



The Federation's 2022 Annual Conference will continue those conversations and focus on the competencies required of legal professionals in the future, and what they mean for legal education and training today

### **Federation Initiatives and Committee work – updates:**

The following highlights some of the Federation initiatives that may be of particular interest to the LSN membership. Additional information on the work of the Federation is available on the Federation's website: <https://flsc.ca/national-initiatives/>

### **The National Well-Being Study**

In 2020 the Federation officially launched its National Well-Being Study. The Study is a project of the Federation and the Université de Sherbrooke, in collaboration with Canada's law societies and the Canadian Bar Association ("CBA"). The Study addresses the glaring gap in data on the mental health of legal professionals in Canada. With national data, law societies will better understand the issues, and any recommendations to address them will be evidence based. The Study includes a national survey on the well-being of legal professionals in Canada ("Phase I"), and a second phase that explores differences by province and territory through qualitative interviews ("Phase II").

Surveys were conducted over the last year and the Phase I Report on the survey findings will be available in August and launched in Fall 2022.

Phase II interviews will be conducted in Nunavut between the end of May and early July. Phase II will result in 11 separate reports being prepared (for each jurisdiction, and a combined report for the Northern jurisdictions). The researchers will also provide a combined report summarizing the trends observed in the interviews and their overall recommendations, which will be available to all law societies and the CBA.

### **Reconciliation Initiatives**

Understanding that collaborating with Indigenous Peoples is essential to ensuring the Federation's reconciliation work is meaningful and well informed an Indigenous Advisory Council was established in October 2021.

This is one of the means through which the Federation aims to support these efforts and ensure the organization stays focused on its reconciliation goals. The mandate of the Indigenous Advisory Council is to provide advice and guidance to Federation Council, staff and national committees on initiatives aimed at fulfilling the Federation's commitment to reconciliation.

Following the approval of the Terms of Reference, Federation staff contacted stakeholders, including several law societies, the Indigenous Bar Association, members of the legal academy and the National Indigenous Law Students Association, inviting suggestions for candidates for the Indigenous Advisory Council. Federation Council will approve the proposed composition of the Indigenous Advisory Council at the June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting.

