

**VICTORIA BAR ASSOCIATION  
MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF FEBRUARY 19, 2008**

Meeting at the Barrister's Lounge called to order by Scott Farquhar at 5:05 pm.

**Members present:**

|                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Scott Farquhar | Kerry Simmons     |
| Sue Wishart    | Michael Cooper    |
| Nisha Bathe    | Renee Miller      |
| Kathryn Berge  | Charlotte Solomon |
| Kay Melbye     | Andrew Petter     |
| Menaka Giri    | Brooke MacLeod    |
| Richard Fyfe   |                   |

1. **MINUTES:** The approval of the minutes from the January meeting was tabled to the March meeting.
2. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Scott Farquhar

**Correspondence and Activities**

- (a) Legal Aid brochures were passed out at the meeting
- (b) Correspondence was received from Marlene Rousseau regarding the LSBC Practice Refresher Courses – they are looking for testers for the courses and we agreed to send out a notice in the newsletter
- (c) Bar President's Meeting – Scott attended and Wally Opal spoke about the Nanaimo Family Justice Centre and the community court project – he also stated that Nanaimo was second on the list for a new courthouse in BC
- (d) LOST – Andrew Pirie requested funding for the LOST and this was tabled to the Treasurer's Report

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

- a) Memberships are coming in – a reminder is going out in March; current status – 136 members have paid current fees, and Nisha sent out an e-mail with a reminder
- b) Legal Assistant's Association has sent out a request to help fund a bursary. We agreed generally to give a \$250 scholarship for the fall session – there was discussion around this being a good way of promoting the Legal Secretary profession

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- a) Nisha moved to approve the Treasurer's report and this was seconded by Michael. Motion carried. The Monthly Statement indicates a balance of \$7986.43.

## **SOCIAL EVENTS**

- a) Curling – 40 people played – Green & Co. was the winner and everything went extremely well
- b) Battle of the Bands – tickets are selling strong - the event takes place on March 5.
- c) Spring Dinner – This event takes place on April 17 and will be held at the Fireside Grill - cost \$45.00. Notice will be sent out soon.
- d) UVIC-VBA RECEPTION ON January 29 went well – lots of positive feedback and less formal than the wine and cheese – it has been suggested that maybe this should be an annual event
- e) CLE Presentation on on-line services – February 7 – this went well also

## **WEBSITE, E-MAIL AND FORUM**

Nothing to report

## **COURT LIAISON**

- a) There was a discussion on court services and some problems were identified. Kay has agreed to be in charge of court boxes

## **LAW DAY**

- a) Jim Legh and Carmen Rogers have agreed to help and Berry and Michelle are very appreciative.

## **NEWSLETTER**

- a) Due to be released at end of February

## **AWARDS**

- a) Menaka, Scott, Michael and Brooke have agreed to be on the committee

## **BENCHER'S REPORT - Kathryn**

- a) There are currently 29 LSBC committees including a number of subcommittees and they are interested in feedback on what the priorities should be when reviewing these committees
- b) The Federation of Law Societies is becoming more important as a result of the mobility agreement in Canada and BC is a major player. However, BC has no policies on international practice of laws

## **CBA REPORT - Sue**

- a) Sue, Charlotte and Kerry attended the CBA meeting in January
- b) With the new mandatory CLE requirements, the CBA has pushed to have section meetings count towards these requirements

- c) The CBA has an initiative they are working on with respect to student loan payments and making them easier to pay
- d) RRSP's are now being protected from seizure on a provincial level

**UVIC REPORT - ANDREW**

- a) UVIC won the UVIC/UBC moot and the ABA Client Counselling competition
- b) Law Centre has approved funding to have a Social Worker on staff
- c) Business Law Clinic – they have received funding for two more years from Bull Housser & Tupper
- d) There is a Business Law Clinic Director needed
- e) The President's Distinguished Lectures are coming up and a handout was given out

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Search for the new Dean of the Law School is continuing and the committee is deliberating
- b) Kerry stated that there is a lawyer in Seattle that has contacted her that wants to know if there is any interest in cross-border bankruptcy issues

**ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.