



2019 IMLA in Canada

April 25-26, 2019 | New Westminister, BC

TENATATIVE and Subject to Change

Thursday, April 25th, 2019

TIME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	SPEAKERS
8:30AM to 9:15AM	Breakfast		
9:15AM to 9:25AM	Welcome		Co-Chairs, Ian Moore & Byron Werry
9:25AM to 9:45AM	Keynote / Welcome		Lisa Spitale , CAO, City of New Westminister
9:45AM to 11:05AM	The Role of In-House Counsel (Expanding Beyond Legal Advisor to be a Strategic Business Partner)	The role of legal counsel is expanding and so are the skills necessary to provide the support our clients want from us. This panel will explore our role in executive leadership whether part of the senior team or not, in strategic project advancement among other things, and the skills outside of law that are required to provide optimal support. The role of the municipal lawyer in providing advice that demonstrates an understanding of the business needs of the corporation and respects the role of law, will be explored. When do you report concerns to Council.	Mary Ellen Bench , Mississauga John Traves, QC , Halifax Don Lidstone, QC , Lidstone & Company (Vancouver)
11:05AM to 11:45AM	Legal Challenges for Prohibiting User Groups from Renting Municipal Spaces and Facilities	This presentation will discuss the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting appropriate policies and contractual provisions on user groups renting municipal facilities; • How to cancel events that are contrary to your policies in a way that avoids legal challenges; and • Recent and relevant case law involving challenges to public bodies' cancellation of events. 	Craig MacFarlane , New Westminister
11:45AM to 12:30PM	Lunch	Talk at noon.	Chuck Thompson , IMLA
1:00PM to 4:00PM	Transit Tour		
4:00PM to 6:00PM	Reception	Reception at Rogue Kitchen & Wetbar (604 W Cordova Street, Vancouver, BC)	Sponsored by Lidstone & Company, Barristers & Solicitors
6:00 PM onwards	Optional Dinner	To be coordinated on Thursday, April 25	

Friday, April 26th, 2019

TIME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	SPEAKERS
8:00AM to 8:30AM	Breakfast		
8:30AM to 9:50AM	Public Infrastructure Projects	What is the role of legal counsel in large infrastructure projects? Where should lawyers step in, or where should lawyers stay out? Given the knowledge base required to properly support these projects, what is the role of in-house counsel and what is the role of external counsel; how do they work together to best support the project? The panel will discuss how external construction counsel and internal procurement counsel can best support each other; how they work with the project manager and the consultant team; how to avoid legal counsel getting dragged into de facto project management.	Wendy Law , Mississauga Olga Rivkin , Lidstone & Company (Vancouver) Rina Thakar , Civic Legal (Vancouver)
9:50AM to 10:50AM	Recent Case Law on Standards of Review and Municipal Decision-Making	A review of recent case law on standards of review and their implications for municipal decision-making.	Alyssa Bradley , Young Anderson (Vancouver) Mai Nguyen , Boghosian + Allen LLP (Toronto)
10:50AM to 11:05AM	Break		
11:05AM to 12:05PM	Workplace Investigations and Indemnification of Municipal Employees	A panel discussion on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best practices in workplace investigations involving union and exempt employee workplace complaint; and • The importance of the investigator's terms of reference and solicitor-client privilege. 	Craig MacFarlane , New Westminster Carolyn MacEachern , Young Anderson (Vancouver)
12:05PM to 1:00 PM	Lunch		
1:00PM to 2:20 PM	Municipal Regulation of Cannabis	A multi-jurisdictional panel discussion on the experience to date on local government involvement in the legalization of cannabis, including land use implications, regulation of public consumption, and licensing.	Iain Dixon , Vancouver Shannon Belvedere , Calgary Joy Hulton , York Region
2:20PM to 3:40PM	Codes of Conduct/Ethics for Councillors	This multi-jurisdictional panel will discuss the different approaches to regulating councillor ethics and conduct. This session will review the key features of a code of ethics bylaw, the process for investigating and adjudicating complaints, and trends from recent case law.	Mike Solowan , Brownlee LLP (Edmonton) Wendy Walberg , Toronto Jana Odling , Regina
3:40PM to 3:55PM	Break		
3:55PM to 5:15PM	Local Government Elections	A panel discussion with local government lawyers from across Canada who will discuss experiences and lessons learned relating to local election financing legislation, local election legislation and election bylaws relating to recounts and the use of electronic voting machines. Panelists will also discuss, compare and share experiences and case law relating to the state of the law on judicial recounts, challenges to the validity of election, challenges to officials taking office and taking the oath of office.	Andrew Carricato and Rachel Vallance , Lidstone & Company (Vancouver) Michelle Perez Butlin , London Wendy Walberg , Toronto
5:15PM to 5:20PM	Closing		Co-Chairs