



THE MANITOBA BAR ASSOCIATION
A Branch of the Canadian Bar Association

L'ASSOCIATION DU BARREAU DU MANITOBA
Une Division de L'Association du Barreau canadien

MBA 2025 MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

Fairmont Winnipeg – 2 Lombard Place

Thursday, January 23 to Friday, January 24, 2025

Visit our website (<http://cba-mb.ca/>) for updated Mid-Winter information

CBA members must register online at www.cbapd.org/MB_MW2025. Members will need their email and CBA password to login. Non-members and members who are GST exempt must contact the MBA office at 204-927-1210 to register.

Full attendance at the 2025 Mid-Winter Conference may be applied toward your entire 12 hour yearly mandatory Law Society of Manitoba's continuing professional development requirement.

2025 MBA Mid-Winter Conference Charity



LEGAL **HELP** CENTRE

Legal Help Centre

Legal Help Centre (LHC) is a charitable organization that works to improve access to justice by providing free legal and social resources to lower-income individuals. LHC also offers practical experience to university students preparing for careers in legal and community service, while engaging the legal community in volunteer opportunities.

THURSDAY

January 23, 2025

AM

9:00am – 11:30am

Morning Continuing Legal Professional Development Sessions

8:00am – 2:00pm – Registration – *West Foyer*

8:00am – 9:00am – Continental Breakfast – *West Foyer*

9:00am – 11:30am – Morning Continuing Legal Professional Development Sessions

Family Law Year in Review – Part I

Part I of the session will review cases released in 2024 focused on non-parenting matters.

The session is being presented by the MBA Family Law Section.

This session will be offered in person only, and no recording will be available.

- Speakers:
- Fareen Jamal, *Jamal Family Law Professional Corporation (Toronto, ON)*
 - Jessica Schofield, *Taylor McCaffrey LLP*

Sponsored by *Lawton Partners*



A Deep Dive into Respectful Workplace Policies: Informal Resolution and Mediation

The Labour & Employment Law and the Alternative Dispute Resolution (“ADR”) Sections are jointly hosting this panel presentation on respectful workplace complaints that allege contraventions of human rights or workplace safety and health legislation. The panelists will share their extensive knowledge and diverse experience on how to successfully reach amicable settlement early on via negotiation, mediation and other ADR mechanisms without necessitating adjudication or litigation. The panelists will also provide tips and tricks on handling high conflict cases and preparing for mediation/ADR.

The session is being presented by the MBA Alternative Dispute Resolution and Labour & Employment Law Sections.

This session will be offered in person only, and no recording will be available.

- Speakers:
- Tracey Epp, K.C., *Partner, Pitblado LLP*
 - Jamie Alyce Jurczak, *Partner, Taylor McCaffrey LLP*
 - Lorrie Parsons, *Mediator, Manitoba Human Rights Commission*
 - Megan Fultz, *Legal Counsel, Manitoba Human Rights Commission*

Anti-SLAPP Legislation: What is it & Does it Work?

Join us for a panel discussion on Anti-SLAPP legislation and how it functions in the two jurisdictions where it has been enacted (BC and ON), and how we, as lawyers, can effectively protect the interests of our clients who are named in SLAPP lawsuits in Manitoba, where no such legislation has been enacted.

The Panel will consider such questions as: What are SLAPP lawsuits, how does the legislation in Ontario and British Columbia work (or not work), and whether the tools available to us in Manitoba, in the absence of anti-SLAPP legislation, can effectively address these pernicious lawsuits in a meaningful way. The discussion will have a specific focus on the impact of SLAPP lawsuits on survivors of gender-based

violence as such lawsuits often aim to intimidate and silence individual survivors.

This session is being presented by the MBA Women Lawyers’ Forum Section.

This session will be offered in a hybrid format; please indicate during registration if you plan to attend via Zoom. A recording will also be available to all participants after the event.

