours.

CLE CALENDAR NOW ON LAW SOCIETY WEBSITE: www.lawsocietyyukon.com/calendar.php

Yukon First Nations 101

This course has been accredited by the Law Society of BC for four credits (one of those being for the BC mandatory Ethics component) and is on the list of courses in the Member Zone of their website.

NATIONAL CRIMINAL AND FAMILY LAW PROGRAMS

The 2016 National Criminal Law Program

The 2016 edition of Canada's largest criminal law conference was held in July in Charlottetown, PEI. The National Criminal Law Program attracted more than 700 participants, including 150 first-time attendees. Under the theme "Substantive Criminal Law, Advocacy, and the Administration of Justice," highlights included breakout sessions that focused on appellate advocacy and advocacy before juries.

This year's conference also introduced "mentoring breakfasts." These informal gatherings gave young lawyers the chance to interact with senior faculty members, who offered valuable insight into real-life case management experience and common practice problems encountered by prosecutors and defence counsel.

The next edition of the National Criminal Law Program is scheduled for July 10–14, 2017, in Vancouver, BC. Details will be available on the Criminal Law Program web page (<http://flsc.ca/national-initiatives/national-criminal-law-program>).

The 2016 National Family Law Program

The Federation's biennial National Family Law Program was held in July in St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. The opening plenary focused on "Lessons from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission" and "The Canadian Human Rights Tribunal for Family Law." The Wednesday plenary dealt with adversarial ethics in a problem-solving environment.

The program also included several social events for informal networking. More than 400 participants attended this year's program. The next National Family Law Program will be held in July 2018.

Dealing with a self-represented litigant who really needs legal advice

Self-represented litigants are a challenging reality in today's legal landscape. In addition to the extra time and effort that can make dealing with a self-rep more expensive for your client and more frustrating for you, it seems there is a greater potential for a malpractice claim. This is highlighted by the number of claims LAWPRO is seeing where the opposing party was a self-rep. In 2014, there were 162 such claims, almost double the 86 we saw a decade earlier, in 2004.

As you work to resolve a matter, you may find yourself negotiating directly with a self-represented litigant. In the discussions that will occur, facts will be disclosed, legal issues will arise, and decisions will have to be made by both parties. As the lawyer in the middle of these discussions, you may be faced with the question of what duties you owe and to whom.

Consider the following hypothetical situation

You represent the wife in a matrimonial proceeding. The husband is unrepresented. The marriage was of short duration and there were no children. The only asset is the husband's pension. At a mediation, the parties agree to settle on the basis that the husband's pension will be divided equally. The husband, who is in a new relationship and is anxious to settle, signs the minutes. Before you have your client sign the settlement documents, you require a clarification from the pension provider:

Following the mediation, you review additional disclosure provided by the husband and discover that the husband made an assignment in bankruptcy following the separation. You also realize you overlooked documents in your file which mentioned the assignment. You conduct a bankruptcy search and, to your surprise, learn that the husband had been discharged following your retainer and prior to the mediation.

An order of discharge from bankruptcy releases the bankrupt from all claims provable in bankruptcy. In this case, because of the husband's assignment in bankruptcy, the wife should have obtained a court order under Section 69.4 of the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* for leave to pursue her claim. Pensions are not assets that vest with the trustee in bankruptcy and are exempt from bankruptcy proceedings. As such, the husband's creditors would not have been prejudiced and a leave order most likely would have been granted. Assuming leave had been granted, the wife would have been free to pursue the claim for part of her husband's pension. However, as the husband was discharged from bankruptcy, it is too late to seek leave. In this case, the wife could very well lose her claim to the husband's pension. As mentioned earlier, the husband is in a new relationship and is still eager to sign the minutes of settlement. He emails and calls you repeatedly asking whether his wife has now signed the settlement documents.

As it turns out, the minutes of settlement need minor amendments due to information given by the pension provider, which requires the husband to re-sign them. You are concerned about the ethics of asking the husband to re-sign a settlement now that you know the husband had no legal obligation to divide his pension.

What do you do?

Fortunately, the Rules of Professional Conduct provide guidance for this situation. First, as a lawyer you owe a duty to your client. Having said that, Rule 7.2-9 (this Rule is the same as Rule 7.2-9 in the Yukon Code of Professional Conduct) provides that when a lawyer deals on a client's behalf with an unrepresented person, the lawyer shall:

- Take care to see that the unrepresented person is not proceeding under the impression that their interests will be protected by the lawyer; and
- Take care to see that the unrepresented person understands that the lawyer is acting exclusively in the interests of the client and accordingly their comments may be partisan.

“ As the lawyer in the middle of these discussions, you may be faced with the question of what duties you owe and to whom. ”

After having reported this matter to LawPRO, you also consult with Practice Advisory at the Law Society of Upper Canada. As a result of direction provided to you, you draft a letter to the husband which encloses the Minutes of Settlement and includes the following paragraph:

"Please be informed that I do not represent you in any way and am not protecting your interests. You should therefore seek legal advice prior to signing these documents. I act exclusively for Ms. Smith and any comments that I have made may be partisan. Again, we strongly suggest and recommend that you review these documents with a lawyer of your own choosing and obtain independent legal advice before signing them. We trust that this is perfectly clear, and remain..."

