

## SLR Board and Indigenous Council

### Minutes of Meeting

Meeting Date: February 19, 2025  
Meeting Time: 13:00  
Meeting Type: Hybrid  
Meeting Location: Law Foundation Board Room

#### **Board Members in Attendance:**

Bruce LeRose, KC (Chair)	Elizabeth Kollias
Johanne Blenkin	Scott Simpson
Brian Dybwad	Sarah Westwood
Katrina Harry, KC	

#### **Indigenous Council Members in Attendance:**

John Borrows	Andrea Hilland, KC
Christina J. Cook	
Regrets: Carly Teillet	

#### **Advisory Committee Members in Attendance:**

Paul Craven	Josh Paterson, KC
John Mayr	Adam Whitcombe, KC

#### **Staff and Observers:**

<b>SLR Staff</b>	<b>Guests</b>	<b>Observers</b>
Maddie Holm-Porter	Christine Tam	Kerryn Holt
		Jeff Hoskins, KC
		Cary Ann Moore

#### **1.0 Welcome and Acknowledgements**

The meeting was called to order at 12:58

The Chair welcomed the Board, Indigenous Council, and members of the advisory committee and delivered a territorial acknowledgement.

## **2.0 Introductions**

The Board and Indigenous Council welcomed Katrina Harry, who was appointed by the Law Society to succeed Lindsay LeBlanc as a director. General introductions followed.

## **3.0 Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as presented.

## **4.0 Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting**

The draft Minutes of the January 15, 2025 meeting were approved with the following revisions:

- a) the members of the Board and Indigenous Council requested that the names of observers be included in the Minutes,
- b) consideration of the Oath of Office was deferred to a later date

## **5.0 Code of Conduct and Duty**

The Advisory Committee proposed a Code of Conduct that included a conflicts of interest policy and oath of office. After discussion the members of the Board and Indigenous Council agreed to table consideration of a Code of Conduct, including provisions related to a complaint about a director, and a proposed oath of office, to a later date. There was consensus among the board and the Indigenous council that the conflict of interest policy on page 9 should be adopted now.

Motion: To adopt the conflict of interest provisions from the draft Code of Conduct as the conflict of interest policy of the Board and Indigenous Council.

Carried by Consensus

## **6.0 Remuneration Policy**

The Chair presented the reimbursement and remuneration policy. There was a discussion about whether the remuneration provided for in s. 6 applied to time spent in preparing for meetings. There was a consensus among the board and the Indigenous council that subsections (b) through (e) applied to time spent in preparing for meetings as well as attending meetings. The requirement to present a boarding pass as evidence of travel in s.7(a) was to be removed. Reimbursement of the cost of pet care while attending to SLR business was to be included in s.5.04.

Motion: To adopt the Remuneration and Expense policy as amended.

Carried by Consensus

## **7.0 Communication and Transparency Policy**

The Advisory Committee presented a report on communication and transparency. The issue of the Indigenous council attending *in-camera* meetings of the Board was raised. It was agreed to amend the draft policy to add that the Indigenous council are entitled to attend all meetings of the Transitional Board including in-camera meetings.

Motion: To adopt the Communication and Transparency policy as amended.

Carried by Consensus

## **8.0 Transitional Website review**

Christine Tam, Director of Communications at the Law Society of BC demonstrated the LPA Transition website to the Board and Indigenous council. Members of the Board and the Indigenous Council commented on various aspects of the website. Members of the Board and the Indigenous Council were to be provided with the URL and password to the demo site and were encouraged to provide any feedback to SLR staff by email.

## **9.0 Transitional Workplan**

The members of the Advisory Committee delivered an update on the transitional workplan. Looking ahead, the intent is that a number of policy papers regarding the rules will be brought to the Board and Indigenous council over the next few meetings. It is hoped that the papers will form the basis for policy discussions, including but not limited to registration and licensing, professional conduct and discipline, and the recognition and incorporation of Indigenous legal traditions.

Paul Craven reiterated his offer to arrange times for a review of the *Legal Professions Act* (2024) for members of the Board and Indigenous Council to provide a general review but also to identify Rules issues that may be relevant to the first Rules.

## **10. Project Director position**

It was previously agreed that a Project Director should be engaged to assist in the transitional activities. A draft role description was presented by the Advisory Committee. There was discussion as to whether the position should be an independent contractor or an employee and the conclusion was that a contract position was the better option. The posting should also provide that the requirements include knowledge about diversity, equity and inclusion, and familiarity with Indigenous rights and culture. The posting for the position is to make clear that the position reports to the Board and not any agency that pays the salary.

### **11. Indigenous Lawyer/Legal Advisory position**

The Indigenous Council and Board engaged in a discussion about the Indigenous Lawyer/Legal Advisor. Many of the same concerns that were part of the discussion about the project director were raised. It was noted that it is important to retain the legal advisor to the Indigenous council soon so that they can be involved in the development of the policy papers. Further discussion between the Advisory Committee with members of the Indigenous Council are to be scheduled to discuss advertising, promotion and recruiting for this position.

### **12. Open Session Adjourned**

The open session of the meeting adjourned at 4:40

### **13. In Camera Session**

The members of the Board and the Indigenous Council met without the members of the Advisory Council and staff in attendance.