



Notice to the Profession

To: Active Members of the Law Society of Nunavut

Re: January 2025 Launch of the Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Audit Program

Date: December 4, 2024

The Law Society of Nunavut is launching its Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Audit Program in January 2025. This program is designed to ensure all members meet their ongoing professional development requirements and maintain the high standards of competency of the legal profession in Nunavut.

Key features of the CLE Audit Program:

- 1. **Monitoring of CLE Compliance:** Throughout the year, the Law Society will conduct random audits of members' annual self-reported CLE activities. Members may be asked to provide supporting documentation to confirm their participation in eligible CLE activities.
- Acceptable Documentation: Documentation such as a certificate of attendance (when provided) or an email from the course provider confirming attendance are the preferred forms of evidence for CLE participation. Other acceptable documents for proof of attendance include receipt of payment, event registration or affidavit/statutory declaration.
- 3. **Investigation of Irregularities:** In cases where irregularities are identified or concerns arise regarding compliance, the matter may be referred to the Chair of the Discipline Committee for further investigation.

Failure to meet the CLE requirements:

If a member fails to meet the CLE requirements, their license to practice will be **suspended**. The suspension will remain in effect until the member has completed and reported the required CLE hours within **30 days** of receiving a notice of failure to comply from the Secretary. In addition to completing the required CLE hours, members seeking reinstatement will need to pay the **reinstatement fee**.

Important reminders:

CLE Records

Members shall **retain their CLE records for two years** from the end of the reporting year and should be prepared to submit them upon request.

Number of mandatory hours

All practising members of the Law Society of Nunavut **must complete 12 hours of eligible CLE in each calendar year.**

The 12 hours of <u>eligible CLE activities</u> must include:

- one hour devoted to professional responsibility and ethics; and
- one hour devoted to cultural competency.

Questions:

If you have any questions regarding your CLE activities or the monitoring and compliance requirements, please do not hesitate to contact the Law Society at CLE@lawsociety.nu.ca.

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Relevant sections of <u>Legal Profession Act</u> (LPA) and the <u>Rules of the Law Society of</u> <u>Nunavut</u> (Rules)

Pursuant to subsections 8(1) (d.3)-(f) of the LPA and section 53.1 of the Rules, the Executive shall make rules for the regulation of the Society, the management and conduct of its business affairs and for the exercise of the powers conferred or the performance of the duties imposed on the Society or the Executive by or under this Act and, without restricting the generality of these powers to make rules, may make rules:

- 8. (d.3) respecting mandatory continuing legal education, including
 - (i) setting the number of hours of continuing legal education members of the Society must complete annually, including by area of study, and
 - (ii) exempting a category of members of the Society from completing, either completely or in part, the required annual number of hours of continuing legal education.
 - (e) providing that a member is suspended, with or without notice or investigation, on contravening a rule respecting
 - (ii) submission of administrative documents;
 - (e.1) providing that a member is suspended, with notice, on contravening a rule respecting mandatory continuing legal education.
 - (f) providing for the reinstatement of
 - (i) members and students-at-law under suspension;