- Speakers:
- Morgyn Chandler, *Hammerco Lawyers (Vancouver, BC)*
 - Ivanna Iwasykiw, *Jellinek, Ellis, Gluckstein Lawyers (Toronto, ON)*
 - Chris Wullum, *Tapper Cuddy LLP*

10:15am – 10:45am – Break

Sponsored by *Lawyer Done Deal*



11:30am – 2:00pm – Working Lunch EPPM Session
(*East/Midway Ballroom*)

Sponsored *Taylor McCaffrey LLP*



Equitable Hiring Practices in the Legal Profession

With the growing number of internationally trained lawyers joining the Manitoba Bar and a student body at Robson Hall which is increasingly representative of our communities, there is a need to be aware of the different biases that may persist within the legal profession that may act as barriers to applicants and deprive law firms of students and legal practitioners whose skills enhance and bring value to firms and the profession. The legal profession must be an environment where all people feel welcome and valued while being themselves.

This panel presentation comprising 2 to 3 presenters will provide attendees insights into the different considerations those involved in the hiring process should consider when hiring to fill positions and techniques to produce more equitable hiring outcomes. It is our responsibility as a profession to ensure that we are actively working to identify and remove barriers and inequities in the hiring process.

The presentation will provide attendees with insights into a) unconscious biases that may act as barriers for applicants; b) an understanding of barriers faced by internationally trained lawyers in entering the legal profession; and c) the benefits of having a more diverse and inclusive staff and provide practical takeaways for making changes for the benefit of firms and those experiencing barriers in the hiring process.

This session will provide you with 2 hours of ethics, professional responsibility or practice management that can be applied towards your Law Society of Manitoba mandatory yearly continuing professional development requirement.

The session is being presented by the MBA Equality and Internationally Trained Lawyers’ Sections.

This session will be offered in person only, and no recording will be available.

THURSDAY

January 23, 2025

PM

2:30pm – 5:00pm

Afternoon Continuing Legal Professional Development Sessions

Family Law Year in Review – Part II

Part II of the session will be discussing parenting cases from 2024. The Honourable Madam Justice Berthaudin will join the panel to speak specifically about how and when a parenting assessment provides valuable insight to the Court in determining parenting matters.

The session is being presented by the MBA Family Law Section.

This session will be offered in person only, and no recording will be available.

- Speakers:**
- The Honourable Madam Justice A. Kim Berthaudin, Manitoba Court of King's Bench
 - Fareen Jamal, Jamal Family Law Professional Corporation (Toronto, ON)
 - Jessica Schofield, Taylor McCaffrey LLP

Current Issues in Tax Law

This panel discussion, which is geared towards non-tax specialists interested in gaining a deeper understanding of tax issues affecting their clients and their practices, will cover a variety of tax hot topics, tips and traps, and other items of note. The discussion will focus on applying the material covered in practice and will generally not be technical in nature. This session will be of particular interest for general practitioners, commercial lawyers, and estate planners.

This session is being presented by the MBA Taxation Law Section.

This session will be offered in a hybrid format; please indicate during registration if you plan to attend via Zoom. A recording will also be available to all participants after the event.

- Speakers:**
- Aron Grusko, Fillmore Riley LLP
 - Ari Hanson, Fillmore Riley LLP

Moderator: - David Silver, Department of Justice Canada

The Media, Misinformation and the Law

Everyday, we are bombarded with messages through advertising, conventional media and social media. How much of that information is true, how much of it is erroneous and how much is deliberately designed to push a specific agenda?

With a rise in misinformation and disinformation, the legal community, like all members of the public, are left to grapple with this social phenomenon. This reality impacts the public sphere immensely, and elections and court proceedings specifically.

Join us for a topical and multi-disciplinary panel discussion.

The session is being presented by the MBA Public Sector Lawyers' Section.

This session will be offered in person only, and no recording will be available.

