



New Lawyers' Update

Laura Dickson

On February 18, 2016, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., please join us for a night of ping pong and networking for lawyers, articling students and law students, at Serve, 105-115 King St E (2nd Floor), Hamilton. This is one of the many informal opportunities offered by the New Lawyers Subcommittee and is sure to be well attended in the cold, dreary, winter season. There is no need to RSVP, just pop in.

Happy New Year for 2016 from the Hamilton Lawyers Association New Lawyers Subcommittee. We hope your holiday season was peaceful and a happy time for all. 2016 is now well underway and it is hard to believe we are already into February.

As you will know, the mandate of the New Lawyers Subcommittee is to promote the active involvement of new lawyers within the Hamilton Law Association and the Hamilton Community at large, including facilitating participation of new lawyers in networking opportunities, practice management, volunteer opportunities, and the New Lawyers' Seminar and Welcome Dinner. Our website lists all upcoming events and opportunities and we encourage you to follow us on Facebook as well.

In true spirit of our mandate, the New Lawyers Subcommittee hosted our Mentoring night on January 21, 2016

at Mills Hardware in Hamilton. It was a great night and many connections were made that will enrich both new and prospective students, lawyers and experienced mentors in Hamilton and surrounding areas. Thank you to all who attended and we look forward to seeing you all again in the near future.

The Subcommittee offers a mentor/mentee matching program to connect those considering or starting a career in law, especially in Hamilton, to new and more seasoned lawyers already practicing in Hamilton. This program is now well into its fourth year, and continues to grow as the months pass. Our mentors will be glad to meet with you one time or keep in touch as you consider or start your career in law. Whether it is over the phone or a coffee, we would be glad to answer any questions, no matter how big or small. As the contact for this service, feel free to contact me on ldickson@hughesamys.com and we will be happy to connect with you.

For our articling students, well done, you are half way through! I am sure you have had some long days in the office and perhaps some weekends too. Remember to step away for a few moments. This is especially important in the cold, winter months when its dark as you go to work and dark when you leave. Come to one of our mentor and networking events and share your experiences so far.

Lastly, membership for the Hamilton Law Association is *free* for articling students and law students. I encourage you to join the HLA and take advantage of all the great benefits available.

On behalf of the New Lawyers Subcommittee, may I wish you a happy and prosperous 2016. *Lang may yer lum reek.* ■

Laura Dickson practices at Hughes Amys LLP in Hamilton. She can be reached at:

*Hughes Amys LLP
Suite 2100, 25 Main Street
West, Hamilton.*

*Telephone: (905) 577-4050
Email: ldickson@hughesamys.com*



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Chris Minelli
CPA, CA, CBV, CFI
chrism@vine.on.ca

Eveline Reid
CA, CPA, CBV
eveline.reid@vine.on.ca

1 Hunter Street East, Suite 100, Hamilton, Ontario L8N 3W1 Tel: 905 549 8463