

BLSAC Conference Program

"The Evolution of the Black Law Students Association of Canada: 20 Years Strong"



Thursday February 24, 2011

Time	Activities	Speakers	Venue
3:00-6:00pm	Registration: Hotel Check-In		
4:00-5:30pm	Torys Welcome Reception <i>Open to all BLSA students and conference attendees to mingle at Torys law firm located at Wellington and Bay.</i>	Cornell Wright , <i>Partner, Torys LLP</i> Deborah Dalfen , <i>Director, Student Affairs, Torys LLP</i>	79 Wellington Street West, Suite 3000
6:30-7:30pm	Our History: Exploring the Black Community in Canada <i>President of Ontario Black History Society to discuss the various diasporas in Canada, waves of immigration historically in Canada (of the Caribbean and African diasporas), any other interesting historical insight to provide a good background on where we have come from.</i>	Rosemary Sadlier , <i>Ontario Black History Society</i>	Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Portman)
7:30-8:15 pm	Success Stories <i>Persons, who have come from the abroad to start their legal careers in Canada.</i>	Sharon Ffolkes-Abrahams , <i>Barrister & Solicitor</i> The Honourable Justice Romain Pitt , <i>Ontario Superior Court of Justice</i> Florence Chumpuka , <i>Department of Justice Canada</i>	Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Portman)
8:15-9:15 pm	Racial Discrimination and the effectiveness of the Judicial System <i>A discussion of human rights tribunals as effective recourse in racial discrimination cases.</i>	Selwyn Pieters , <i>Barrister & Solicitor</i> Sonia Lawrence , <i>Osgoode Hall Law School</i> Royland Moriah , <i>The McLeod Group</i> Richard Miller , <i>Human Rights Legal Support Center</i>	Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Portman)
9:00-10:00 pm	Human Rights, Equity and Accessibility <i>Newly appointed Director of Human Rights, Equity and Accessibility at Windsor University discusses ongoing struggles for acceptance in the Black community.</i>	Kaye Johnson , <i>University of Windsor</i>	Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Portman)

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Friday February 25, 2011

Time	Activities	Speakers	Venue
8:00-9:00am	Breakfast/Registration		Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville
9:00-9:45am	Blake's Opening Ceremonies <i>9:00 am: Ballet Creole Performance</i> <i>Thank-you's</i>	President, BLSAC Exec, Ballet Creole	Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Willard)
9:50-10:50am	Grassroots: The importance of pro bono and community nurturing <i>How to incorporate community involvement and pro bono into your practice.</i>	Sarah Mason-Case, CABL Quadira Jackson, Black Pearls Brandon Hay, Black Daddies Club Pauline Christian, Black Business Professionals Association	Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Willard)
11:00am-12:00pm	Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP Keynote <i>Honourable Justice Valerie Miller of the Tax Court of Canada & former Justice Donald Bowman from FMC's Tax Department</i>	Honourable Justice Valerie Miller Former Honourable Justice Donald Bowman, FMC	Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Willard)
12:00-1:00pm	Lunch		
1:00-2:00pm	Concurrent Sessions		Session One: Litigation Panel (LP) Jason Bogle, Law Office of Jason E. Bogle Junior Sirivar, McCarthy Tetrault Pinta Maguire, Lenczner Slaght LLP Session Two: International Law Panel (ILP) Christopher Aid, Baker McKenzie Tania D'Souza-Culora, Baker McKenzie Catherine McKenna, Canadian Lawyers Abroad
	(1) Litigation Panel <i>Litigators from criminal, family and business law.</i>	(2) International Law Panel <i>How to commence an international law career in the public or private sector; challenges and opportunities.</i>	