“ Always remember who your client is, and where your duties lie.”

Although it is not required by the Rules of Professional Conduct, it is prudent to urge the self-represented litigant to obtain independent legal advice as indicated in the above letter. Whether the husband seeks independent legal advice and signs the minutes remains to be seen. Either way, Rule 7.2-9 provides excellent loss prevention advice. Following it will rebut any allegation by the non-client husband that he relied upon the lawyer to protect his interests. Failing to follow the rule invites the risk that such an allegation will succeed. Indeed, there are numerous reported decisions which criticize lawyers for failing to recommend independent legal advice.

Consider the above scenario next time you have a self-rep on the other side. Always remember who your client is, and where your duties lie.

Reproduced with permission, *LawPro Magazine*, volume 15, issue 1, January

2016, page 22: "Could it happen to you? Dealing with a self-represented litigant who really needs legal advice." www.practicepro.ca/LawPROmag/LawPROmagazine15_1_Jan2016.pdf

NEW MEMBERS: FEBRUARY 23 – SEPTEMBER 21, 2016

Abdel-Barr, Khaled – Vancouver, BC
Austman, Angela – Vancouver, BC
Boye, Hana – Vancouver, BC
Bryan, Bradley – Victoria, BC
Budgell, Jennifer – Toronto, ON
Deschamps, Jean-Benoit – Vancouver, BC
Ellerton, Joni – Whitehorse, YT
Guest, Kristina – Vancouver, BC
Innes, Larry – Toronto, ON
Kovak, Naomi – Vancouver, BC
Laverdure, Brittanee – Calgary, AB
Mahony, Heather – Vancouver, BC
Makinson, Biard – Whitehorse, YT
Mercier, Katherine – Whitehorse, YT
Morgan, Sonya – Victoria, BC

Nelson, Vida – Whitehorse, YT
Paul, Sacha – Winnipeg, MB
Porteous, Amy – Whitehorse, YT
Rasmussen, Cathy – Whitehorse, YT
Reynolds, Mark – Toronto, ON
Thornback, James – Vancouver, BC
Veerapen, Roshni – Vancouver, BC
Ward, Douglas – Whitehorse, YT

NEW ARTICLING STUDENT

Van Kessel, Katrina –
Yukon Department of Justice

ACTIVE CERTIFICATES OF PERMISSION TO ACT: 111

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Lauren Whyte moved from Legal Aid to Yukon Department of Justice to cover Tara Grandy's maternity leave.

DLA Piper have closed their Yukon office. Rodney Snow is now working from home.

All Legal Aid offices are now under one roof at the Tutshi Building on Second Avenue.

Tucker & Company moved to Alexander Street and became Tucker Carruthers.

Debbie Hoffman moved from the Yukon Territory to Ontario.

Peter Sandiford left YG to join Lackowicz & Hoffman.

Rita Davie has left the Yukon Territory.

Anna Pugh moved from the Yukon Territory and now lives in BC.

Lawrence Purdy has retired from YG and is working as a sole practitioner.

Leigh Anne Baker has joined Yukon Department of Justice.

YPLEA REPORT

By Carmen Gustafson, Executive Director, YPLEA



Phew, where to start! I have been in the Executive Director position at the Yukon Public Legal Education Association (YPLEA) for just over six months now. In addition to filling Robert Pritchard's very large shoes, I've been busy trying to learn or re-learn the law in many areas, network with lawyers and other legal professionals and get up to speed with running a non-profit. It has been an incredibly rewarding and exciting time.

I would like to recognize all of the assistance I have received from lawyers and legal professionals since I began in this role. I appreciate the collegiality of our Yukon bar as well as the willingness to share your wisdom (and precedents!). It helps me to provide greater service on a small budget and I hope, ultimately, promotes greater access to justice in the Territory.

Many people wonder what the Law Line does. Our mandate is to provide legal education and information. I provide some assistance with filling out forms, explaining what "the law" is on a particular topic, referring to other services, encouraging people to retain a lawyer if needed, or empowering them to represent themselves in straightforward matters. I field questions from every conceivable area of law, from mining to family to real estate. I can deal with anywhere from 10 to 30 inquiries in a day, ranging from a one-minute phone conversation to over an hour consultation in the office. It feels some days like I act more as a counsellor than a lawyer, but as we all know, legal problems often intersect with all other areas of a person's life.

If you would like to become involved in the work that YPLEA does in promoting access to justice at the grassroots level, we are looking for new members of our board. We would love for you to join us at a regular board meeting or at our Annual General Meeting to be held in November. Please contact me if you would like more information.

You are always welcome to drop by the office and say hello, drop off business cards or any legal resources you would like to share or re-home.



CANLII UPDATE

Changes planned for *CanLII Connects* will be implemented this fall, including the ability for users to subscribe to push notifications (i.e., email alerts based on the content of a specific query).



