

DAVID MILOSEVIC

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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
A central component of my platform is to ensure sustainable funding for local law libraries. My campaign is centered on being a voice for solo and small firm lawyers, who comprise 94% of lawyers practicing in Ontario. For these lawyers, access to library resources to access expensive databases, for example, is crucial. By supporting solo and small firm lawyers, we are supporting access to justice for the public and fulfilling the mandate of the LSO.	
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
Numerous reasons to oppose offloading funding onto LFO. LFO already strapped by Legal Aid funding needs, the Law Society Act does not mandate LFO funding for law libraries, the client rust fund interest that funds the LFO is not the most stable source of funding, and indirectly offloads funding onto the public. Offloading funding is not a viable solution to the library funding issue, which is central to LSO mandate to advance to ensure lawyer competence.	

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?	
Convocation does have a responsibility to address the issue of access to justice that cuts to legal aid funding threaten. As FOLA know, Legal Aid Ontario is statutorily independent of the LSO, but our ability to participate through appointment recommendations to the LAO board gives us a voice in the organization. I believe we need to work cooperatively with LAO to ensure our mutual interest in advancing access to justice is protected and enhanced. I would also add that this is why independent Benchers candidates are especially important. Politicized slates of candidates do risk alienating other stakeholders with whom we must work.	
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.	
As FOLA members know, LAO funding has been cut dramatically in recent years. This has deepened the access to justice crisis we are facing, and it is genuinely a crisis. Cases are taking longer than ever, and lawyers cannot afford to stay in practice serving clients who require legal aid. At the same time, eligibility for legal aid is set unrealistically low, with minimum wage earners effectively shut out from qualifying. One of the main problems appears to be a misallocation of resources. After the backlogs exacerbated by the pandemic, MAG announced additional funding to hire crown prosecutors and court staff. While beneficial, this approach fails to recognize that the additional burden on the courts stems from the large increase in self-represented litigants, who did not qualify for legal aid. Their cases take longer and place more demands on judges, courts and staff. By adequately funding legal aid, we can address the problem more holistically. We can provide access to justice, keep lawyers in the profession, thus providing representation for the public in Ontario that most needs it, and at the same time reduce the burden on our courts. I would strongly advocate for such a holistic approach.	

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?	
It should be expanded no further than the FLSP	
👉 If you answered “yes”, in what ways, why, and what additional training (if any) should be required of paralegals?	
No response was required.	
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
All legal professionals benefit from the availability of library resources and thus all should contribute to maintaining them.	

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.	
approximately 2012. I have not at on the Board. I have sat on Civil Litigation Executive of OBA and 10+ Standing Committee of Advocates' Society for 3 years and 2 years respectively.	
Why are you a member of each of the associations you selected above?	
I became a member originally when I was a more junior lawyer to meet fellow lawyers and to get a better sense of the issues facing the Bar in Toronto, especially issues regarding court delays and access to justice, which I was heavily involved in at the time.	