



To: Law Society of Nunavut Members

From: Deputy Secretary

Re: Report for the 2022 – 2023 Annual General Meeting

Date: June 12, 2023

• National Discipline Standards

In 2021, the Law Society had purchased a new management software dedicated to discipline matters, to begin with, that allows designated Law Society staff, Committee members, counsels and parties involved to communicate and exchange documents in a secured and organized manner with selected permissions. The software structure was built to incorporate the National Discipline Standards (NDS) and generate automated updates. The investment has allowed the Law Society to significantly improve the overall management of files in a safe and secured manner and in relation to the NDS.

- 2022 Statistics
 - Two complex long-standing matters came to a close without sanctions defined under ss 24.1 (1) of the Legal Profession Act;
 - One outstanding matter from 2021 was closed without sanctions defined under ss 24.1 (1) of the
 Legal Profession Act; new circumstances could give rise to reopening the file by the Chairperson;
 - Five new matters were open in 2022 and two in early 2023. All matters are ongoing with the exception of one matter that came to a close without sanctions defined under ss 24.1 (1) of the Legal Profession Act;
- The Law Society continues to provide courtesy correspondence to lawyers and members on the requirements to practice law in Nunavut and the Territorial Mobility Agreement. In few instances, the correspondence follows a discipline matter that came to a close without sanctions. Additionally, the quality of service to a client in relation to communication is an area of concern the Law Society has

identified. Accordingly, the Law Society is actively working on issuing a Notice to the Profession later in 2023 to serve as reminder of the obligations outlined in the <u>Nunavut Code of Conduct</u>.

 Modernizing and improving the disciplinary process remains a priority within the ongoing efforts invested towards the overhaul of the Legal Profession Act that may also require amendments to the Rules of the Law Society of Nunavut. A fitness to practice-related process and increased options for the Chairperson once the investigation has concluded are at the forefront of the overhaul. These priorities are in recognition of the personal struggles members can face and to assist members in improving their skills and competencies including within the context of completing specific continuing legal education activities.