



# SDLA LEGAL BRIEFS NEWSLETTER

## MESSAGE FROM THE SDLA PRESIDENT

Our Annual General Meeting was held on February 9, 2016 at Mr. Prime Rib and I would like to thank the many members who took time out of their busy schedules to attend.

I have been tasked with filling the rather large shoes of Edmond Paquette, after his year at the helm of the SDLA. I would like to thank Edmond for his hard work over the past year and look forward to his guidance in my term as President.

Your 2016 SDLA Executive is:

- James Ross, President
- Sophie Mageau, 1st Vice President
- Stephanie Baker, 2nd Vice President
- Terry Waltenbury, Treasurer
- Alexandre Caza, Secretary
- Edmond Paquette, immediate past president

Our keynote speaker at the AGM was Mr. Paul Lefebvre (former SDLA president and current member of Parliament).

His speech was candid and enlightening on campaigning, politics, and the

Sudbury community. Two particular points resonated with me: accountability and responsibility.

Lucille Shaw (also a past SDLA president) highlighted the good work of the Colloquium Committee and, in particular, that the funds donated in lieu of speaker's fees are to be used to set up a legal scholarship endowment. Her speech also resonated with me, particularly: advancing the interests of the Sudbury Community.

To me, the SDLA Executive exists for two primary purposes:

1. To support and advance the interests of its membership; and
2. To support and advance the interests of the Sudbury community

As an Executive, we have four main goals during the 2016 term:

1. Ensuring that we use our resources to support continuing professional development in the Northeast
2. Be receptive to proposals from our Members on how our funds

can be used to advance the interests of our Members and worthwhile causes in our Community;

3. Plan and support social, and other member events that allow our members to keep the collegial environment for which we are renowned; and of course,
4. Complete our by-law review and proposed amendments to the by-laws in time to be voted on at the next AGM.

I want our Executive to be held accountable for advancing these goals throughout my term as President and I strongly encourage our Members to come to the SDLA with proposals on how to advance these interests.

I am sure I speak for the entire Executive when I say, that we look forward to serving you throughout our term.

*James Ross*

*President*

*SDLA*

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# POONENAMOOK

The message from Moosonee was crisp and to the point: ‘We are going across the river at 10....I can send an update then’.

It was 8:15 am on Friday November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 when Mary Jo Wabano sent the text to me. When she crossed the Moose River to Moose Factory Island two hours later, and entered the Weeneebayko General Hospital, this would be her last visit with the person they affectionately called ‘Granny’.

Granny Wabano was distinct for many special reasons and many long seasons. She was born Marguerite Kioke on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 1904, along the Ekwan River, in Treaty 9 territory, one of a family of six children. At age seven, she was sent to St. Anne’s Residential School in Fort Albany, where she spent two years. Her family then moved further into the wilderness, determined to keep their children out of the hands of the authorities.

Marguerite married Raphael Wabano, and together they had eight children. They moved from Attawapiskat to Moosonee, where Granny would remain the rest of her life.

And what a life it would be. When Granny entered the House of Commons on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008, and sat beside the Prime Minister of Canada to hear him read out an historic formal apology, she was the oldest living survivor of the residential school system. And in the moments before she died in Moose Factory seven weeks ago, she was Canada’s oldest living person. In her lifetime, Gookum (Cree for grandmother) went on to have twenty-five grandchildren, (her grandson Michael married my friend Mary Jo Peltier from Wikwemikong), eighty-three great grandchildren and many great-great grandchildren.

Nishnabi-Aski Nation Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler, speaking after her passing stated: ‘Marguerite attributed her extraordinary long life to her ability to forgive others’.

The key to her longevity? Granny was asked about this on her 110<sup>th</sup> birthday and put it best when she said: ‘No use carrying things around. Learn to forgive and it’ll help you to live a long life’.

Words of wisdom from someone old enough to pass on a lesson or two.

