

IMLA in Canada Program

Toronto, Ontario | May 30, 2024

Metro Hall

Please note the program is tentative and subject to change



Last Updated: 04/24/24

Thursday, May 30, 2024

TIME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	SPEAKER(S)
8:30AM to 9:00AM	Continental Breakfast	Included in your registration.	
9:00AM to 9:10AM	Opening Remarks		Wendy Walberg & Amanda Karras
9:15AM to 10:00AM	How a Road Becomes a Municipal Road	In certain circumstances, a privately owned road may become a public “highway” under the meaning set out in the Municipal Act, 2001, even in the absence of a legal transfer of ownership or act of Council. When a private road is found to have become a public highway, the municipality may be required to maintain the road, provide services to residents, or keep the road free of barriers to public access. This session will cover the statutory and common law framework for the acceptance of private roads as “public”, recent judicial consideration of the issue, and steps municipalities can take to avoid potential problems.	George Pakozdi (Boghosian + Allen LLP - Toronto, Ontario) & David G. Boghosian (Boghosian + Allen LLP - Toronto, Ontario)
10:00AM to 10:15AM	Coffee Break		
10:15AM to 11:15AM	British Columbia’s Housing Supply Legislation: Reasserting Provincial Jurisdiction over Land Use Management	At the end of 2023 the B.C. government passed a number of amendments to local government enabling legislation to address the acute shortage of affordable housing in the province. This muscular re-assertion of provincial jurisdiction changes the regulatory landscape in ways that recall the establishment of the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission and the Islands Trust in the 1970s. This session will provide an overview of the legislation and commentary on some early implementation issues. The legislation is described in the January 2024 issue of Digest of Municipal and Planning Law.	Bill Buholzer (Young Anderson - Vancouver, British Columbia)
11:20AM to 12:20PM	Public Procurement Law and the Application of Canada’s Trade Treaties (CFTA & CETA) to Municipalities.	An overview of treaty procurement duties and a review of recent case law decisions involving procurement challenges.	Claire Hicks (Regional Municipality of Peel, Ontario) & David Scherbarth (Regional Municipality of Peel, Ontario)
12:20PM to 1:20PM	Lunch	Included in your registration.	
1:20PM to 2:20PM	EDI: Trauma Informed Legal Processes	Panelists will discuss what it means for a legal process to be trauma-informed, why it is important, and how to start taking steps towards implementation.	Jennifer Hunter (Lerners LLP - Toronto, Ontario), Zahra Vaid (Lerners - Toronto, Ontario) & Amandi Esonwanne (Toronto, Ontario)

TIME	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	SPEAKER(S)
2:25PM to 3:40PM	Homelessness / Encampments	Many municipalities are facing the complex challenges of homelessness and encampments. As encampments continue to grow and spread, local governments are implementing a variety of encampment response strategies, including pursuing legal remedies to clear encampments on public land. This session will provide an overview of encampment litigation across Canada, including a detailed analysis of several recent Ontario decisions, and explore how these decisions could shape the future of encampment intervention.	Gadi Katz (Toronto, Ontario), Michele Brady (Toronto, Ontario) & Jenna Morley (Loopstra Nixon LLP - Ontario)
3:40PM to 3:55PM	Coffee Break		
3:55PM to 4:55PM	Current Planning Law Challenges	Our panellists will facilitate a discussion amongst all those in attendance in considering [and potentially resolving!] some of the more perplexing planning law issues we collectively face. During this session, we hope to learn together how best to respond to these challenges from our colleagues from across the country, in large and small municipalities, with perspectives from public and private sector counsel.	Aaron Platt (Loopstra Nixon LLP - Ontario), Leo Longo (Aird & Berlis LLP - Toronto, Ontario) & Anne Caron (Moncton, New Brunswick)
5:30PM	Networking Reception	Join us at the Lerner's offices, next door to Metro Hall, for a hosted reception where drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be served to attendees.	LERNERS