



To: Law Society of Nunavut Members

From: Deputy Secretary

Re: Report for the 2023 – 2024 Annual General Meeting

Date: June 26, 2024

• Chairperson

The Law Society welcomed its new Chairperson in February 2024, Erin George. Ms. George sat on the Discipline Committee for several years and brings her sound judgment and expertise to assist the Law Society in meeting its mandate of regulating in the public interest. Under her leadership, the Law Society will develop and finalize several tools to support and guide the work of the Committee members and those involved in the intake process. The tools include, for example, an Investigator's Handbook and a Discipline Process Handbook from intake to the Notice of Direction (Chairperson's decision).

• National Discipline Standards

In 2021, the Law Society had purchased a new management software Wrikes dedicated to discipline matters, to begin with, that allows designated Law Society staff, Committee members, counsels and parties involved to communicate and exchange documents in a secured and organized manner with selected permissions. The software structure was built to incorporate the National Discipline Standards (NDS) and generate automated updates. The investment has allowed the Law Society to continuously improve the overall management of files in a secure manner and in relation to the NDS.

• Statistics

- At January 1, 2023, four files from 2022 remained open:
 - Two were disposed of in 2023; and
 - Two remain open.

- Six new complaints were filed in 2023:
 - Two complaints have been disposed of without further action;
 - One complaint was closed as the complaint was withdrawn; and
 - All three remaining complaints are still ongoing.
 - New complaints filed in 2024 will be reported at next year's AGM.
- Modernizing and improving the disciplinary process remains a priority within the ongoing efforts invested towards the overhaul of the Legal Profession Act (LPA) that may also require amendments to the Rules of the Law Society of Nunavut. A fitness to practice-related process and increased options for the Chairperson once the investigation has concluded are at the forefront of the overhaul. These priorities are in recognition of the personal struggles members can face and to assist members in improving their skills and competencies including within the context of completing specific continuing legal education activities. Under the leadership of the Law Society Executive Committee, the review of the LPA is well underway with an estimated timeline to submit an initial proposal (issues identified and proposed solutions) to the Department of Justice before the end of this summer period.