

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
<i>I would not have been able to start my practice without relying on resources from the local law library; I imagine many others find themselves in similar positions, especially outside of large city centres. The current level of funding should be maintained, at the very least.</i>	
If you are an incumbent, do you regret voting to cut the LiRN budget by 10% in November 2020?	N/A
<i>N/A - not an incumbent.</i>	
Do you support offloading funding for LiRN/law libraries to the Law Foundation of Ontario?	No
<i>To my understanding, there are no checks and balances that Convocation to ensure continued adequate funding for law libraries if the money is offloaded to the Law Foundation of Ontario. This seems a dicey proposition, and one that can backfire. The mandate of benchers can be distilled to ensuring competence and discipline. Properly funded and accessible law libraries are an essential support that is complementary to the goal of promoting competence.</i>	

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
<i>If you answered “yes”, how?</i>	
<i>Legal Aid Ontario funding is a matter that falls under provincial purview. However, there seems room for benchers to highlight shortcomings in funding and communicate the urgency and necessity of LAO to the legislature. Benchers are also in a position to assess what resources and support the LSO can provide to lawyers whose practice includes or focuses on marginalized people.</i>	
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.	
<i>There is a lack of political will to increase LAO funding because most ordinary citizens misapprehend its purpose and wrongly assume that only criminals need legal aid. Until someone finds themselves in the position of needing to hire a lawyer, there is little regard for the program. At the same time, years of slashing funding means that lawyers who accept certificates end up subsidizing the actual cost to provide clients with effective representation. This stands in contrast to the assumption that lawyers in general are overpaid. I believe there needs to be an information campaign to address these critical misunderstandings, to be bolstered by lobbying efforts.</i>	

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?	
<i>It should be expanded no further than the FLSP</i>	
<i>If you answered “yes”, in what ways, why, and what additional training (if any) should be required of paralegals?</i>	
<i>No response was required, but the candidate wrote: I work primarily with paralegals at the Landlord and Tenant Board, and often speak at paralegal CPDs. There is a wealth of talent and diversity that can be used to facilitate access to justice. However, it is wrong to assume that paralegals are necessarily or always cheaper to hire than lawyers. The review of the FLSP should dictate Convocation's next steps, including feedback from judges and litigants.</i>	
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
<i>If these resources are available to paralegals, extra revenue should be collected to increase funding.</i>	

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.	
2017	
Why are you a member of each of the associations you selected above?	
<i>I joined the Toronto Lawyers Association in my first year of practice. It provided sanctuary and a safe space to connect with other lawyers to ask questions and find mentors.</i>	