CanLII recently took over the "Best guide to Legal Research" web site, which has been renamed "The Canadian Legal Research and Writing Guide." The domain (legalresearch.org) will not change. An editorial board has been created to help in the future development of the web site.

By mid-September CanLII will publish 4,000 cases from the Dominion Law Reports (DLRs) post 1980 that are cited in cases currently in the CanLII collection. The balance of the DLRs (pre-1980) that are cited in cases currently in the CanLII collection will be published as a PDF in the spring of 2017.

2016 GOLF TOURNAMENT

by Shayne Fairman

The 28th annual Law Society Golf Tournament was held on August 5, 2016, and over 40 golfers enjoyed a fabulous day at Mountain View Golf Course.

Golfers at all levels participate in this fun best ball format.



Top, l-r: Winning team Daniel Macdonald, Gareth Howells, Elmy Harris and Lorne Harris.

Right, l-r: Most Honest Team members Lucas van de Ven, Cathy Rasmussen (on ground), Stephanie Dragoman and Alisha Hardisty.

Below: Legal Aid teams.



The after-tournament banquet and awards ceremony was every bit as enjoyable as the tournament itself. The food catered by Word of Mouth Catering was both tasty and plentiful.

The competition was very close with four teams within three strokes of the lead. The winning team, with a score of three under par 33, was captained by Gareth Howells. Other team members were Dan Macdonald, Elmy Harris and Lorne Harris.

Special acknowledgement was also given to the "most honest" team, whose members clearly enjoyed themselves! They were able to play more golf than any other team, with a score of 54. The Most Honest team included Stephanie Dragoman, Lucas van de Ven, Cathy Rasmussen and Alisha Hardisty.

Prizes were also awarded to "Closest to the Water" (hole #2), "Men's Long Drive" (hole #3), "Women's Closest to the Pin" (hole #5), "Men's Closest to the Pin" (hole #8), and "Women's Long Drive" (hole #9).

Once again, we thank the Law Society for making this tournament a great success and enjoyable experience. Make sure that you join us next year.



LAW SOCIETY AGM AND SUMMER SOCIAL

With the end of the year fast approaching, we are all in the same boat of looking for those coveted CPD/CLE hours before the deadline. We are prepared to offer one final one now called “Where is the High Country Inn?” The Coast High Country is located at 4051 4th Avenue in Whitehorse. That’s in the Yukon Territory. Board Room B is located through the front door of the hotel and then all the way to the back, turning to your left. There — you have just completed “Where is the High Country?” which is good for about 45 seconds of CPD.

Why is this CLE being offered? Well, you see, there were so few members at the Law Society AGM held on May 25, 2016 at the High Country, that we assumed that many LSY members were unfamiliar with its location.

Remember: no law society can be strong without hearing from its own members. The AGM is the perfect time to be heard.

Luckily, the LSY members proved that a week after the AGM they were able to attend our second summer cocktail, held on June 2. Last year, our special guest at the cocktail was Great Weather. This year, our unwelcome guests were Cloudy and Rainy. Thankfully, not all was lost — a good turnout of about 35 people carried the day.

The summer cocktail is a great chance to touch base with your fellow “friends” you see in court and meet the staff that helps them in their work. Who’s that amazing assistant making your opposing counsel look clean and polished? Who’s that paralegal packing a punch behind the scenes? Find out next year at our third annual summer cocktail. It’s a great way to prepare yourself for kids being released from school...and spending the entire summer running through your house...every day...all day.

If reading this sends chills down your spine, feel free to RSVP for the next year’s summer cocktail right now!

NEW MEMBER PROFILE: EDEN ALEXANDER

Eden Alexander grew up along the Slocan River in a small community in British Columbia. She arrived in the Yukon on a contract with the federal Department of Justice in January 2016 and in December of this year, Eden will join Government of Yukon Aboriginal Law Group.

Eden’s first Yukon visit was during a solo bicycle ride from Whitehorse up the Dempster in 2010. She had spent that summer working as a legal intern with Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and was inspired to join the TRC during their Northern National Event in Inuvik.

“It was a beautiful way to introduce myself to the North,” says Eden. “After being slowed by a few flat tires and hail-storms, I came to better understand the realities of the landscape. Pedaling into Inuvik was a meaningful way to reflect upon the power of reconciliation.”



Eden describes that ride as the beginning of her move to Whitehorse. After graduating from McGill’s faculty of law in 2013 and being called to the Ontario Bar in 2014, Eden worked with a national law firm in Ottawa until she saw her opportunity to return.

“I had an intense love affair with the land here in 2010. The wilderness became familiar to me in a way I can’t describe. Despite differences, it reminded me of home. When returning to the Yukon to do good work and put down roots became a possibility, I jumped at it. Everything has been lining up since.”

Since her arrival, Eden has been spending her free time exploring some of the Yukon’s vast wilderness. She has yet to go back up the Dempster, but says another trip is in the works. Good things, she notes, are always worth waiting for.