

JUSTICENET ADVISORY BOARD

JusticeNet is a new organization established to provide an opportunity for concerned lawyers to take a leadership role to help bridge the access to justice gap existing in Canada's legal system. This is made possible by charging referred clients \$100-\$150/hr depending on the client's income range below \$59,000/yr and number of dependents. There is a shortage of lawyers on the roster and JusticeNet seeks our assistance in getting the word out to lawyers so that they sign up. Family Law is a particular area where they are short. You can find out more by visiting: www.justicenet.ca;

The Advisory Board is comprised of a number of member associations:

The Advocates' Society, County and District Law Presidents' Association, Toronto Lawyers Association, Ontario Bar Association, Family Lawyers Association, Canadian Association of Black Lawyers, Women's Law Association of Ontario, Indigenous Bar Association, Federation of Asian Canadian Lawyers, South Asian Bar Association of Toronto, Pro Bono Law Ontario; Legal Aid Ontario, Hispanic Lawyers Association, Iranian Canadian Lawyers Association, Ontario Collaborative Law Federation, Cooperative Solutions, Korean Canadian Lawyers Association, ADR Institute of Canada, Association of French Speaking Jurists of Ontario, Hellenic Canadian Lawyers Association, Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto, Advocacy Centre for the Elderly.

The Board last met on November 9, 2011. The discussion focused on several items:

1. The election of an Advisory Board Chair and Vice Chair - this was postponed due to a low number of attendees at the meeting;
2. Setting up and canvassing members to agree to participate in one of the Committees such as:
 - Quality Control (Already formed, new one else needed)
 - Awards Committee
 - Promotion and Expansion Committee
 - Fundraising Committee

The FLA did not sign up for any of these yet as I wanted some time to think about it.

3. Whether the Chair or Co-Chair had to come to be the representative or whether it could be someone else from the member association. As the seat is an "Association" seat rather than a "personal appointment" it can be anyone from the Board.
4. Program Promotion and Expansion – JusticeNet has been asked to go national and is considering it. The board expressed some concern given that the program

in Ontario, while underway, is not yet fully developed. We are concerned they don't have the infrastructure and funding needed to run the programs nationally;

5. Discussion about the planned "Grand Event" – the organization wants to set up a grand launch with media and important government officials. We discussed the type of event and financing the event.