- Speakers:**
- Dean Richard Jochelson, University of Manitoba – Faculty of Law
 - Cecil Rosner, former managing editor of CBC Manitoba

Moderator: - Professor Brandon Trask, University of Manitoba – Faculty of Law

3:30pm – 4:00pm - Break

Bench & Bar Reception - 5:00pm – 7:00pm – East Ballroom

A member of the judiciary will host this year's reception with MBA President, Jessica Schofield. The reception will include hors d'oeuvres, and open bar.

FRIDAY

January 24, 2025

AM

9:00am - 11:30am Morning Continuing Legal Professional Development Sessions

8:30am - 2:00pm - Registration - West Foyer

8:30am - 9:00am - Continental Breakfast - West Foyer

9:00am - 11:30am - Morning Continuing Legal Professional Development Sessions

Notable Cases for Civil Litigators 2023-2024

This session will provide an overview of noteworthy cases for civil litigators over the course of the last year. The panelists will provide summaries and discussion of noteworthy cases, and also comment on their impact on the law and civil litigation practice generally. This session is intended for all civil litigators, and is intended to serve as a practical update on recent key developments in this area of the law.

This session is being presented by the MBA Civil Litigation Section.

This session will be offered in person only, and no recording will be available.

Speakers: - Sharna Nelko, Myers LLP
- Jesse Rock, Hill Sokalski LLP

Moderator: - Dominique Wightman, Hill Sokalski LLP

Registering Plans of Subdivisions

A must attend for real estate lawyers. Join Jason Bryk, K.C. of Pitblado LLP, Sarah Rentz, Solicitor for the City of Winnipeg, Joshua Dyck of Teranet and District Registrar of the Dauphin and Neepawa Land Titles Offices, and Daniel Gautron, a Manitoba and Ontario Land Surveyor from Barnes & Duncan in Winnipeg, to discuss and analyze the subdivision process and the role of the Land Surveyor, Solicitor, the Municipality, and the Land Titles Office during the life of a Plan.

This session is being presented by the MBA Real Property Section.

This session will be offered in a hybrid format; please indicate during registration if you plan to attend via Zoom. A recording will also be available to all conference participants after the event.

Speakers: - Jason Bryk, K.C., Pitblado LLP
- Joshua Dyck, Teranet Manitoba LP
- Danuel Gautron, Barnes & Duncan
- Sarah Rentz, City of Winnipeg - Legal Services

Moderator: - Jason Bryk, K.C., Pitblado LLP

Sponsored by Stewart Title



Online Harms

This session will explore some of the legal aspects of prosecuting or defending online offences involving children, such as luring and child sexual abuse and exploitation material. Attendees will gain insights into current laws, emerging trends in technology-facilitated abuse, and legislative and policy options that could further promote the rights of children to be protected from abuse and exploitation in the digital age, while balancing their right to protection with their rights to information and participation under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. This session will provide practical guidance for navigating this rapidly evolving area of the law.

This session is being presented by the MBA Child & Youth Law Section.

This session will be offered in person only, and no recording will be available.

Speakers: - Cheryl Milne, David Asper Centre for Constitutional Rights (Toronto, ON)
- Jennifer Mann, Manitoba Justice Prosecutions
- Monique St. Germain, Canadian Centre for Child Protection
- Wendy Martin White, K.C., Phillips Aiello

10:15am - 10:45am - Break

Sponsored by Red River Group



11:45am - 1:45pm - Awards Luncheon - East/Midway Ballroom

Featuring presentations of the 2025 MBA Distinguished Service Award, the 2024 Pro Bono Award and the 2024 MBA Recognition Awards.

This event will be offered in person only, and no recording will be available.

Sponsored by CBIA/Lawyers' Financial



FRIDAY

January 24, 2025

PM

2:00pm – 4:30pm

Afternoon Continuing Legal Professional Development Sessions

From Articling to Practice, Imposter Syndrome and Avoiding Burnout

Transitioning from articling to full-time legal practice can be both exciting and overwhelming for young lawyers. This session will explore the challenges of entering the profession, including dealing with imposter syndrome and the risk of burnout. Through practical advice and shared experiences, we'll discuss strategies to build confidence, maintain mental health, and thrive in your legal career. Whether you're just starting out or looking for guidance, join us for an insightful discussion on navigating the early stages of your legal journey.

