Planning and Building on Professionalism: Dos and Don’ts for the Municipal Law Specialist

Municipal Law

Date: Thursday, December 4, 2014 | 9:00am to 12:30pm
Location: Twenty Toronto Street Conferences and Events
20 Toronto Street, 2nd Floor, Toronto
Program Chair: Denise Baker, WeirFoulds LLP

Complete all of your Professionalism Hours at this half-day program designed specifically for municipal lawyers. Stay up to date on legal developments, new case law impacting you, and receive practical pointers and strategies for successfully appearing before the Ontario Municipal Board and council. Plus gain ready-to-use techniques for expanding your client base and managing your profile as a lawyer.

Register now for this unique program and gain 3 Professionalism Hours that are meaningful to you as a municipal lawyer.

8:30am Registration and Coffee
9:00am Welcome and Opening Remarks
9:05am New Rules of Professional Conduct: What You Need to Know
Kim Mullin, WeirFoulds LLP
Amended LSUC Rules of Professional Conduct come into effect October 1, 2014. Attend this session for an overview of what the changes are, the impacts of some of the more significant changes, and how some of your practices and procedures need to change.
- A summary of the changes to the Rules, including those dealing with:
  - Conflicts of interest
  - Undertakings
  - Withdrawal from representation

9:35am Bailey v. Barbour: Counsel’s Duties re: Experts
David Bronskill, Goodmans LLP
- Ensuring your expert evidence is not disregarded on the grounds of bias

10:05am Networking Break
10:20am Private Dispute Resolution: When Is It a Viable Option for Your Client?
Patricia A. Foran, Aird & Berlis LLP
- Communicating effectively with your client with respect to risks and realistic outcomes of litigation and the various other options available
- The pros and cons of mediation
- Circumstances where and when it would be appropriate to engage a private mediator

11:00am Appearing before the Board and Council: Tips/Traps
Bruce Ketcheson, Ritchie Ketcheson Hart & Biggart LLP
Bruce Krushelnicki, City of Burlington
- Hearing readiness checklist: Determining whether you are ready to proceed
- Preparing your client
- Communicating with witnesses, including experts post-Moore v. Getahun
- Treating opposing counsel and the tribunal/council with courtesy and candour
- Appropriate decorum

11:50am Managing Your Profile
Nancy Smith, Turkstra Mazza
- Best practices for career and profile management as a municipal lawyer
- Building your support network vs. client development vs. networking for career advancement
- The benefits of mentorship and opportunities to get involved

12:20pm Q&A Session
12:30pm Closing Remarks and Program Concludes