

Professionalism and Ethical Issues for Tax Lawyers

Taxation Law



Webcast

Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2020 | 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Location: ZOOM Webinar

Agenda: 12:00 PM Program Begins
3:00 PM Program Concludes



Professionalism Hours: This program is eligible for up to 1 hour

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Hours: This program is eligible for up to 2 hours

The OBA has been approved as an Accredited Provider of Professionalism Content by The Law Society of Ontario.

Join us for this popular annual program on professionalism for tax practitioners. In addition to the developments related to professionalism and ethical issues in the practice of tax law, this year our program has a renewed focus on timely equality, diversity, and inclusion issues. Our experienced panel, including a view from the Bench, will discuss how EDI issues relate to substantive tax issues. Our stellar faculty will also recognize what barriers still exist in our profession today and provide strategies to address them. Learn how we can all work to build a more inclusive profession for tax lawyers and clients.

Program Chairs: **Bhuvana Rai**, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
Shama Rafiq, The Legal Eye Professional Corporation

Program Speakers: **The Hon. Justice Susan Wong** (Tax Court of Canada)
The Hon. Thomas Cromwell (Borden Ladner Gervais LLP; formerly, Supreme Court of Canada)
Al Meghji (Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP)
Claire Kennedy (Bennett Jones LLP)
Laurie Goldbach (Borden Ladner Gervais LLP)
Rosemary Fincham (Department of Justice)
Diana Aird (Department of Justice)
Birute Luksenaitė (Portfolio Estate Law)
Dr. Kathryn Walker (Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP)
Mahwash Khan (Lawyers Professional Indemnity Company)

12:00 pm Welcome and Opening Remarks

12:05 pm **Professionalism for Tax Lawyers**

Dr. Kathryn Walker, Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP
Mahwash Khan, Lawyers Professional Indemnity Corporation
Diana Aird, Department of Justice

Our speakers will discuss ethics and professionalism issues for tax lawyers, as well as EDI-related issues that may come up in practice. Topics will include key concepts in diversity and inclusion (including dimensions thereof), developing skills on cultural competency, and malpractice claims in this context.

PROGRAM REGISTRATION IS ONLINE www.oba.org/pd

Questions? pd@oba.org

EDI and Substantive Law

1:00-1:30 pm **Me Too & Tax Court**

Claire Kennedy, Bennett Jones LLP

Join Claire Kennedy for a brief discussion of *Penate v R*, 2020 TCC 63, in which the Tax Court of Canada considered sexual harassment and its impact on a director's liability claim.

1:30-1:40 pm Health Break

1:40-2:10 **Views from the Bench**

The Honourable Justice Susan Wong, Tax Court of Canada

The Honourable Thomas Cromwell, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (retired, Supreme Court of Canada)

This pre-recorded panel session discusses issues of diversity on the Bench, and barriers to EDI. The Honourable Justice Susan Wong and the Honourable Thomas Cromwell will focus on barriers to EDI, representation, and provide a view from the Bench.

EDI in Tax Practice

2:10 – 2:35 **Fireside Chat with Al Meghji**

Al Meghji, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP

This Q&A session will focus on issues of barriers to representation in tax law, as well as how to address and promote diversity in tax practice.

2:35 – 3:00 pm **Diversity in Tax Litigation and Leadership**

Laurie Goldbach, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

Rosemary Fincham, Department of Justice

Birute Luksenaitė, Portfolio Estate Law

Our panelists will examine EDI issues in the context of different institutions, including national firms, government, and sole practice. Discussion topics will include identifying barriers for women in tax law, and the practical steps which can be taken to increase diversity in practice.

3:00 pm **Program Concludes**

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