This session is being presented by the MBA Young Lawyers' Section.

This session will be offered in person only, and no recording will be available.

Speakers:

- Madison Parker, *Mitousis Lemieux Howard Law Corporation*
- Riley Nolan, *Tapper Cuddy LLP*
- Raven Gobeil, *First Nations Family Advocate Office*

Moderator: - Sue Ahn, *Amica Law Corporation*

Sponsored by TitlePlus



The Obligations of Will Drafting Lawyers

Will drafting lawyers must be very thorough and diligent when taking client instructions, preparing documents properly to ensure those instructions are put into effect, and ensuring the client understands what they are signing. This session will delve into the lawyer's obligations and risks, including negligence claims, when taking on an estate planning file. A review of recent case law, including in *re the Estate of Helen Small*, will be covered by our panel to highlight where and how things can go wrong. You will also hear from the Law Society of Manitoba as to what the LSM wants you to know about possible liability in this area and what to do when you receive a request for production of your file.

This session is being presented by the MBA Wills, Estates and Trusts Section.

This session will be offered in a hybrid format; please indicate during registration if you plan to attend via Zoom. A recording will also be available to all participants after the event.

Speakers:

- Noelia Bernardo, *Law Society of Manitoba*
- Johanna Caithness, *Fillmore Riley LLP*
- Aaron Maister, *Pitblado LLP*

Moderator: - Annika Friesen, *Fillmore Riley LLP*

Sponsored by STEP Winnipeg



Aboriginal Law Case Law Update

The MBA's Aboriginal Law Section presents a Mid-Winter session focused on educating participants on recent updates to Aboriginal law jurisprudence. Session panelists will each address notable Aboriginal law cases. Gaining a better understanding of relevant cases in this practice area can assist lawyers in serving their clients; both Indigenous and non-Indigenous.

This session is being presented by the MBA Aboriginal Law Section.

This session will be offered in person only, and no recording will be available.

Speakers:

- Genevieve Benoit, *MN Trachtenberg Law Corporation*
- Danielle Morrison, *Cochrane Sinclair LLP*
- Elizabeth Pappas, *Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP*

Moderator: - Brad Regehr, K.C., *Maurice Law*

3:00pm – 3:30pm - Break – West Foyer

Sponsored by Tapper Cuddy LLP



REGISTRATION

MBA 2025 Mid-Winter Conference

Registration Costs

(Please read carefully as registration information has changed; the more CPD sessions you attend, the greater the cost saving)

You will receive all 12 hours of LSM Mandatory yearly CPD requirement
(Including 2 hours of Ethics, Professionalism and Practice Management)

	Early Bird Member (to Dec. 31, 2024)	Member (After Jan. 1, 2025)	Member Student/ Young Lawyer*	Non-Member
One Half Day	\$225.00	\$275.00	\$150.00	\$500.00
One Day	\$315.00	\$365.00	\$200.00	\$650.00
Two Full Days**	\$550.00	\$600.00	\$375.00	\$1,000.00
MBA Awards Luncheon (Individual Ticket)	--	\$85.00	\$65.00	\$100.00

**You will receive all 12 hours of LSM mandatory yearly CPD requirement
(including 2 hours of Ethics, Professionalism and Practice Management)

Prices do not include GST #R126095728

* Young Lawyer rate is available to CBA members practising 5 years or less

Registrants are not able to combine a Half-Day Registration on separate days as a full-day registration.

