

# **Canadian Association for Legal Ethics**

## **Annual General Meeting**

**Banff, Alberta  
Banff Centre, Vistas Dining Room**

**Friday, July 13, 2012  
7:45 AM**

### **Minutes**

Attendees: Faisal Bhahba (Osgoode), Brent Cotter (Saskatchewan), Richard Devlin (Schulich), Adam Dodek (Ottawa); Jocelyn Downie (Schulich), Trevor Farrow (Osgoode); Thomas Harrison (Queen's), Allan Hutchinson (Osgoode/York), Jasminka Kalajdzic (Windsor) Helena Lamed (McGill), John M. Law (Alberta), Tammy Moore (UNB), Stephen Pitel (Western), Micah Rankin (TRU), Amy Salyzyn (Yale JSD), Lorne Sossin (Osgoode), Chris Sprysak (Alberta), David Tanovich (Windsor), Tamra Thompson (CBA), Emanuel Tucsa (Osgoode), Alice Woolley (Calgary), Ellen Zweibel (Ottawa) (23).

Observers: The Hon. Stephen T. Goudge, Ontario Court of Appeal  
Clark Cunningham, Georgia State University

#### **1. Call to Order**

Quorum having been met pursuant to the By-Laws, the meeting was called to order by Chair of the Board, Brent Cotter at 7:43 a.m.

#### **2. History of CALE**

Founding CALE President Richard Devlin related the history of the organization dating back to the first meeting at what was then Dalhousie School of Law in 2006 and subsequent meetings at the University of Alberta, McGill University, the University of British Columbia, the University of Ottawa and the University of New Brunswick. At the meeting in Ottawa in October 2010, the group agreed to formally establish an association. Since that time, Adam Dodek has worked to formally create the Canadian Association of Legal Ethics. Adam related the work that has been done to establish the Canadian Association for Legal Ethics/Association canadien d'éthique juridique (CALE/ACEJ) as a federally-incorporated not-for-profit corporation and a registered charity. Adam recognized and thanked Toronto lawyer Mark Blumberg of Blumberg Segal LLP for the *pro bono* work that he did in establishing CALE.

### **3. Election of Directors**

The following founding directors were elected for a term until the next CALE Annual General Meeting: Brent Cotter, Richard Devlin, Adam Dodek, Jasminka Kalajdzic and Alice Woolley.

### **4. Officers**

The following agreed to serve as officers of CALE until the next AGM:

- Brent Cotter, Chair of the Board
- Richard Devlin, President
- Alice Woolley, Vice-President
- Adam Dodek, Corporate Secretary and Treasurer
- Chantal Morton, Chief Information Officer
- Helena Lamed, Membership Co-ordinator

Members were specifically invited to consider taking on leadership positions at the next CALE AGM.

### **5. CALE 2013 Conference and AGM**

It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved that the next meeting of CALE would take place at the University of Saskatchewan in 2013 under the direction of Brent Cotter and the 2014 meeting at Western under the direction of Stephen Pitel.

### **6. CALE Initiatives**

President Richard Devlin suggested the establishment of several small planning committees for various initiatives including (a) Conference planning 2013 and (b) Research. Invited guest Clark Cunningham suggested future collaboration between CALE and the National Institute for the Teaching of Ethics and Professionalism (NIFTEP) which could include (i) a conference/workshop aimed at new teachers of legal ethics (which could precede or follow the usual CALE meeting); (ii) the establishment of a group to go to Canadian law schools that have not established a course in legal ethics to talk about different ways to teach legal ethics. Trevor Farrow suggested that CALE could work with the Chief Justice of Ontario's Advisory Committee on Professionalism and the Canadian Judicial Council. Clark Cunningham suggested establishing an award or scholarship based on the model of the National Award for Innovation and Excellence sponsored by the ABA/Conference of Chief Justices.

Adam Dodek acknowledged the work that Chantal Morton has done in creating the CALE website. He encouraged members to send Chantal materials to post on the website, including teaching materials such as syllabi, teaching exercises, etc. Adam acknowledged the work that Stephen Pitel had done under the auspices of the Chief Justice of Ontario's Advisory Committee on Professionalism some years ago to compile such material in CD-ROM format. The idea would be to place such material in the public domain, to the extent people are comfortable in allowing their material to be placed in the public domain.

## **7. Other Business**

President Devlin raised the issue of CALE taking substantive positions on issues of concern, as was done in 2011 by individual members regarding the issue of the post-retirement activities of retired judges. President Devlin stated that he planned to solicit individual members' support for a resolution endorsing the position of the Federation of Law Societies of Canada regarding conflicts of interest but that he was not seeking the support of CALE as an organization. Stephen Pitel expressed concern about CALE taking substantive positions. Jocelyn Downie related her experience with other organizations and suggested creating a committee to study the issue. It was agreed to create a committee to study this issue and report back to the membership.

A vote of thanks carried unanimously for those who worked to formally establish CALE and a particular vote of thanks was extended to Adam Dodek in this regard.

## **8. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 a.m.