



New Lawyers' Update

Lauren Grimaldi

Winter is finally over. As I write this article, spring is definitely in the air, and by the time it is published, we will be well on our way to warmer weather, longer days, and summer. This means that a new crop of summer students will arrive to the city, and also means that the articling students who have worked so hard during their articling term will soon be called to the bar. It is certainly an exciting time for students and newly minted lawyers!

This June will be the fifth anniversary of my own call to the bar, which is an anniversary that I share with quite a few young lawyers in Hamilton. On the one hand, it is hard to believe that we will have been practicing for five years this June. The time has flown by, and I am still learning so much every day.

Over the course of these past few

years, we have learned so many things about the law, about practicing as lawyers (which is not always about the law—there are apparently many other lessons to be learned along the way which have nothing to do with “the law” itself, such as managing clients, relationships with other lawyers, balancing work and life...), and about ourselves.

If I have any advice for the new students and incoming lawyers, it is to get involved with the HLA. Go to the social nights, go to the CPD programs, and, if you can, get involved with one of the committees. You will meet fantastic people, learn new things, and forge relationships with your colleagues.

There are quite a few upcoming CPD programs to attend, which you can find out about on the HLA Website. In terms of events being hosted by the

New Lawyers' Subcommittee, there will be an HLA Social/Pub night on July 14th.

In August, the New Lawyers' Subcommittee will host its annual “Meet ‘n’ Eat.” This event was very well attended last year, and is a fun and relaxed way for all of the new articling students to meet each other. I would encourage the new lawyers to attend as well to meet all of their incoming colleagues. Lunch is provided and a quick Ted Talks video is played, and then the attendees have a chance to get out and mingle over lunch.

There is also the HLA General Meeting and Articling Reception which will take place on June 2, 2016. These functions are a great way to meet the new incoming articling students and new lawyers, and for the new lawyers to connect with all of us and experience firsthand the friendly, collegial atmosphere that Hamilton offers.

Come fall, the New Lawyers' Seminar will take place, which is a CPD program geared towards the new students or new lawyers to Hamilton. It has historically been well-attended, and for good reason, as there are excellent speakers and tips to be picked up.

I encourage everyone to participate in the HLA as much as possible. Looking back at the past five years, I have never regretted becoming involved in the HLA or attending any of the CPD programs. The Association has only served to help me along my path, and I hope it does the same for all of the new students and lawyers out there. ■

Lauren Grimaldi practices at Scarfone Hawkins LLP, 1 James Street South, 14th Floor Hamilton, ON L8P 4R5 (905) 523-1333 www.scarfonehawkinsllp.com



STANSBURY & Co.
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

A MODERN APPROACH TO ACCOUNTING THAT MAXIMIZES VALUE AND SAVES TIME FOR OUR CLIENTS.

2826 King St. East, Hamilton, Ontario L8G 1J5 • (905) 545-2715
doug.stansbury@stansco.ca • www.stansco.ca



Quality control
meets
EFFICIENCY
at *Stansbury & Co*
Professional Corporation.

LexisNexis
PCLaw
Certified
Independent
Consultant