***EXPERT EVIDENCE***

***IN FAMILY LAW PROCEEDINGS***

Expert evidence is often used in family law proceedings, both in child protection litigation and in domestic cases between separated parents. As well, expert evidence has been at the centre of a number of significant cases decided recently by the Supreme Court of Canada and the Ontario Court of Appeal, which have both clarified and further refined some of the key evidentiary concepts in this area.

It is essential that family law lawyers have a firm understanding of the basic principles of expert evidence and assessments, and a familiarity with the jurisprudence in this field.

What is the difference between a participant expert and a litigation expert? What professional obligations are placed on lawyers and experts by Rule 20.1 of the Family Law Rules and when does this apply? Are there different reliability considerations, dependent upon whether the evidence arises in a “hard science” or “soft science” domain? Is the role of an expert different from a professional in a court ordered assessment? How do you challenge an expert whose evidence does not support your case? How has critique evidence been viewed by the courts?

Esteemed law professor, Nick Bala, will address these and other questions. Don’t miss this must-attend program!

**Chair: Justice Carolyn Jones, Ontario Court of Justice**

**Speaker: Prof. Nicholas Bala**



**This organization has been approved as an Accredited Provider of Professionalism Content by the Law Society of Upper Canada. This program contains 0.5 Professionalism and 1.0 Substantive Hours**

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| **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2015*****4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. (program starts at 5:00 p.m. sharp)*** |
| **$20.00** *cash only please* (includes refreshments and pizza) |
| **NORTH YORK MEMORIAL COMMUNITY HALL – 5110 Yonge Street****West end of Lower Level – one level below the North York Public Library** |
| This program, it will be available on video download and on DVD, with materials in electronic form, from the LAOLAW website at “Learning Opportunities” at [www.research.legalaid.on.ca/login.html](http://www.research.legalaid.on.ca/login.html).This continuing education program is NOT open to the public. Lawyers, Law Students and Court Workers are welcome. |
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