



To: Law Society of Nunavut Members
From: Stephanie Boydell, Chair, Ethics and Unauthorized Practice Committee
Committee Members: Martin Hak, Gloria Song (only for non-legal matters)
Re: Report for the 2018 – 2019 Annual General Meeting
Date: May 20, 2019

**REPORT BY THE ETHICS AND UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE COMMITTEE
FOR THE 2018 – 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

In keeping with the LSN's mandate to ensure that the people of Nunavut are served by lawyers who meet high standards of competence, learning and professional conduct, our committee is actively engaged in the review and development of policies and guidelines specific to the unauthorized practice in Nunavut, and the enhancement of the current practice and supports to its Members.

A. CURRENT PROJECTS

(I) Comparative Analysis of Canadian Jurisdictions & Development of Guidelines and Policies for Unauthorized Practice

The committee and LSN is in the midst of conducting a comparative analysis of unauthorized practice guidelines and policies in other Canadian jurisdictions. Based on this analysis, the LSN will begin developing our own model, which will incorporate standards and procedures for the receipt of complaints, timelines for the review and investigation and response to each complaint.

The committee is hopeful that the guidelines will allow the LSN to expand on the available options in response to each complaint, while also setting firm processes and streamlining the entire complaints/response process. The committee is looking towards 2020/2021 for the implementation of these guidelines.

(II) Developing a Nunavut-specific online module / revising the reading list

The committee is in the midst of reviewing and implementing Nunavut-specific online modules to help lawyers (especially lawyers new to Nunavut) familiarize themselves with the unique context of practicing law in Nunavut, including the cultural and historical background of the territory, practical tips, and key resources. At this time, the Committee has secured resources to revisit and move forward with this project, including updating the required reading list, enforcing mandatory cultural-competency training and organizing a speaker series.

(III) Implementation of Mandatory Cultural Competency Training; All Members

The LSN has been in the process of securing funding and a partnership with the Pirurvik Society to provide on-going support and training for all members of the LSN. This is an exciting partnership and one that will provide members with traditional knowledge and insight to the Inuit culture, in turn, strengthening the LSN membership and continuing to ensure the needs of all Nunavumiut are respected and advanced in the most competent manner.

B. COMPLAINTS

The committee has been actively investigating referrals and providing recommendations to the LSN Executive. This work remains a priority for the committee. Over the past few months, we have had four active files, made recommendations to the Executive in regards to three investigations and are in the process of closing one of the four files.