Poonenamook - Forgive Others

*Honourable Stephen O’Neill*

*Nahwegahbow, Corbiere, LLP*

*109—5884 Rama Road*

*Rama, ON*

# WEAVER, SIMMONS ROCKS AIR BANZ 2016



## WEAVER, SIMMONS WANNABEES AIR BANZ TEAM 2016

Back row (L to R): Brigen Peters, Nick Kutchtaruk, Jordan Duplessis, Scott Croteau, Zachary Courtemanche, Geoff Jeffery

Front row (L to R): Matthew Leef, Renée Gregor, Anthony Orazetti, Stephanie Farrell

The Weaver, Simmons Wannabees participated in the first annual Sudbury Community Airbanz competition on 30 January 2016. The event was organized by Judy Gougeon and her team at Gougeon Insurance Brokers, focused on the music of the 1980's and raised \$35,000.00 for the Northern Cancer Foundation. The Weaver, Simmons team performed "Living on a Prayer" by Bon Jovi to a crowd of 500 screaming fans.

It was a great team building experience for the firms.

My personal thanks to each of our team members who overcame stage fright and brought home the trophy for first place in the competition..

*Geoff Jeffery*

## COLLOQUIUM 2016

Mark your calendars for Colloquium 2016, which is being held on October 20<sup>th</sup>– 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at the Radisson Hotel in Sudbury.

The Steering Committee is extremely pleased to announce that Supreme Court of Canada Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin has accepted our invitation to attend the conference as the Keynote Speaker. Joining her at the Conference will be Ontario Superior Court of Justice Chief Justice Heather Smith and Ontario Court of Justice Chief Justice Lise Maisonneuve.

The organizing and planning of the Conference's education sessions has already commenced. Sessions this year will include Advocacy, Evidence, and Aboriginal Law, as well as a number of substantive areas of law. French language sessions will be offered, as well as a mentoring program. The Conference will be accredited by both LSUC and LawPro.

The Conference will kick off this year on Wednesday evening, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015, with Vins et Fromages, a social evening with fine wines, excellent hors d'oeuvres and live music. Cocktails and dinner on Thursday evening will take

place at The Vale Cavern at Science North. The dinner will be followed by the always popular Hospitality Suite.

Anyone who is interested in volunteering at Colloquium 2016 is encouraged to contact the Colloquium Co-Ordinator at [sudburycolloquium@gmail.com](mailto:sudburycolloquium@gmail.com).

*Kathleen Erin Cullin*  
Steering Committee

## SUDBURY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Each year at "Colloquium", in lieu of gifts to speakers, we have been making a donation to the Sudbury Community Foundation for the purposes of establishing an endowment fund for legal education. While the specific terms of the fund are still being finalized, the goal is to establish a legacy for the SDLA to provide financial assistance for students attending law school. To date, through the Colloquium, we have committed \$29,500.00 to the Foundation for the purposes of establishing this endowment fund. Our goal is to continue to make contributions to the fund so that we can provide meaningful assistance to students who choose to pursue their legal education.

The following is further information of the work of the Sudbury Community Foundation:

The Foundation was established in 1966. Interestingly, of its 18 founding members, six were either members of the SDLA or had very close ties to it. They all heard the words of Margaret Mead:

"Never doubt that a small group of committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." The Sudbury Community Foundation now manages assets of 3.7 million. It started with \$1,600.00 in 1997.

The Foundation receives donations, creates endowment funds, invests the proceeds and makes grants. It maintains a close relationship with its donors. Rather than just distributing money only once, the Foundation invests it. This allows the Foundation to help charities and improve our community each and every year forever.

The Foundation works closely with local charities to ensure their good work continues. In addition to funding special projects, it provides workshops, space and skills training to improve continuity and quality of service. The Foundation is like a great songwriter. We know the songs and the singers and yet we are pleased to learn that many of them share the same songwriter. Have a look at the insert in the newsletter to see how involved the Foundation is in our commu-

nity.

Consider becoming a donor. The SDLA, with Colloquium "honorariums in lieu" will create a grant to Northern

Ontario students attending a first year law program. One day that student will give back to their community. With a Foundation in your Community, the good that goes around comes around, again and again.

*J. J. Paquette*

*Sudbury Community Foundation*

*Website for further information*

<http://www.sudburycf.ca/>

## JIM SIMMONS, Q.C. THE ADVOCATES' SOCIETY MEDAL 2016 RECIPIENT



Jim Simmons was recently awarded the Advocates' Society Medal. The terms of the award are as follows:

**The Advocates' Society Medal is the highest expression of esteem that the Society can convey to one of our members. It is intended to honour those who have demonstrated clearly their pre-eminence as counsel and who our acknowledged unequivocally as leaders of the bar; who have been dedicated as active members of the Society,**

**and who have made a significant contribution to the profession of law and to the wellbeing of the community at large.**

Past recipients of this award have been John J. Robinette, Q.C., the Honourable John D. Arnup, Q.C., Earl A. Cherniak, Q.C., the Honourable Eleanor A. Cronk, Edward L. Greenspan, Q.C., and the Honourable W. Ian C. Binnie, to name a few.