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<p>2:10-3:10pm</p>	<p>(1) The Big Firms and The Big Challenges Lawyers talk about the challenges faced as a Black lawyer on Bay St.</p>	<p>(2) Working in Academia A guide for those students who wish to pursue their LLM or a career in academia.</p>	<p>Session One:</p> <p>Big Firms and The Big Challenges (BFBC) Terrie-Lynn Devonish, Aon Canada Hadiya Roderique, Fasken Martineau LLP Marcus Snowden, Blaney McMurtry LLP Faithe Holder, Gowlings LLP</p> <p>Session Two:</p> <p>Working in Academia (WIA): Prof D. Sanderson, University of Toronto Prof. Laverne A. Jacobs, University of Windsor Prof. Paul D. Ocheje, University of Windsor Prof. Emir Mohammed, University of Windsor</p>	<p>Session One: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 1)</p> <p>Session Two: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 2)</p>
<p>3:10-3:30pm</p>	<p>Afternoon Coffee Break</p>			
<p>3:30-4:30pm</p>	<p>(1) Corporate Governance Discussing governance issues including shareholders.</p>	<p>(2) Working in the Public Sector What life is like for those in the public sector.</p>	<p>Session One:</p> <p>Corporate Governance (CG) Dexter John, Phoenix Advisory Partners D'Arcy Nordick, Stikeman Elliott LLP</p> <p>Session Two:</p> <p>Working in the Public Sector (WIPS) Simon Fisch, Children's Aid Society Omo Akintan, City of Toronto Christopher Webb, Ministry of the Attorney General (Ontario) Nefeterri Carnadin, Department of Justice Canada</p>	<p>Session One: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 1)</p> <p>Session Two: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 2)</p>

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4:35-5:35pm	<p>Labour and Employment Law <i>A series of perspectives into the practice of labour/employment.</i></p>	<p>The Move to Politics <i>How to use your legal skills to start a career in politics.</i></p>	<p>Session One: Labour and Employment Law (LE) Donna Walwyn, <i>Baker McKenzie</i> Laura Williams, <i>Williams HR Law Professional Corporation</i> Esi Codjoe, <i>Ontario Nurses Association</i></p> <p>Session Two: The Move to Politics (P) Samuel Getachew, <i>Toronto Ward 43 Candidate</i> Ike Awgu, <i>Politician/ LIKO Corporation</i></p>	<p>Session One: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 1)</p> <p>Session Two: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 2)</p>
10:00pm-12:00am	CABL Young Lawyer Division, a night out hosted by CABL.			

Saturday February 20, 2010

Time	Activities			Speakers	Venue
8:30-9:30am	Breakfast			BLSAC Exec, Osgoode	Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville
9:30-10:15am	Concurrent Sessions			Session One:	Session One:
	(1) Alternative Dispute Resolution	(2) The Business Case for Diversity <i>Why corporations are demanding diversity from their law firms.</i>	(3) High School Session* <i>Balancing home, school and friends, managing different expectations and pressures.</i>	<p>Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Antoinette Clarke, <i>Counselling, Consultation & Mediation Services</i> Patricia DeGuire, <i>Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada</i> Michelle Henry, <i>Borden Ladner Gervais LLP</i> Shashu Clacken, <i>Koch Thornton LLP (Moderator)</i></p> <p>Session Two: Business Case for Diversity (BCFD) Sue-Lynn Noel, <i>Livingston International Inc.</i> Andre Bacchus, <i>Heenan Blaike LLP</i> David Allgood, <i>Royal Bank of Canada</i></p>	<p>Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Willard)</p> <p>Session Two: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 1)</p> <p>*Session Three: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 2)</p> <p>*NOTE: All Barclay 2</p>

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				<p>Session Three:</p> <p>High School Session (HSS) Shevanne Robinson, <i>Preserve Your Sexy</i> Richard Phillips, <i>Heart and Stroke Foundation</i></p>	<p>sessions are limited to 36 people</p>
10:20-11:00am	<p>(1) Financial Management <i>Paying off student loans and properly managing your salary.</i></p>	<p>(2) Alternative Careers <i>Options for those who do not wish to practice.</i></p>	<p>(3) High School Session <i>Awards and Bursaries available, planning for the future.</i></p>	<p>Session One:</p> <p>Financial Management (FM) Tanya Walker, <i>Barrister & Solicitor</i> JoMarie Burke, <i>Legacy Capital Group Inc.</i></p> <p>Session Two:</p> <p>Alternative Careers (AC) Ada Maxwell, <i>Ontario Medical Association</i> Estella Muyinda, <i>National Anti-Racism Council of Canada</i></p> <p>Session Three:</p> <p>High School Session (HSS) Cindy Wong, <i>Royal Bank of Canada</i></p>	<p>Session One: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Willard)</p> <p>Session Two: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 1)</p> <p>*Session Three: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 2)</p>
11:05am-12:05pm	<p>(1) "The Equality Effect" <i>A program that addresses the problem of legal reform for the protection of women in Kenya.</i></p>	<p>(2) High School Session; "Beyond Law and Order: Criminal Law demystified" <i>Exploring the realities of practicing criminal law, why more Black lawyers are needed in this area.</i></p>		<p>Session One:</p> <p>Equality Effect (EE) Margaret Parsons, <i>African Canadian Legal Clinic</i> Flora Terah, <i>Author</i> Christine Kungu, <i>LLM candidate, Advocate of the High Court of Kenya</i></p> <p>Session Two:</p> <p>High School Session (HSS) Joanna Gordon, <i>Barrister & Solicitor</i> Jacqueline Beckles, <i>Department of Justice</i></p>	<p>Session One: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Willard)</p> <p>Session Two: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 1)</p>
12:05-1:05pm					

