CRIMINAL LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION
189 Queen Street East, Suite 1
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Tel: 416-214-9875

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Criminal Lawyers' Association
Annual General Meeting
November 21, 2025
5:06 to 5:24 p.m.
Toronto Marriott Eaton Centre

1. Call to Order

Boris Bytensky called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

2. Appointment of Chair and Recording Secretary

Boris Bytensky served as chair and John Chagnon served as recording secretary. A quorum was confirmed with a minimum of 50 voting members present.

3. Acceptance of the Agenda

> ***Motion:*** *Glenn Sandberg moved to accept the agenda as presented.*
> *John Raftery seconded the motion.*
> ***Motion carried***

4. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 2024 Annual General meeting held on November 15, 2024, were presented for approval. Copies are available on the Association's website in advance.

> ***Motion:*** *Jonathan Rosenthal moved that the minutes of the 2024 Annual General meeting held on November 15, 2024, be approved.*
> *Mark Halfyard seconded the motion.*
> ***Motion carried****.*

5. Finance Report

Jessyca Greenwood provided a report on the audited statements ending March 31, 2025.

These statements are prepared by our Auditors. Mention if anyone wants to review them, to contact the office.

- There were no concerns from the auditor. All proper accounting procedures were followed.
- We set a budget early in the fiscal year and monitor closely monthly and adjust as needed.

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- We aim to breakeven or run a small loss. We ended with a loss of just over $28,000 this year.
- Membership and programming revenue remained strong with no increases to any membership fees. Note, we have not increased the membership fee in more than 11 years now.
- Focussing on adding value to members.
- We do our best to manage expenses, but noting increase in inflation has had an impact on several items – notability conference venues, catering, AV, website and communications. We have managed these expenses well in order to avoid increasing our fees.
- We do have money in low-risk GICs with the interest being reinvested annually. This helps sustain interest income year-to-year.
- When looking at the balance sheet, please note:
    - Deferred Revenue is for membership renewals/applications and event registration fees collected before March 31, 2025, meant for the new fiscal year that started April 1, 2025.
    - Deferred contributions are the reserve funds spanning from several previous years from Gale Cup Moot surpluses that can only be used towards the Gale Cup Moot. As long as the CLA is the lead organizer of the competition, we will have access to these funds to help run the Gale Cup Moot.

Motion: *Jessyca Greenwood moved that the Financial Statements prepared by Pennylegion Chung LLP for the fiscal year April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2025, be accepted as presented.*
Lisa Carnelos seconded the motion.
Motion Carried.

6. Appointment of Auditors

Motion*: Jessyca Greenwood moved that Pennylegion Chung LLP, Chartered Accountants, be appointed Auditors of the Criminal Lawyers' Association for the fiscal year April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026, and that the Auditors be instructed to perform an independent review, at a fee set by the Board of Directors.*
*Sweta Tejpal seconded the motion****.***
Motion carried.

7. President's Report presented by Boris Bytensky

- Thanks to Boris for the past two years.
- Member of board for last 18 of 20 years.
- Extremely rewarding being president.
- We are at every table that matters. Our voices are heard.
- Major accomplishments with Legal Aid.

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- Have been focused on bail crisis and optimistic around major changes coming soon.

8. Presentation of the Ricky Goldman Mensch Outstanding Member Award

Boris Bystenky presented the award: 2025 Rickly Goldman Mensch Outstanding Member Award to Glenn Sandberg. This special award honours a CLA member that has had a significant impact on the legal community - for being an outstanding legal citizen. Nominations for this award were received and reviewed this past June. Congratulations to this year's recipient Glenn Sandberg. Please come up to the stage to accept your award.

9. Confirmation of the actions of outgoing board.

> ***Motion:*** *Lisa Carnelos 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.*
> *Sam Puchala seconded the motion.*
> ***Motion carried*****.**

10. Election of Officers

We are pleased to report that of the 1,250+ eligible voting members, more than 55% took the time to review all the candidates and vote. It's not easy to put your name forward to your peers for consideration – and I want to thank all those that did. Your dedication and interest in the profession are commended.

Your new board is:

President:
Adam Weisberg
Executive:
Michelle Johal (VP)
Jessyca Greenwood (VP)
Maija Martin (VP)
Elizabeth Barefoot
Stephanie DiGiuseppe
Laura Metcalfe
Tonya Kent
BELLEVILLE/NAPANEE
VACANT
DURHAM/VICTORIA/PETERBOROUGH

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Alan Richter
GREY/BRUCE
Ram Shankar
HALIDMAND/NORFOLK/BRANTFORD
VACANT
HALTON
Brendan Neil
HAMILTON
Lauren Wilhelm
KINGSTON
Sarah Black
LONDON
Cassandra DeMelo
NIAGARA
Christopher Raimondo
OTTAWA:
Jolene Hansell
Cassandra Richards
PEEL
Sweta Tejpal
RIDEAU/ST. LAWRENCE
Mark MacDonald
SAULT STE. MARIE
Anthony Orazietti
SIMCOE/MUSKOKA
Emily Dyer
SUDBURY
Michael Michel
THUNDER BAY
George Joseph
WATERLOO
Cooper Lord
WINDSOR
Lisa Carnelos
YORK REGION
Daniella Guido
TORONTO REGIONAL DIRECTORS
Adam Goodman
Mark Halfyard
Sara Little
Eric Neubauer
Chris Rudnicki
Marianne Salih
Karen Symes

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Jordan Weisz
INDIGENOUS DIRECTOR
Ryan Stiles
WOMEN'S DIRECTORS
REGIONAL Danielle Landry
TORONTO Michelle Psutka
RECENT CALL DIRECTORS
REGIONAL Nemee Bedar
TORONTO Remy Sansanwal

Thanks to all the outgoing board members for your tireless efforts.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business or questions/comments, a motion to adjourn was called.

> ***Motion:*** *Jessyca Greenwood moved that the meeting be adjourned.*
> *Adam Weisberg seconded the motion.*
> ***Motion carried**.*