

## ***LEGALESE***

***November 2003***

### **Annual General Meeting**

This year's Annual General Meeting took place on October 9, 2003 at Avra Estiatorio. Approximately 40 current and new members gathered to enjoy a sit-down dinner and presentation on the marketing of law firms by John Sotos, a long-standing and distinguished member of the HCLA. Following the presentation, HCLA President, John Polyzogopoulos, and HCLA Treasurer, Anthony Moustacalis, presented their respective annual reports. HCLA Website Director, John Salmas, also gave a brief presentation on the latest developments of the HCLA website. Elections were also held that evening for five positions on the Executive Committee. John Polyzogopoulos, George Bougadis and Esia Giaouris were all re-elected to the Executive Committee and John Yiokaris and Helen Fotinos became the newest members to join the HCLA executive. Attendees at the AGM also voted in favour of a motion to amend the HCLA Constitution. The following amendments were passed:

1. Membership to the HCLA has been expanded to include members of any provincial or territorial bar within Canada.
2. The HCLA Executive Committee may appoint two Honourary Directors to the Executive Committee for the purpose of assisting the HCLA in furthering its aims and objectives and, in particular, in liaising with the HCLA's senior members. To be eligible as an Honourary Director, a member would have to have been a member of the bar for at least 15 years. Honourary Directors are not allowed to vote at Executive Committee meetings.
3. Notice provisions for meetings have been changed to allow for official notices to be sent to members by e-mail or facsimile, rather than by mail only.
4. The size of expenditures the Executive Committee is authorized to incur with Membership approval was increased.
5. Non-substantive amendments that relate to matters of form and style rather than to substance.

For more details on the above amendments, please visit our website at [www.hcla.ca](http://www.hcla.ca).

### **Executive Committee**

Following the AGM, the new Executive Committee held its first meeting in early November to discuss new business and to appoint positions on the Executive Committee. The HCLA is pleased to announce the following new Executive Committee for 2003/2004:

President	-	John Polyzogopoulos
Vice-President	-	George Bougadis

Treasurer	-	John Salmas
Secretary	-	Helen Fotinos
Director (Membership)	-	Natashia Kalogiannis
Director (Membership)	-	John Yiokaris
Director (Social)	-	Esia Giaouris
Director (Publications and Website)	-	Eleni Maniatis
Student Representative	-	Rita Gratsias
Honourary Director	-	John Sotos
Honourary Director	-	Chris Tzekas

The new Executive Committee would like to thank outgoing HCLA directors, Anthony Moustacalis and Len Hatzis, for their years of service and dedication to the HCLA. In particular, we would like to thank Anthony Moustacalis for his ten years of dedicated volunteer service to the HCLA Executive Committee as its effective Treasurer “for Life”. Despite being a very busy and successful Toronto sole practitioner and a high profile criminal trial and appellate counsel, Anthony always found the time to quietly and diligently serve our organization and its membership in many different ways. He was especially generous of his time with Hellenic law students entering the profession and those considering the field of criminal law. He willingly gave his time without regard for personal acknowledgement or the effect it might have on his practice and his private life. Anthony has always been too modest and too self-sacrificing to ever appreciate the real difference he has made to a great many of our members over the years. Finally, his witty and understated annual Treasurer's Report, a welcome highlight at the HCLA AGM, will be greatly missed. We hope that the HCLA will be able to continue to count on both Anthony's overt and his discrete continued support of the HCLA and its members long into the future.

### **Upcoming Events**

#### *Christmas Cheer*

The HCLA will be hosting its annual Christmas cocktail celebration on Thursday, December 11, 2003 at the Rosewater Supper Club, starting at 6:00 p.m. The Rosewater Supper Club is located at 19 Toronto Street, one block east of Yonge Street, just north of King Street. This is a great opportunity to meet the new Executive Committee and mingle with old and new friends during the Christmas season.

### *Professionals Gala Event*

On Saturday, February 28, 2003, the HCLA, the Hippocrates Hellenic Canadian Medical Association and the Asclepius Dental Society will host their annual Gala Event at Spirale Banquet and Convention Centre. The proceeds from this dinner-dance event will once again support several notable Canadian-Hellenic causes. Information on where and how to purchase tickets will be available on our website. Stay tuned.

Please visit our website at [www.hcla.ca](http://www.hcla.ca) for more details on the above events and for a list of our calendar of events for 2003/2004.

### **Legal Developments**

#### **NOVEMBER 17 UPDATE**

#### **Greek court adjourns November 17 guerilla group hearing**

A Greek court trying 19 suspected members of the radical leftist November 17 guerrilla group has set December 8 for a much awaited verdict. After almost ten months of proceedings, 400 witnesses, over 60 defence and prosecution lawyers, and 162 court sessions, presiding judge Michalis Margaritis wrapped up Greece's "trial of the century" and set a December 8 date for the verdict. Most of the 19 suspects face life sentences if convicted of the multiple murder, attempted murder and bombing charges. The alleged leader and founder of the group is charged with more than 960 crimes. Two suspects are charged only with "participation in a terrorist group" without having taken part in any strike. This charge carries a maximum prison sentence of 10 years. (Source: Reuters AlertNet, [www.alertnet.org](http://www.alertnet.org), November 24, 2003)

### **Employment Opportunity**

Sotos Associates LLP has an opening for a junior associate, preferably with 1 to 2 years' experience. The successful candidate will be engaged doing solicitor's work in the following areas: corporate/commercial with an emphasis on leasing, franchising and banking security work, estate planning and real estate.

Sotos Associates LLP is a business law firm and has [one of Canada's leading franchising, licensing and distribution law practices](#). We pride ourselves on our commitment to timely, straightforward and cost-effective solutions for our clients.

The ideal candidate must be mature, motivated and have entrepreneurial traits with a commitment to excellence and client service.

If you have the requisite drive and experience kindly forward your resume in confidence to Lou Alexopoulos, 180 Dundas Street West, Suite 1250, Toronto, Ontario, M5G 1Z8 or email to [lalexo@sotoslaw.com](mailto:lalexo@sotoslaw.com).

### **Wedding Bells**

This past summer and fall was busy wedding seasons for several of our HCLA members. Congratulations to HCLA President, John Polyzogopoulos, HCLA Social Director, Esia Giaouris, former HCLA Secretary, Len Hatzis, former HCLA Director Vivian Koronis, and HCLA member, Sophie Vlahakis, on their recent nuptials. We wish John, Esia, Len, Vivian and Sophie and their respective spouses all the best.

### **The Day Toronto Went Dark**

While most of us were aimlessly wandering the streets of Toronto looking for a way to get home on that unprecedented afternoon in August when Toronto succumbed to the longest blackout in Canadian history, our former HCLA President, Peter Carayiannis, took to the streets trying to instil some order into the chaos. With a whistle in his mouth and with hand movements that were better synchronized than Madonna's "voguing", our very own *trohonomos* directed traffic and pedestrians at one of the busiest intersections in downtown Toronto. He did it with sweat but also with humour and pizzazz. He was so good that he even got a picture of himself splashed all over the *Toronto Star* the next day. Now there's a way to make a name for yourself on Bay Street.

*Legalese* is published four times a year by the HCLA Executive Committee. If you would like to contribute to this publication, please contact Eleni Maniatis at [emaniatis@mccarthy.ca](mailto:emaniatis@mccarthy.ca).