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Lunch					
1:10-2:10pm	Concurrent Sessions			Session One:	Session One: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 1) Session Two: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Willard) *Session Three: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 2)
	(1) Mastering the Interview <i>Tips and tricks for students going through the fall interview process (OCIs) or summer articling process.</i>	(2) Strong Start from a Strong Person <i>How to survive articling, getting hired back as a first year associate, managing your practice as a business.</i>	(3) You're Accepted! <i>Undergraduate student session about applying to law school.</i>	Mastering the Interview (MI) Kari Abrams, <i>Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP</i> Eric Hoffstein, <i>Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP</i> Dianne Carter, <i>Ministry of the Attorney General</i> Session Two: Strong Start (SS) Paul Kuttner, <i>Innovative Marketing,</i> Yola Grant, <i>Grant & Bernhardt Barristers</i> Jessica Peterkin, <i>Mercer</i> Session Three: You're Accepted (YA) Gavin Holder, <i>Jason E. Bogle's Law Office</i> Renatta Austin, <i>University of Toronto</i>	
2:15-3:15pm	(1) G20 Panel <i>Critical discussion panel about the events of the police during the G20 summit in Toronto.</i>	(2) "Fun and Weird Law" <i>What it really takes to be a successful sports, entertainment or fashion lawyer.</i>	(3) The LSAT <i>LSAC representative shows some tips and tricks for writing the LSAT, test questions will be taken up.</i>	Session One:	Session One: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Willard) Session Two: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 1) *Session Three: Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville
				G20 Nathalie Des Rosiers, <i>Canadian Civil Liberties Association</i> Anna Willats, <i>George Brown College</i> Ajamu Nangwaya, <i>Canadian Union of Public Employees</i> Session Two: Fun and Weird Law (FWL) Suhuyini Abudulai, <i>Cassels Brock & Blackwell</i> Richard Jefferson, <i>M.E.T.A.L. Law Group</i> Karen Wishart, <i>TV One</i>	

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				<p><u>Session Three:</u></p> <p><u>LSAT</u> John Richardson, LSAT Prep Instructor / Law Admissions Counselor</p>	(Barclay 2)
3:15 - 3:35pm	Afternoon Coffee Break				
3:35-5:00pm	4th Annual Diversity Moot Finals (Sponsored by Koskie Minsky LLP)				
5:00-5:30pm	Concurrent Sessions			<p><u>Session Three:</u></p> <p><u>HSS</u> Gavin Holder, Jason E. Bogle's Law Office Runako Gregg, Osgood Law School</p>	<p><u>*Session Two:</u> Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 2)</p> <p><u>Session Three:</u> Intercontinental Hotel: Yorkville (Barclay 1)</p>
	<p>(1) CABL CABL members' semi-annual in person meeting.</p>	<p>(2) BLSAC General meeting, election of new executives, discussion of new initiatives.</p>	<p>(3) High School/Undergrad Forum, race relations, talk about being a minority student, motivational speaker on how to overcome these issues.</p>		
6:30pm - 1:00am	<p>6:30pm Cocktails GALA Moot Award Member of the Semester Award Introduce the New Executive Keynote: Founding Members of BLSAC Spoken Word Artist Thank You's to Sponsors</p>				Arcadian Court