

## **Civil Litigation Section Report 2011-2012**

Until April 2012 the Civil Litigation Section Executive consisted of:

- Graeme Young, Chair (Restall & Restall LLP)
- Trevor Brown, Vice Chair (MPI – Legal Department)
- Kathryn Hordienko, Secretary (Myers Weinberg LLP)
- Alison McCullough-Butchart, Member-at-Large (Gange, Goodman & French)

Graeme stepped down as Chair in April 2012 due to the demands of his practice. The Section wishes to thank Graeme for the time and effort he provided while serving on the executive. The Civil Litigation Section Executive now consists of:

- Trevor Brown, Chair
- Alison McCullough-Butchart, Vice Chair
- Kathryn Hordienko, Secretary

The Section will be issuing a call for nominations for a member-at-large.

During the 2011 – 2012 term (September 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012) the Civil Litigation Section sponsored two Continuing Professional Development seminars.

The first seminar, sponsored in conjunction with the Criminal Justice Section, was a presentation at the 2012 MBA Mid-Winter Conference. The title of the seminar was Expert Evidence and was presented by Mr. Justice John Menzies (Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba), Geoff Bayly (Public Prosecution Service of Canada) and Daniel Gunn (Campbell Gunn Inness). The moderator was Kathryn Bueti (Bueti Wasyliv and Associates). The seminar discussed the challenges of scientific evidence and pointers on how to effectively challenge an expert opinion.

The second CPD seminar was held on May 14, 2012. Stephen Vincent (Pitblado LLP) and Leah Kosokowsky (The Law Society – Complaints Resolution Department) spoke about how to avoid complaints and lawsuits from unhappy clients. The meeting was well attended and provided helpful insights on the subject.

The executive is currently planning CPD's for the fall of 2012 and for the 2013 MBA Mid-Winter Conference

Respectfully submitted,  
Trevor M. Brown, Chair