

Immigration Law Section Report 2015-2016

Local activity

Due to the Federal and Provincial elections, it was a challenge for our executive to secure meetings with Government officials during the Fall and Winter months of 2016.

In September and in April 2016, the Chair, on behalf of the Executive, invited the Chief of Operations of Southern Manitoba District, Prairie Region, Canada Border Services Agency to speak to our Section. However, in both opportunities, the response was negative. CBSA management at National Headquarters still does not permit regional offices to meet with members of the Bar Association.

A meeting with the Director of the Manitoba Provincial Nominee Program scheduled for May 3, 2016 was cancelled due to the announcement of the new Cabinet in Manitoba. The intention is to re-schedule the same meeting for the last week of June.

We will be having a meeting with a Senior Development Officer of the Temporary Foreign Worker Program, Western Region in early June, 2016. Date to be determined.

National Activity

The Chair attended the bi-annual National Executive meetings held in Ottawa on November 28, 2015, and in Vancouver on April 7, 2016.

The Chair was also a conference moderator for the session "Family Class Advance" at the annual National Immigration Law Conference on April 7- 9, 2016.

Changes in the executive: Carolina Fridman is currently the Chair until September 2016. Dean Szikinger and Maria Penner will be moving to Chair and Vice-Chair, respectfully, in September 2016. An election for the position of Secretary will be held in June.

Submitted by,
Carolina Fridman, Chair, MBA Immigration Law Section