

**Victoria Bar Association**  
**Minutes of the Executive of February 20, 2007**

Meeting called to order by Kerry Simmons at 5:05 pm.

Members present:

Kerry Simmons  
James Legh  
Charlotte Salomon  
Nisha Bathe  
Sue Wishart

Richard Stewart  
Brooke MacLeod  
Kay Melbye  
Andrew Petter  
Roxanne Helme

1. **MINUTES:** Motion to approve the minutes of February 20, 2007 meeting by Jim Legh, seconded by Kay Melbye – carried.

**2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

- a. **MEMBERSHIP** – Kerry Simmons advised that there are currently 263 members who have paid their dues, and that there are several who have not. She has sent some email reminders.
- b. **CLE/VBA Luncheon** – Thirty people signed up for the lunch with CLE and only 18 attended. The Victoria Bar members were met by 25 CLE current and former board members and staff, engaged in small group discussions and then received a presentation on online resources. CLE was very appreciative that VBA had facilitated this. Richard Stewart made the point that it would be nice to continue corresponding with the CLE board members.
- c. The VBA has been asked to facilitate a meeting among the family bar, judges and court services regarding a consistent protocol or guidelines regarding the handling of desk orders and consent orders in family matters. Kerry will work on setting this up. Charlotte Salomon spoke about the fact that there is going to be a Civil Users Group started here in Victoria that could address concerns with respect to consistency at the Registry.

**3. VICE PRESIDENT REPORT:** (given by Kerry Simmons as Scott Farquhar not present)

- a. **PRESIDENTS PLAQUE** – Kerry stated that the President's Plaque had been completed and that it lists all of the Presidents of VBA since 1943. Unfortunately there is no written record of the President's prior to 1943. The Plaque will be hung in the Barristers Lounge.

**4. TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- a. We received the Financial Statement from Michael Cooper (who was away). All expenses and donations approved at the last meeting as well as regular expenses have been paid leaving us with a balance of \$6,182.75.
- b. BATTLE OF THE BANDS – Roxanne Helme asked for a contribution of \$1000.00 from VBA for the Battle of the Bands. There was discussion about whether this was for specific costs or a donation to the Benevolent Society or a combination of this. There was also discussion about the VBA funding the purchase of trophies for the Battle of the Bands. It was decided that the VBA would fund the purchase of a perpetual trophy to a maximum of \$150.00 and consideration of any further contribution was tabled to the next meeting when Roxanne will provide more information regarding the costs.
- c. HUMANITARIAN AWARD (FACULTY OF LAW UVIC) – Tyler Luchies made a request that VBA make a \$400.00 contribution to this award. This was moved by Kay Melbye and seconded by Charlotte Salomon – carried.

## **5. SOCIAL EVENTS REPORT/CALENDAR**

- a. CURLING – Roxanne Helme reported that the Curling was fun and everything went off well.
- b. SPRING DINNER –April 19, 2007 at the Fireside Grill
- c. LAWYER/ACCOUNTANT GOLF TOURNAMENT – Charlotte Salomon reported that the VBA has been approached by Barri Marlatt with respect to the Vancouver Island Head Injury Society being involved in the tournament. She reported that a meeting was going to be held in the future to discuss which charities would be involved.
- d. EVENTS CALENDAR – Roxanne Helme reported that she would bring the events calendar to the next meeting.

**6. WEBSITE, E-MAIL AND FORUM:** Nisha Bathe reported that there are new pictures on the website and that the distribution list is continually being updated to include new members and remove lawyers who have left Victoria. She also reported that no one is using the Forum, and it was decided that a note about the Forum would go into the Newsletter.

**7. COURT LIAISON:** Charlotte Salomon reported that there will be a Civil Users Group developed. She also reported that the picture ID cards for court house access will not be implemented any time soon. Also, there was mention that the courthouse is not earthquake proof. With respect to lockers, Kismet is going to figure out what is happening with the lockers and then they will decide whether there will be a fee for locker use. The VBA is supposed to administer the allocation of lockers but the process needs to be improved.

**8. LAW DAY:** Kerry Simmons reported that Law Day is on the horizon on April 21 and e-mails will be going out soon requesting volunteers for the fairy tale trial.

9. **NEWSLETTER:** Jim Legh reported that no one except for Kerry has given him much information to include in the Newsletter, and that next week is the deadline to get anything to him. The newsletter will go out at the end of the month.
10. **PAST PRESIDENT'S PLAQUE** – Kerry Simmons announced that it was ready to be displayed in the Barrister's Lounge.
11. **SPEAKER SERIES:** Charlotte Salomon reported that we have organized our first speaker, who will be Registrar Bouke speaking about the new costs tariff. This will take place on March 26, 2007 at the Union Club in the Begbie Lounge. The suggested ticket price is \$30.00, which will cover lunch, tax and tip, as well as our guest's lunch. There was discussion around inviting ICBC adjusters and it was decided we would put out the invitations to VBA members first and see if we reach capacity, which is 50. A meeting of interest to solicitors will be organized at a later date.
12. **BENCHER'S REPORT:** Richard Stewart reported that a summary of each Benchers meeting prepared each month which is available for distribution. These minutes will be posted on the VBA website and we will let members know this through the newsletter. Richard will send Jim a write up for the newsletter. Also, Richard reports that in December 2006, the Benchers approved Mandatory Post Call Education in principle, but that what it will be has not been decided and it is likely that the implementation will not be until 2009.
13. **CBA REPORT:** Kay Melbye reported that there is a service called PracticeLink on the CBA website that is a very valuable tool. She also reported that the CBA now has RRSPs and the management costs associated with them are half the average cost outside of the CBA. We also noted that Frank Kraemer has resigned as Executive Director.
14. **UVIC REPORT:**
  - a. **MOOT SEASON:** Andrew Petter reported that the UVIC Moot team won the Western Canada Moot that took place on February 11 –12 and will now go to the National competition, the Sopinka Cup.
  - b. **CAREER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE:** The Career Development Office will be stabilized in the near future, with Jennifer Moraskat returning from maternity leave and the potential of providing Jennifer with an assistant.
  - c. **UBC:** UBC has decided to go to a JD rather than an LLB.
  - d. **FRASER SERIES:** On February 26, 2007 at 12:30 Judge Joe Williams of the Waitangi Tribunal in NewZealand will be speaking.
  - e. **MISCELLANEOUS:** The retirement function for Don Casswell went well and that Glen Gallins won an award through Leadership Victoria for his work at the Law Centre.

**15. NEW BUSINESS:** It was decided that the minutes of the VBA Executive meetings will be posted on the website.

**16. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.