

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS (“AGM”), OF THE LORD READING LAW SOCIETY (“LRLS” or the “Society”), HELD BY VIDEOCONFERENCE, ON JUNE 22, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.

AT WHICH WERE PRESENT:

Mtre. David Assor	Mtre. William Malkinson
Mtre. Gregory Azancot	Mtre. Larry Markowitz
Mtre. Michael Bergman	Mtre. Allen Mendelsohn
Mtre. Nancy Cleman	Mtre. Max Mendelsohn
Hon. Carol Cohen	Mtre. Donald Michelin
Mtre. Evara David	Mtre. Heather Michelin
Mtre. Sharon Druker	Hon. Morton Minc
Mtre. David Etedgui	Mtre. Joseph Nuss
Mtre. Hershie Frankel	Mtre. Stephan Perlis
Mtre. Jonathan Gordon	Mtre. Ryan Sanft
Mtre. Neil Hazan	Mtre. Robin Schiller
Mtre. Tibor Holländer	Mtre. Frank Schlesinger
Mtre. Lynne Kassie	Mtre. Matthew S. Shadley
Mtre. Steven Katkin	Mtre. Ian Solloway
Mtre. Andrew Kliger	Mtre. Alan Stein
Mtre. Erin Lesser	Mtre. Robert Steinman
Mtre. Doree Levine	Mtre. Reisa Teitelbaum
Mtre. Marissa Lydynia	Mtre. Laurence Vaillancourt
Mtre. Eric Maldoff	Mtre. Alyssa Yufe
Mtre. Lara Malewski	

1. Approval of Agenda:

The President asked for approval of the Agenda.

On a Motion by Mtre. Azancot, which was seconded by Mtre. Sanft, the Agenda was unanimously approved.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting:

The President asked for approval of the Minutes of the previous AGM.

On a motion by Mtre. Druker, which was seconded by Mtre. Azancot, the Minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Business Arising from the Minutes of the Last AGM

The President asked if there was any business arising from the Minutes of the last AGM. There was none.

4. Report of the Treasurer

Mtre. Steinman reported that there is no significant change the Society's financial standing. The Society is doing well financially.

5. Other reports and Communications from other committees and/or Officers of the Society

Nil.

6. Address from the President

The President proceeded with the following address:

- Strange year, not what I had signed up for. I set out a goal to maintain Lord Reading's reputation through excellent speakers in the absence of live events. If you attended our online events throughout the year, I repeated a common theme – that what makes Lord Reading so special is the camaraderie of our live events and having everything online can certainly not replace that. This being said, with an excellent team around me, I think we delivered on providing our membership with excellent programming and enhanced, or at the very least maintained, the prestige of the Society. By way of review:
 - .i. October 20th 2020, for the Alan B. Gold Advocacy Lecture, we had Adam Liptak, United States Supreme Court reporter for the New York Times. This was extremely timely, as it came on the heels of the death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg and the angst of the pre-election USA, along with the nomination and rushed appointment of Amy Coney Barrett.
 - .ii. On December 3rd, Mtres Robert Steinman and Heather Michelin presented a lunch time members-only talk *Of Plagues and Policy: Immigration Law & COVID-19*. This was a highly informative and timely lecture, in which they discussed immigration, work permits, business travel, consular services and quarantine related to Canada, the US and abroad.
 - .iii. December 9th, for the annual human rights dinner we were supposed to have Senator Murray Sinclair who cancelled, but thankfully we were able to pivot quickly and co-sponsored and co-hosted an event with RWCHR that featured one of the most compelling speeches you'd want to hear by Justice Rosalie Abella.
 - .iv. In January 2021, we started the season with a lighter but insightful topic – on the regulation and potential legalization of psychedelics, featuring international lawyer Robert Laurie, who spoke about his work with MAPS, the Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies.
 - .v. In March, for our annual student event we hosted Professor Frederick Schauer, professor on the first amendment at UVA. It was bookended by Prof. Martine Valois of UdeM and Dean Robert Leckey. Professor Schauer spoke

on the shifting politics of freedom of expression. During this event we also had breakout rooms, which was a fun way to have a drink with small groups of people and meet the students.

