

**VICTORIA BAR ASSOCIATION
MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF JUNE 14, 2007**

Meeting at the Deep Cove Chalet called to order by Kerry Simmons at 5:03 pm.

Members present:

Kerry Simmons	Kismet Bhandar
James Legh	Nisha Bathe
Michael Cooper	Noel Lenaghan
Roxanne Helme	Andrew Petter
Menaka Giri	Charlotte Salomon

Guests: Anne Pappas

1. **MINUTES:** Motion to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2007 meeting by Michael Cooper, seconded by Noel Lenaghan – carried.
2. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**
 - a. MEMBERSHIP – Kerry Simmons advised that the VBA currently has 371 paid up members;
 - b. PAST CORRESPONDENCE – No new correspondence
 - c. VICTORIA CALL CEREMONIES – the June 7th call went well with 16 new lawyers being called to the bar – VBA supplied ample food and refreshments.
 - d. UVIC CONVOCATION – Kerry Simmons attended the reception following the ceremony.
 - e. PHONES IN THE BARRISTERS LOUNGE – Telus removed one of the two pay phones from the Barristers Lounge as it was not earning any revenue and cost Telus money to keep it there. Telus intends to remove the second payphone unless we agree to pay for it to be there. The Executive concluded that the VBA would not pay for the pay phone to be there. Most lawyers use their cell phone, even for long distance calls and there is a pay phone elsewhere in the building. The other phones in the Barristers Lounge sometimes permit long distance calling.
3. **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Kerry Simmons advised that Scott Farquhar would continue to circulate a notice advising that the deadline for award nominations will be September 30, 2007.
4. **TRESURER'S REPORT:**
 - a. Michael Cooper reported that the bank balance stands at \$15,957.07 as of June 14, 2007, but that the revenue from the Lawyers – Accountants golf tournament, namely; \$5,120.00 will be going out to the Vancouver Island Head Injury Association.

5. **SOCIAL EVENTS CALENDAR:** Charlotte Salomon advised that the Lawyers/Accountants golf tournament on June 1, 2007 was very successful and that the lawyers won this year.
 - a. The lawyer's golf tournament will be on September 20, 2007 at Prospect Lake and a shotgun start was contemplated and rejected because the available start time was too early.
 - b. The date of the Softball tournament will be announced in the newsletter.
6. **SPEAKERS SERIES:** Kismet Bhandar reported that topics of interest to solicitors are still being sought for future dates. Noel Lenaghan suggested asking Wally Opall to speak and Jim Legh suggested evening "war stories" events over drinks.
7. **CANADIAN BLOOD SERVICES:** Kismet Bhandar reported that donations were down dramatically – only 18 so far this year as compared to 47 in 2006 and 31 in 2005. Kerry agreed to make an announcement at dinner to request more donations. Kismet Bhandar indicated that firm and individual recognition certificates are available.
8. **COURT LIASISON:** Kismet Bhandar reported that there was nothing new but she requested clarification on the cost of new security passes and who pays. Charlotte Salomon advised that the photo id are being introduced as she has been photographed for her id, but there is no word on delivery dates. Kismet will continue to seek information about the user of the barrister's lockers. Meneka and Nisha will assist in sending an email to the lawyers who have lockers, starting with the women's locker room as there is a shortage of lockers. Kismet advised that 29 firms or individuals out of 196 have not paid their courtbox renewal fees and that friendly reminders would be sent out.
9. **WEBSITE AND EMAIL:** Nisha Bathe advised that there was nothing to report.
10. **NEWSLETTER:** Jim Legh advised that the next newsletter would be out by the end of June.
11. **BENCHER'S REPORT:** No benchers report.
12. **CBA REPORT:** No CBA report.
13. **UVIC REPORT:** Andrew Petter advised that:
 - a. His assistant, Joanne Payment had retired and that his new assistant is Dawn Zacour;
 - b. The recent convocation and related events was the biggest ever. Andrew believes that having the event on a Friday allowed many more family members to attend;
 - c. The law school is looking for \$1 million for the library re-purposing project - \$3 million is committed to the project to date;
 - d. The law school is looking for new scholarships and will be trying to tap alumni for those;

- e. The UVic founder's award nominations are not coming in and he asked us to circulate members for nominations – the award goes to a deserving Articling Student serving with a Victoria firm.

14. NEW BUSINESS – Kerry Simmons advised that she would make an announcement about the imminent retirements of Robert Hamilton Smith and Cecil Branson.

15. ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn by Noel Lenaghan, seconded by Meneka Giri, carried - the meeting adjourned at 5.48 pm.