

## Professionalism for Municipal and Planning Lawyers

### Municipal Law Section

**Date:** Thursday, December 04, 2025 | 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (ET)

**Location:** OBA Conference Centre 20 Toronto Street, 2nd Floor, Toronto

**Agenda:** 8:30 am Registration  
9:00 am Program Commences  
12:00 pm Program Concludes



Live In Person



Live Online



This program contains:  
**1h 00m of EDI Professionalism content**  
**2h 00m of Professionalism content**  
*The OBA has been approved as an Accredited Provider of Professionalism Content by The Law Society of Ontario.*

Join your municipal and planning law colleagues at this annual program to gain strategies for managing professionalism related issues within your practice. Don't miss this excellent opportunity to receive all of the professionalism and EDI hours you need in one valuable event. Register now to secure your spot!

This program is part of the OBA's second Ethics Day. Following the program, join us for special Intersections Mix and Mingle to expand your referral network and build connections with lawyers practicing across a number of legal areas, including business law, tax law, municipal law and litigation. Take advantage of this opportunity to grow your relationships with your fellow lawyers and maximize the benefit of your OBA community.

**Program Chairs:** Jason W. Reynar, Leners LLP  
Peter Voltsinis, Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

**Speakers:** Kaley Pulfer, DMG Advocates LLP  
Konstantine J. Stavrakos, O'Connor MacLeod Hanna LLP  
Effie Lidakis, Deputy City Solicitor, Planning and Administrative Law  
Max Reedijk, Dentons Canada LLP

9:00 am	Welcome and Opening Remarks
9:05 am	Anti-SLAPP Applications and Your Professional Obligations Kaley Pulfer, DMG Advocates LLP Konstantine J. Stavrakos, O'Connor MacLeod Hanna LLP <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Impact of SLAPP legislation on lawyers' professional obligations in light of the <a href="#">Sheridan Retail Inc. v. Roy</a> decision</li><li>Managing your dual obligations to your client and the administration of justice</li><li>Communicating effectively with clients on risks and likely outcomes of litigation</li></ul>
10:00 am	Tricky Professionalism Issues in Planning and Development Law Effie Lidakis, Deputy City Solicitor, Planning and Administrative Law, City of Vaughan Max Reedijk, Dentons Canada LLP <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Analyzing ethical dilemmas related to the use of AI in planning applications</li><li>Navigating competing interests of municipal staff, council and councillors related to the planning process</li><li>Your professional obligations to citizen groups during the public consultation process and impacts of media involvement</li></ul>
10:50 am	Networking Break
11:00 am	EDI Plenary: Question the Impression to Break Free from Bias Michelle Grocholsky, Founder and CEO, Empowered EDI Learn how to pause your first impressions and ask better questions to challenge bias in real time.
12:00 am	Program Concludes

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