

January 24, 2025

Sent via email

Kevin Westell

Brook Greenberg K.C.President

Office Telephone 604.605.5394

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Dear Kevin:

Re: 2025 Mandate for Discipline Processes Task Force

Thank you for agreeing to accept the appointment as Chair of the Discipline Processes Task Force.

The 2021-2025 Strategic Plan and the Terms of Reference (to be approved) along with the particular priorities outlined below should guide the Task Force in its work this year.

The Task Force is created with a two-year term to explore on a principled and evidenced based approach how the Law Society should apply its various discipline processes to meet its objective of protecting the public interest.

In order to fulfill its mandate during that term, I would appreciate if the Task Force could endeavour to:

- meet early in 2025 to establish a work plan for both 2025 and 2026, which sets out, in general terms, the matters the Task Force expects to address, the outcomes the Task Force expects to achieve, and the time frames by which it intends to do so;
- 2. provide to the Executive Committee the Task Force's work plan by March 21, 2025;
- 3. utilizing an evidence based and intersectional approach, consider what the overall design, purposes, and implementation of the Law Society's discipline processes should be;
- 4. in particular, please consider:
 - a) the benefits and detriments of the new processes the Law Society has recently implemented, including, administrative

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- penalties, consent discipline outcomes, and the Alternative Discipline Process;
- b) on what basis the various discipline processes now available should be selected to apply to a particular matter;
- c) the public interest purposes of discipline processes, and whether our current approaches satisfy those purposes;
- d) whether and how data collection and analysis may improve an evidence based approach to discipline processes;
- e) whether there should be an express definition of "professional misconduct", and if so, what that definition should be;
- f) whether and how discipline processes should distinguish between deliberate and inadvertent professional misconduct;
- g) the proper role of deterrence as a consideration in discipline processes, including the degree to which assumptions about deterrence are supported by evidence;
- h) the proper roles of public interest, public confidence, and public opinion as considerations in the Law Society's discipline processes; and
- i) any other aspects of the Law Society's discipline processes the examination of which would promote the public interest;
- 5. consult with other committees or task forces, including the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee, the Truth and Reconciliation Advisory Committee, and the Bullying, Harassment, and Discrimination Task Force; and
- 6. deliver a recommendation report to the Executive Committee by **October 16, 2026**, to be reviewed and discussed by the Executive Committee, and then the full Bencher Table.

Please plan to meet with me and First Vice President Spraggs in June, July, or August of 2025 for an informal update as to the work of the Task Force for the year.

Yours truly,

Brook Greenberg K.C.

President, Law Society of BC