#### **Administrative Law Section Report 2015-2016**

# **EXECUTIVE**

The Manitoba Administrative Law Section Executive consists of:

- Timothy Lach, Chair (Wilder Wilder & Langtry);
- Peter Mueller, Vice Chair (Taylor McCaffrey LLP);
- Sarah Hill, Past Chair (Municipal Finance and Advisory Services); and
- Shereese Qually, Member-at-Large (Taylor McCaffrey LLP).

### **MEMBERSHIP**

The Manitoba Bar Association Administrative Law Section currently has 202 members.

# **SECTION ACTIVITIES**

# **Continuing Legal Education**

On December 11, 2015, the Manitoba Bar Association Administrative Law Section hosted a lunch meeting with Mr. John Stefaniuk, Chair of the Manitoba Review Board (Criminal Code) which was entitled "Not Criminally Responsible or Unfit to Stand Trial." The Chair described his work on this Administrative Tribunal and presentation this way:

"High-profile and publically and politically controversial, the treatment of individuals who commit crimes while suffering from a mental illness or disability has been the subject of heated debate and legislative change over the last few years. Hear candid and practical advice from the Manitoba Review Board Chair on practice before the Board. Learn about its role in dealing with accused who are found to be not criminally responsible (NCR) or unfit to stand trial, the implications of such a finding upon the accused and the standards by which the Board makes its decisions."

The Administrative Law Section invited the Manitoba Bar Association Criminal Law Section to attend this Event.

On January 21, 2016, the Administrative Law Section along with the Young Lawyers' Section sponsored a session at the Mid-Winter including Chair of the Canadian Human Rights Commission, Mr. George Ulyatt, Registrar of the Appeal Commission of the Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba, Mr. Peter Wiebe, and Chair of the Residential Tenancies Commission, Ms Jennifer Goldenberg, each of whom gave practical tips to advocates appearing before these Administrative Tribunals. The session was entitled "Agencies, Boards and Commissions Outside of Court", and addressed the following:

"How can you properly and effectively represent your client in an administrative setting? Are there any unique procedures and tips of which you out to be aware? This session will assist lawyers in preparing for appearances before various agencies, boards and commissions."

On May 30, 2016, the Administrative Law Section hosted a lunch meeting with Mr. Jeff Palamar, Taylor McCaffrey LLP, Ms Isha Khan, Legal Counsel and Acting Director of Manitoba Human Rights Commission and Ms Heather Unger, Legal Counsel for the Manitoba Human Rights Commission. The Panelists at this Session discussed some common procedural issues with the Manitoba Human Rights Commission

including the "reasonable offer" process, confidential settlement negotiations and judicial review in the context of the Manitoba Human Rights Commission decisions.

Submitted by, Tim Lach, Chair, MBA Administrative Law Section