In honour of Jim, The Advocates' Society is hosting a dinner on **April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016** at the Vale Cavern at Science North. Registration forms can be found at the Advocates' Society web page at [www.advocates.ca](http://www.advocates.ca).

We are fortunate that there are a number of sponsors for the dinner including Giffin Koerth, McKellar's, Collins Barrow, Weaver Simmons and the Sudbury District Law Association. As a result of these generous sponsorships, we have been able to reduce the

cost of the tickets, which includes a host bar.

As a director of the Advocates' Society, I was thrilled when the selection committee chose to grant the Medal to Jim, a lawyer who is a most-deserving recipient. Furthermore, he is only the second lawyer from Northern Ontario to have been selected to receive the Medal. The first was Kris Knutsen from Thunder Bay.

The unexpected passing of Gus Palombi from Sault Ste. Marie caused me to reflect on the importance of gathering as a profession to celebrate the career and accomplishments of one of our colleagues. While the practice of law can be challenging and gruelling at times, we must remember that it is an honourable profession. Jim epitomizes what it means to be a lawyer practicing with honour and integrity.

I urge all of you to join us to celebrate his accomplishments.

*M. J. Lucille Shaw*



# Twitter—#igetit

The following page has an article I recently wrote for The Advocates' Society newsletter "Advocacy Matters". The article is about my involvement with Twitter which actually only started on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 when I sent out my first tweet at Colloquium 2015.

Over the past number of months, I have not only become more active on Twitter but also have been exploring LinkedIn. I had been on Facebook for a number of years but more as a voyeur rather than an active participant. I have had very different experiences with these different platforms. At this time, my preference is Twitter but there is merit to each form of social media and a great deal

of overlap.

I have had discussions with lawyers in Sudbury who do not see social media as adding any value to their professional development. Quite frankly, I am very impressed with the amount of information on Twitter particularly with respect to timely developments in various legal issues that interest me. I also see Twitter and other forms of social media playing an important role in promoting the work of organizations like the SDLA. In fact, the goal of the steering committee of Colloquium is to use social media throughout the planning and implementation stages of the 2016 conference.

If I was in the early years of

my practice, I would definitely be using social media to develop and enhance my profile not only in the local legal community but also in the broader legal community. It is also a very effective tool for networking. Most of my networking, however, seems to be with lawyers who practice elsewhere in the Province and so I encourage lawyers of all stages of practice to sign-up and follow me @Lucilleshaw.

*Reproduced on the next page with permission of the author.*

## **DIGITAL DISRUPTION AND ITS IMPACT ON LEGAL RESEARCH: A VIEW FROM LEXISNEXIS LEGAL PUBLISHER**

...with the digital-native lawyers expecting their research tools to work in much the same way as Google and Facebook interfaces do, and with graduate tech-savvy lawyers starting to out grow the generation of traditional research practices, research relevancy and search algorithms need to be updated and optimized for new search practices.

At a recent LexisNexis roundtable ex-

ploring "whether research tools are evolving with the changing needs and expectations of the legal profession", the participants all agreed that lawyers are utilizing Google more for research, but quite often at the expense of results, perhaps presenting incorrect or less thorough research that typically results in the research request ending up with the librarian to pursue through more traditional research methods.

Roundtable participants agreed that in many cases, utilizing tools like Google was costing the business time and money on incomplete or inaccurate results.

While Google significantly affected researcher's expectation of the search experience, the rapid development of social and online media is influencing both the approach to research and expectations for sharing/collaboration on legal information."

To read more ...

<http://lawyersweekly.disqus.com/>

TWITTER #IGETT



BY: LUCILLE SHAW,  
MILLER MAKI LLP

Until October 2015, I was a "Twitter virgin". Sure, I had signed up for Twitter but I had never sent out a tweet. I did not know what "#" or "@" meant. I certainly had no clue how to go about tweeting or retweeting. Based on that complete lack of knowledge, I was assigned to be a member of the new social media task force struck by The Advocates' Society. The task force is led by @LonnyRosen, a master of social media. The members of this task force were more senior lawyers, like me, who were encouraged to become more involved with Twitter as a means to increase the profile of TAS on social media. We were each assigned a Twitter coach and given a three page memo on how to tweet and retweet. Our coaches were younger lawyers who were already active on Twitter. We called it reverse-mentoring.

