



**Criminal Lawyers' Association**  
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**Criminal Lawyers' Association  
Annual General Meeting  
November 15, 2019  
Toronto Eaton Centre Marriott Hotel  
Toronto, Ontario**

**1. Call to Order**

President Michael Lacy called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

**2. Appointment of Chair and Recording Secretary**

Michael Lacy served as chair and Anthony Laycock served as recording secretary. A quorum was confirmed.

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

***Motion:** Jonathan Rosenthal moved to accept the agenda as presented. Lori Anne Thomas seconded the motion. **Motion carried***

**4. Acceptance of Minutes**

The minutes of the 2018 Annual General meeting held on November 9, 2018 were presented for approval. Copies are available on the Association's website.

***Motion:** Cassandra DeMelo moved that the minutes of the 2018 Annual General meeting held on November 9, 2019 be approved. Mark Halfyard seconded the motion. **Motion carried.***

The minutes of the Special Members Meeting held on June 8, 2019.

***Motion:** David Locke move that the minutes of the special members meeting of the Criminal Lawyers' Association held on June 8, 2019 be accepted. Leonardo Russomanno seconded the motion. **Motion carried.***

**5. Finance Report**

Boris Bytensky gave a report on the audited statements ending March 31, 2019. The CLA board approved a budget loss of \$132,205. This was to help reduce the unrestricted reserve amount and to increase investments in member services, including reduced conference registration rates. At the end of

the fiscal year, the CLA had a loss of \$15,209. This can be mainly attributed to increased program attendance and membership levels. The association continues to be in a very healthy financial position.

At the end of the fiscal the Association had a member equity position of \$427,587.

**Motion:** *Louis Strezos moved that the Financial Statements prepared by Pennylegion Chung LLP for the fiscal year April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019 be accepted as presented. Jonathan Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

## 6. Appointment of Auditors:

**Motion:** *Lisa Carnelos moved that Pennylegion Chung LLP, Chartered Accountants, be appointed Auditors of the Criminal Lawyers' Association for the fiscal year April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020, and that the Auditors be instructed to perform an independent review, at a fee set by the Board of Directors. Vikram Singh seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

## 7. Bylaw Amendments

On October 18, 2019, in accordance with our bylaws, notice was sent to all member regarding a proposed bylaw amendment to section 29 – Membership. The amendments are:

Amendments:

- Clause 29(a) – revised Law Society of Upper Canada to be Law Society of Ontario
- Clause 29(b) – no changes made
- Clause 29(c) – Observer member description was amended
- Clause 29(d) – This is a new class of member, that being Affiliate Member
- Former clause 29(d) is now 29(e), no further changes made.
- Former clause 29(e) is now 29(f), no further changes made.
- Former clause 29(f) is now 29(g), no further changes made.
- Former clause 29(g) is now 29(h), no further changes made.

The observer member category was clarified as being limited to criminal defence lawyers who are practicing outside of Ontario.

Affiliate member was added to provide a category for practising lawyer in good standing with their legal regulatory body that does not meet the requirements for a Full member or Observer member. The text is as follows:

- *An Affiliate member shall be any person, who shall apply for such membership, that is a practising lawyer in good standing with their legal regulatory body that does not meet the requirements for a Full member or Observer member. An Affiliate member can be a law professor or a retired member of the judiciary. An Affiliate member is not a Full-time Crown Attorney or an Honourary member. An Affiliate member must be someone that has a strong interest in criminal law and is aligned with the goals of the Association. An Affiliate member must be recommended by the Membership Committee to the Governing Body for approval to be determined. An Affiliate member is precluded from being a Full member or Observer member of the Association. Such member shall pay dues as designated from time to time by the Governing Body.*

A motion to adopt the proposed amendments and approve the revised section 29 of the CLA bylaw was called for.

**Motion:** *Adam Weisberg moved to adopt the proposed amendments to Section 29 of the Criminal Lawyers' Association Bylaws and approve the text for Section 29 as outlined in the*

*notice to members dated October 18, 2019. Lori Anne Thomas seconded. **Motion carried.***

## 8. President's Report

- Appreciation was expressed to the board and executive committee members for their dedication, time and efforts this past year.
- Gratitude was offered to all the committee members. A lot has been accomplished this past year and the committees have advanced the interest of the membership well.
- The President acknowledged and thanked our members who worked on interventions this past year.

## 9. Confirmation of the actions of outgoing board.

**Motion:** *Daniel Goldbloom moved that all actions taken by the Governing Body since the last meeting be, and the same are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed; further-more moved that all Directors be indemnified and saved harmless out of the funds of the organization against any costs and expenses incurred respecting the execution of their office. David Locke seconded the motion. **Motion carried.***

## 10. Election of Directors

The next order of business will be the Election of the new governing body.

In accordance with our By-laws, a call for nominations was distributed to all members. Also in accordance with our By-laws, ballots were distributed to all members for voting. The ballots were closed last night and under the supervision of scrutineers the results were confirmed.

The new Governing Body is:

<b>Position</b>	<b>Nominations</b>
President	John Struthers
Vice President	Daniel Brown John Hale Adam Weisberg
Women's Vice President	Cassandra DeMelo
Treasurer	Boris Bytensky
Secretary	Sid Freeman
Assistant Secretary	Dean Embry
Belleville/Napanee Director	Monica Rodrigues
Durham Director	David Barrison
Grey/Bruce Director	Greg Deakin
Halton Director	Brendan Neil
Hamilton Director	Vikram Singh
Huron/Muskoka Director	Jaime Mor
Kingston Director	Matthew Hodgson
London Director	Keli Mersereau
Ottawa Director	Brett McGarry Leonardo Russomanno
Peel Director	Christine Lund
Niagara Director	Christopher Raimondo
Rideau/St Lawrence Director	Robert Barr

Sault Ste. Marie Director	Jessica Belisle
Simcoe Director	Ann Marie Stewart
Sudbury Director	Michael Venturi
Toronto Director	Jessyca Greenwood Mark Halfyard Shaunna Kelly Jennifer Penman Megan Savard Chris Sewrattan Louis Strezos Lori Anne Thomas
Thunder Bay Director	George Joseph
Waterloo Director	Ryan Heighton
Windsor Director	Lisa Carnelos
York Director	Norman Panzica
Women's Director	Lisa Jørgensen
Recent Call Director – Toronto	Andrew Bigioni
Recent Call Director – Regional	Meaghan McMahon

***Motion:*** *Jonthan Rosenthal moved to approve the full slate of Directors for the 2019-2021 term for the governing Body of the Criminal Lawyers, Association as presented. Seconded by Craig Bottomley. Motion carried.*

All new board members were welcomed and all candidates who put their name forward for election were thanked.

Boris Bytensky, on behalf of the membership, thanked Michael Lacy for this leadership during his term has President.

## 11. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was called.

***Motion:*** *Lisa Jorgensen moved that the meeting be adjourned. Lori Anne Thomas seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

*Meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.*