

LUBOMIR POLIACIK

lubomir.poliacik@ceplaw.ca

Region	Incumbency	Slate or Coalition Affiliation	Law Association Membership
Toronto	Incumbent	FullStop	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
No response provided.	
If you are an incumbent, do you regret voting to cut the LiRN budget by 10% in November 2020?	No
<p>The November 2020 vote took place in the first year of the Covid lockdown. Benchers and LSO staff were uncertain of the financial stability of the members of the professions and we were all worried about LSO's own financial situation. At the time, LiRN actually had a very substantial portion of its previously allocated budget unspent and the libraries were not being used during the lockdown.</p> <p>Convocation's decision to reduce the LiRN budget in November 2020 was prudent based on the information we had and the LiRN budget was restored the following year and actually increased by Convocation the year after.</p>	
Do you support offloading funding for LiRN/law libraries to the Law Foundation of Ontario?	No
<p>The Law Foundation should fulfill its statutory mandate and support the law libraries. The Law Foundation's contribution to law libraries' funding was traditionally in excess of \$500,000 a year.</p> <p>In recent years it has been arbitrarily reduced to zero. It is not a question of the LSO "offloading" library funding, but rather obtaining additional funding for the libraries.</p>	

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?	
<p>The Law Society has to continue to advocate for increased Legal aid funding, but its influence on government (provincial or federal) budgeting processes is limited.</p>	
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.	
<p>As stated above, our lobbying efforts should continue.</p>	

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?	
<p>No response was required, but the candidate wrote: This question requires me to select one of the 4 answers on offer. I do not agree with any of the four answers. The whole point of the 3 year review period is to enable benchers to evaluate the FLSP after it had been put into practice. I do not know what my views on this issue will be three years from now, when I will have had a chance to review the success or failure of three years of FLSP.</p>	
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?	No
It is my understanding that paralegals are currently excluded from a number of the county law association libraries. if and when paralegals are granted full access to membership and to the libraries, they can be required to contribute to them financially.	

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.	
1995(?)	
Why are you a member of each of the associations you selected above?	
Primarily to use the library research services	