- .vi. In April, with the involvement of consul general David Levy and of MP Anthony Housefather, we hosted Michal Cotler-Wunsh, who spoke to us about “Legislating in Israel: Language and Equality Rights and the Need for ICC Reform”, covering two broad topics: First, her legislative proposals in the Knesset on language and equality rights, themes that are also relevant in Quebec law and politics. Second, MK Cotler-Wunsh provided a briefing on the recent International Criminal Court judgment against Israel and discussed how this decision represents an affront to the Court’s foundational principles.
- .vii. In May, the young bar committee hosted an incredible panel discussion, deftly moderated by Steph Perlis on Alternative Careers in law: The panel featured three lawyers who have forged unique career paths outside the traditional law firm. The outstanding lineup of speakers was:
 - Bonnie Frank, Vice-President, Enterprise Risk and Crisis Management, at the Public Sector Pension Investment Board (PSP Investments),
 - Catherine McKenzie, litigator turned best-selling author, and
 - Larry Markowitz, corporate lawyer turned entrepreneur and Senior Advisor at NATIONAL, Canada’s largest public relations firm (and Past President of the Society).
- .viii. As our last event, on May 26th we hosted Hillel Neuer, head of UN Watch, who discussed the upcoming Durban IV conference and also recent violence in Israel and the world’s reaction and coverage. This was timely and well attended event, and we thank Ray Schacter for introducing the speaker.
- Busy year aside from events:
 - .i. Bill 21 – In November and December 2020, Lord Reading took part in the trial in first instance, which we owe a huge debt of gratitude to Mtre. Goloff, for doing a phenomenal job representing Lord Reading before the courts. Aside from the trial itself, there was time dealing with issues in the press and just a couple of weeks ago, Lord Reading filed its appeal. I want to thank Me Goloff for his work.
 - .ii. There were negative events as well:
 - .ii.1. There was the attack on the Shaar Hashomayim in January and we sent letter to Rabbi Scheir;
 - .ii.2. There was an uptick in antisemitism in Montreal and around the world and the violence in Israel. We put out a press release on both issues.

- .iii. I believe we made strong inroads with other law societies and human rights groups:
 - .iii.1. Been in close contact with the JBM, Barreau de Montreal and Barreau du Quebec and I thank David Assor for helping in that regard.
 - .iii.2. We made close ties with RWCHR and Irwin Cotler, again;
 - .iii.3. We may have certain strategic alliances with Bnai Brith Canada in the future, who wish to have a more active role in Quebec.
- .iv. Sadly, LRLS lost some key members:
 - .iv.1. Past President Julian Cotler;
 - .iv.2. Former member Richard McConomy;
- Upcoming:
 - .i.1. Website changes;
 - .i.2. Exciting year ahead with hopefully live events;
 - .i.3. Encourage any young members to get more involved, to contact the board if you are interested as we always want more youth.
- Thanks:
 - .i. I want to thank all of you for allowing me to serve as President of Lord Reading, an organization that I have always admired. I want to thank all of you for coming to our events and your continued support of Lord Reading. The success of this association does not happen by accident, but by an incredible commitment from its board, including past presidents. I would also like to single out a few people who have gone over and above in their help and guidance to me, or in their special work to Lord Reading in particular over the course of the last year: First, our soon to be next President, Mtre. Doree Levine and past president Mtre. Greg Azancot, to the executive committee of Mtres. Jon Gordon, Matthew Shadley and Rob Steinman, the Human Rights committee, and to Mtres. Frank Schlesinger, Robert Steinman and Ted Goloff in particular, to Justice Carole Cohen, and of course our communications, Mtres. Markowitz and Mendelsohn, and for Mtre. Frankel.

7. Election of Officers and Members of the Board

Mtre. Mendelsohn proposed electing all the members on the list which is annexed hereto these Minutes. Mtre. Etedgui seconded the proposition. It was passed unanimously.

8. New Business

Nil.

9. Good/Welfare

The President congratulated Mtre. Schiller for her excellent work as Bâtonnière of Montreal.

The President congratulated Mtre. Ettegui for being named treasurer of the Barreau de Montréal.

The President congratulated Mtre. Ettegui for the birth of his son.

Mtre. Levine thanked the President for his hard work this year.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mtre. Frankel, which was seconded by the Mtre. Ettegui, the meeting was adjourned.

WESTMOUNT, June 22, 2021.

Mtre. Andrew Kliger
[Chairperson & President]

Mtre. Matthew S. Shadley
[Recording Secretary]