

Public Sector Lawyers' Section Report 2020-2021

The Public Sector Lawyers' Section held several virtual events this year. In September, we collaborated with the Wills, Estates and Trusts Section on a session about lawyers acting as attorneys, executors or administrators in their personal capacity. In December, we held a roundtable event about working from home. In March, we partnered with the Canadian Corporate Counsel Association's local Section on a session about the workplace and employee considerations relating to COVID vaccinations. We will also be holding a joint event with the CCCA in June on the topic of negotiation. We will also hold a year-end roundtable event in June. We were honoured to receive the MBA's Section Activity Award at the 2021 Mid-Winter Meeting.

One of the biggest issues involving the Section this year was the inclusion of our members into the CCCA. In connection with this CBA pilot project, we partnered more closely with our local CCCA chapter. We agreed to create *ex officio* positions for each other on our local section executives.

We also conducted an informal survey of our membership regarding payment of their CBA dues. While many of our members pay for their dues out of their own pockets, some receive partial funding for this expense while others have their fees paid entirely by their employers. This is a matter that we will continue to pursue.

The 2020-21 Public Sector Lawyers' Section Executive:

- Melanie R. Bueckert, Manitoba Court of Appeal – Chair
- Sandra Phillips, Manitoba Hydro – Member-at-Large
- Penny Piper, Department of Justice Canada – Member-at-Large
- Cory Shangreux, Manitoba Hydro – *ex officio* CCCA representative

Submitted by,
Melanie R. Bueckert, Chair, MBA Public Sector Lawyers' Section