And so, on October 23, 2015, @Lucilleshaw sent out her first tweet. I have not looked back since.

When we had our first meeting as a task force (only lawyers would have memos and meetings about Twitter), I was completely skeptical about the value of Twitter and really had no understanding about how it could benefit TAS. In three short months, however, I can honestly say I now "get it".

I have sent out 275 tweets and counting. I am not one to brag, but I think I may be more active than my coach, @B\_kates. I thought the idea of a Twitter coach was quite amusing but in fact, it has worked. Ben has been more than helpful in helping me understand the nuances of Twitter. I am sure he has had a few laughs at some of my questions along the way.

So...what do I get? I get how Twitter is a valuable platform for sharing ideas and information. For a young lawyer, it is a great tool to network and develop your profile. For all of us, it is a great way to 'chat' about lawyerly topics. I am so impressed by the number of lawyers who tweet about just-released cases.

For organizations like TAS, Twitter is an excellent tool to promote its activities. Although I have been a member of TAS for many years, it was only when I became a director four years ago that I learned of the breadth of its work. For example, I was unaware of the extent of the Society's work on interventions before the courts. Like many, I thought TAS was mostly about education but it is so much more than that, and Twitter is a great way to educate and inform lawyers about its work.

But a Tweeter does not have to tweet about work alone. I use Twitter for other reasons as well. Quite subconsciously, I have been tweeting and retweeting about certain topics that are important to me. Many of my tweets focus on life in Northern Ontario, being a mother and practising as an insurance defence lawyer. Just the other day @LonnyRosen told me that I had developed my theme or "brand". Although the evolution of my 'theme' happened naturally, when Lonny told me that, I felt quite proud...and then I tweeted about it!

After twenty-four years of practice, if this old dog can learn a few new tricks, I think you can as well. I encourage each of you to embrace social media and you might #igetit as well. 🐾

**Lucille Shaw** @Lucilleshaw · Jan 11  
We are lucky to live in the north. Let's not take it for granted. Better than a subway!



**Aaron** @LULCompSci @Gabeen\_jucs  
Morning clouds and afternoon sunset. I have the best commute #InTheWorld. #rails #luminents @LaurentianU

**Lucille Shaw** @Lucilleshaw · 31 Dec 2015  
We, as lawyers, need to have candid discussions about mental health. Good interview



**The Globe and Mail** @globeandmail  
@mystandberg: "I have hosted 300 shows with severe depression." #TB.aib603Ck

**Lucille Shaw** @Lucilleshaw  
**Martha McInerney** @mccinerey · Nov 16, 2015  
Oral in the Court of Appeal this week. #ivity #markedroxy #TASentomoe # #10407



**Lucille Shaw** @Lucilleshaw · 17 Dec 2015  
all the best to My Advocates friends



**SDLA LEGAL BRIEFS  
NEWSLETTER**

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## SDLA Executive 2016

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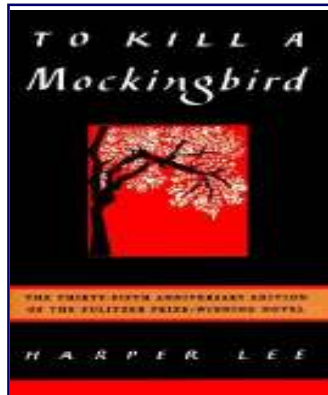
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## HARPER LEE 1926– 2016

“But there is one way in this country in which all men are created equal- there is one human institution that makes a pauper the equal of a Rockefeller, the stupid man the equal of an Einstein, and the ignorant man the equal of any college president. That institution gentlemen, is a court. It can be the Supreme Court of the United States or the humblest JP court in the land, or this honourable court which you serve.



Our courts have their faults as does any human institution, but in this country our courts are the great levelers, and in our courts all men are created equal”

– [Harper Lee, To Kill a Mockingbird](#)

### PHOTOS PAGE ONE

TOP LEFT: SUDBURY  
COURT HOUSE CIRCA 1910  
BOTTOM RIGHT :  
COURT ROOM ‘A’ 2015