

ELLIOT PATTERSON SACCUCCI

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Region	Incumbency	Slate or Coalition Affiliation	Law Association Membership
Toronto	Not An Incumbent	Unaffiliated	Toronto

LiRN Funding and Libraries

Will you support the Law Society maintaining its current level of funding for LiRN, adjusted annually for inflation?

Yes

Do you recognize the importance of the Law Society’s support for the LiRN budget in maintaining licensee competence across Ontario?

Yes

These resources are especially important for solo and small practitioners, which is an access to justice issue. As you will see in my platform, increasing resources for this constituency, and access to justice more broadly, is a key priority for me as an independent bench candidate.

If you are an incumbent, do you regret voting to cut the LiRN budget by 10% in November 2020?

N/A

N/A - not an incumbent.

Do you support offloading funding for LiRN/law libraries to the Law Foundation of Ontario?

No

The Law Society of Ontario owes its membership value for their dues, and these ought to be invested in worthy access to justice initiatives such as LiRN and law libraries.

Legal Aid Funding

Will you advocate for Legal Aid Ontario funding improvement and sustainability to ensure that being a Legal Aid-empanelled lawyer remains a viable area of practice for the private bar?

Yes

👉 If you answered “yes”, how?

Without turning to the statistics (in the interest of space) for every lawyer that has a well-resourced client, many many more do not. For our legal system to be more than a pay-to-play system, there must be resources to support under-resourced users. This is, again, an access to justice issue.

Please describe efforts that you believe should be undertaken by the Law Society to advocate for investment in LAO and increased financial allocation to LAO from the provincial and federal governments’ budgets.

It is the responsibility of the Law Society of Ontario (through Convocation) to present a cogent, cohesive, unified and unwavering demand to the Ontario government to fund urgently needed support for under-resourced users of our legal system. Investment in mandatory mediation across the province, and increasing judicial resources are also urgent access to justice issues that the LSO must weigh-in on.

Paralegal Scope of Practice

On December 1, 2022, Convocation approved the Family Legal Service Provider (FLSP) license to allow paralegals who complete specified training to assist clients with certain family law services. The FLSP is to be reviewed in 3 years. Should paralegals’ scope of practice be expanded?

Yes, it should be expanded.

👉 If you answered “yes”, in what ways, why, and what additional training (if any) should be required of paralegals?

Greater (meaningful) access to para-professionals is an access to justice issue. I am in full support of expanded areas of practice. The specifics of that increased mandate require examination, and meaningful feedback from my constituents, as well as from the paralegal benchers, and I will look forward to working with all toward an expanded platform for para-professionals.

Lawyer licensees pay an annual competency levy as part of their annual fees that contributes towards LiRN, which funds courthouse libraries. Would you support a requirement for paralegals to also pay an annual competency levy?

Yes

To the greatest extent possible, para-professionals should be treated comparably as members of the LSO.


Law Association Involvement

When did you become a member of each of the associations you selected above? Which board or executive roles, if any, have you served in as part of these associations? Please list relevant dates and roles.

2014

Why are you a member of each of the associations you selected above?

To be among similarly-situated litigators in Toronto.

 Federation of Ontario  
Law Associations