



To: Law Society of Nunavut Members
From: Benjamin Flight, Membership and Admission Committee

Committee Members;

- Kay, Sarah (Vice-Chair)
- Casebeer, Jessi
- Holland, Alyssa
- Park, Jonathan

Re: Report for the 2018 – 2019 Annual General Meeting
Date: May 27, 2019

The MAC is a committee of five members of the LSN, and we review all applications to join the law society, and we then provide a recommendation to the executive. This includes applications to join as an articulated student-at-law, transfers from another jurisdiction under the territorial mobility agreement, and other types of applications.

This past year, the MAC considered 32 applications for membership in the law society, which is down from 33 applications last year. We maintain a regular bi-weekly cycle to consider applications for membership.

At present, there are 66 resident lawyers and Canadian legal advisors in Nunavut, as well as 3 students-at-law. There is a non-resident bar of 270 lawyers and Canadian legal advisors, plus another 32 lawyers holding RACs. Overall, 24% of the bar is resident and 76% is non-resident, which is unchanged from the past two years.

The MAC has continued to consider, from a policy perspective, the following two issues:

- Requests from applicants to waive all or part of the articling requirement on account of completing the Law Society of Ontario's Law Practice Program and seek direct admission to the CPLED Bar Course
- Letters of good character, and whether requirements for what should be in the letter should be more specific.

The Chair of the MAC has had discussions with counterparts at other Canadian law societies about these two issues and the policy discussion within the MAC is ongoing.

The MAC has begun discussions about how the Law Society of Nunavut may respond to the needs of the current Nunavut law program cohort once they graduate and are seeking articling positions, and whether any changes may be needed to the current articling requirement. The Federation of Law Societies of Canada Admissions and Education counterpart subgroup has discussed how different law societies across Canada are reviewing their admission requirements. After an initial review of the activities of different Canadian law societies' activities in this domain is complete, the MAC will make contact with the Inuit Representation in the Legal Profession Committee and the Truth and Reconciliation Committee to discuss possible collaboration in this area.