Your Registration includes:		Thursday AM PD Session	Thursday PM PD Session	Friday AM PD Session	Friday PM PD Session	Continental Breakfast (Thursday)	EPPM Lunch	Continental Breakfast (Friday)	MBA Awards Luncheon	Access to session materials on MBA website
Thursday, January 23	Half Day (AM)	X				X	X			X
	Half Day (PM)		X				X			X
	Full Day (Thursday)	X	X			X	X			X
Friday, January 24	Half Day (AM)			X				X	X	X
	Half Day (PM)				X				X	X
	Full Day (Friday)			X	X			X	X	X
	Two Full Days	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

REGISTRATION

Hotel Accommodations:

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Fairmont Winnipeg, 2 Lombard Place, Winnipeg, MB at a rate of \$159 for single or double occupancy. <https://book.passkey.com/e/50936129>. The rate is in effect until January 13, 2025.

Registration deadline - Thursday, January 16, 2025

Refunds: Cancellations will be accepted by email (admin@cba-mb.ca) until 4:00pm on January 16, 2025, subject to a 15% administrative charge. NO REFUNDS will be made if notice is received after 4:00pm on January 16, 2025.

Your 2025 Mid-Winter Organizing Committee:

Co-Chairpersons:

Meghan Ross, *Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP*

Abram Silver, *Myers LLP*

Committee Members:

Adriel Agpalza, *Pitblado LLP*

Alexis Bailey, *Tapper Cuddy LLP*

Stephanie Bauch, *Mitousis Lemieux Howard Law Corporation*

Krista Clendenning, *Tradition Law LLP*

Anthony Foderaro, *Fillmore Riley LLP*

Autumn Giles, *Taylor McCaffrey LLP*

Katrina Scaramuzzi, *MLT Aikins LLP*

Bonnie Schmidt, *University of Manitoba*

Stacey Soldier, *Cochrane Sinclair LLP*

Thank you to the 2025 Mid-Winter Sponsors



TAYLOR
McCAFFREY
LAWYERS



SCHEDULE

at a Glance

Thursday, January 23, 2025

8:00am – 2:00pm	Registration (<i>West Foyer</i>)
8:00am – 9:00am	Continental Breakfast (<i>West Foyer</i>)
9:00am – 11:30am	Morning Continuing Legal Professional Development Sessions (<i>Break: 10:00am-10:30am</i>) Family Law Year in Review (<i>see page 2</i>) A Deep Dive into Respectful Workplace Policies: Informal Resolution and Mediation (<i>see page 2</i>) Anti-SLAPP Legislation: What is it & Does it Work? (<i>see page 2</i>)
11:30am – 2:00pm	Working Lunch (<i>East/Midway Ballroom</i>) Equitable Hiring Practices in the Legal Profession (<i>see page 2</i>)
2:30pm – 5:00pm	Afternoon Continuing Legal Professional Development Sessions (<i>Break: 3:00pm-3:30pm</i>) Family Law Year in Review (<i>see page 3</i>) Current Issues in Tax Law (<i>see page 3</i>) The Media, Misinformation and the Law (<i>see page 3</i>)
5:00pm – 7:00pm	Bench & Bar Reception (<i>East Ballroom</i>)

Friday, January 24, 2025

8:30am – 2:00pm	Registration (<i>West Foyer</i>)
8:30am – 9:00am	Continental Breakfast (<i>West Foyer</i>)
9:00am – 11:30am	Morning Continuing Legal Professional Development Sessions (<i>Break: 10:00am-10:30am</i>) Notable Cases for Civil Litigators 2023-2024 (<i>see page 4</i>) Registering Plans of Subdivisions (<i>see page 4</i>) Online Harms (<i>see page 4</i>)
11:45am – 1:45pm	Awards Luncheon (<i>East/Midway Ballroom</i>)
2:00pm – 4:30pm	Afternoon Continuing Legal Professional Development Sessions (<i>Break: 3:00pm-3:30pm</i>) From Articling to Practice, Imposter Syndrome and Avoiding Burnout (<i>see page 5</i>) The Obligations of Will Drafting Lawyers (<i>see page 5</i>) Aboriginal Law – Case Law Update (<i>see page 5</i>)