

I was called to the bar in 2015 and am lead counsel at my own firm. I am a prison abolitionist and practice criminal defence with a view to keeping as many people out of jail as possible.

The law can only change if we work together to make it happen. That is why I am running for the CLA board. I have been a CLA member since my call to the bar. In that time, I have seen the remarkable progress the CLA board has achieved in compensation, education, and advocacy for our members and the communities we serve. As one of your Toronto Directors, those would be my three priorities.

Compensation: We must protect and entrench the tremendous gains the outgoing CLA Board has made in Legal Aid rates. After the final increase, rates should be indexed to inflation. If Crown salaries increase every year to keep up with the cost of living, ours should too.

Education: Great lawyers are trained, not born. Mentorship is crucial to the vibrancy of our bar. The CLA is a national leader in providing CPD that equips defence lawyers with the tools we need to win. Our CPDs should continue to help members weaponize case law for our clients. The best seminars should be available online for free.

Advocacy: The CLA is a respected voice for defendants on the national stage. Working with partners, we should continue to push for progressive law reform through tactical interventions and submissions to committees of Parliament.