



FALL 2020

THE LEGALESE

*A Semi-Annual Newsletter Publication of the
Hellenic Canadian Lawyers' Association*

PRESIDENT'S NEA

By Francie Smirnakis

The HCLA has had a successful year. We were able to deliver on our goals that support our mandate of “*NEA – Network, Educate, Advocate*”, albeit in a different way because of the challenges we faced due to the global pandemic.

As we move into a new Board year, we reflect on the opportunities and challenges behind us, and what's ahead.

We **networked**...at our much anticipated fundraising gala in February, where we awarded our student scholarships. We introduced and honoured our new calls to the bar at our virtual AGM in October. We are exploring website enhancements to help us further connect with each other and with local lawyers in Greece. And with the holidays around the corner, we hope to celebrate some Christmas Cheer with you in a new way this year.

We **educated**...through virtual CPDs. I also participated along with former HCLA President, Nikiforos Iatrou, and other

FEATURED STORIES:

President's Nea

Procrastination is about Emotions, Not Time Management

A Meaningful Law School Experience During an Unprecedented Time

The Infamous Greek Bureaucracy

In Case you Missed it: Legal News from Greece

Friends of the HCLA

Welcome to our New Calls!

A Message from the HHF

Ontario Bar Association Council Update

Our Quarantine Diaries

Classifieds

We Networked

We Educated

We Advocated

lawyers in a virtual Legal Leaders session for first year Ryerson Law students organized by Honourary Director and former HCLA President, Gina Alexandris. Looking ahead, we hope to continue to help student and lawyer members with continuing professional development, mentorship, resume review and interview training.

We advocated...by participating on the OBA Diversity Council and staying connected with RODA. We will continue and further focus these efforts.

All of this could not be possible without your support, together with an active and engaged Board of Directors.

Members, thank you for your 2020 membership, your gala sponsorships and donations, your attendance at our CPDs, your contributions to our revitalized Legalese and your active participation at our virtual AGM.

Directors, thank you for your commitment to our goals and delivering value to the membership. Welcome to James Trougakos, a new HCLA director, who will be joining the Board this year. Thank you to outgoing long-time Director and former President, Kosta Kalogiros, for his inspiring

dedication, leadership and humour. Appreciation also goes out to our Honourary Directors who provide valuable institutional knowledge and experience in their input, advice and guidance to the Board. Together, we will work towards maintaining and building an even stronger and supportive cultural professional association built on our NEA pillars.

Finally, I challenge each of you to define what NEA means to you personally in your lives. For me, 2020 means: Normalcy, Empathy, Agapi.

I've learned to openly embrace the fact that Normalcy is not static. I've realized that now more than ever, we need to show Empathy to others who are struggling financially, mentally, professionally, emotionally or physically because of the twists and turns COVID-19 has brought to society and to each of our lives. And last but not least, I know we have the power to collectively perpetuate the Hellenic unwavering Agapi that the world needs to unify and rise above the challenges we face.

Wishing you all continued health, happiness, success and safety.



PROCRASTINATION IS ABOUT EMOTIONS, NOT TIME MANAGEMENT

By Paul Karvanis



Somewhat recently, while working from home, I had an email I needed to write for work. It needed some reasonably complicated legal analysis. I needed to provide an opinion. It was going to important people.

But, my workspace was (a little bit) messy. So obviously I had to clean it. And the kitchen was (really) messy. So obviously I had to clean that too. And while I was cleaning the kitchen, I looked out the window and saw the lawn. The grass was pretty long.

So I found myself outside, trying to start my lawnmower. At this point, I think it's pretty clear to all of us that I was procrastinating. But in the moment, I had good reasons. My neighbour had mowed both of our lawns last week, and I needed to get out there and mow both of our lawns before he did it again.

I tried to start the lawnmower. I primed the engine, and yanked on the cord. There was a bit of noise and then it went silent. So I primed the engine some more, and yanked on the cord again. A bit more noise, and then it went silent. So I primed a final time. It still didn't work.

Then I realized, the spark plug was unplugged. Silly me. This is easy to fix. Just plug it in and yank the cord.

Except it still didn't work.

This time, because I had overprimed it. The engine was now flooded with gas.

Most of us think that procrastination is about time management. We don't get working because we're lazy and haven't quite yet figured out how to be go-getters. But that doesn't quite fit for me. Look at my procrastination - it involved a lot of work! I cleaned two different rooms and mowed the lawn.

I was reading an article recently in the NY Times which said that procrastination was an emotional problem.

That we get stuck in procrastination cycles because we can't manage negative feelings around a task.

When you look at it through that

"We get stuck in procrastination cycles because we can't manage negative feelings around a task."

"Work first. Reward later."

lens, what happened to me makes a lot more sense. I was nervous about this email. I was anxious about getting it right. I was worried about what the important people would think of me. I couldn't manage these feelings properly (hell, I'm not even sure if I took the time to be conscious of them). So instead I did other things that needed doing.

Your efforts to fix something rarely work if you're focused on the wrong problem. It's like me with the lawnmower. I kept priming the engine when all I needed to do was connect the spark plug. Not only did I not solve the problem, I made it worse. By the time I was done, even the solution to the original problem (plugging in the spark plug) wouldn't work.

If I had thought that my procrastination was because I needed to be more of a go-getter, I might have tried to raise the stakes. Reminding myself how important it is and just "buckling down". By doing that, I would have increased the emotional pressure on it, increasing the negative emotions. I might finally manage to increase the self-pressure enough to overcome it, but then I've spent the day awash in negative emotions.

You do that enough, and you start to feel pretty shitty in life.

Additionally, it can be

dangerous. You've heard of Pavlov's dog? By feeding dogs after ringing a bell, Pavlov trained them to salivate when the bell was rung. They knew the bell meant food, so they would salivate because of the bell, even if there was no food there. When you procrastinate, you feel better in the moment. You are Pavlov with your productivity. You're training yourself to procrastinate in the future. It can become a negative feedback loop. That's not ideal.

Running away from feelings generally just makes those feelings stronger. So when I put off writing that work email, the job gets harder, not easier.

So here are four suggestions to do instead:

Take a second. Whenever I try to power through, I end up raising the stakes. By noticing that I have the urge to procrastinate, I get a chance to take a moment. That's like looking at the engine instead of just deciding it needs priming.

Get to the root. What are you trying to avoid? What negative feelings are lurking just outside your peripheral vision. Is it worry? Fear? Sometimes simply naming it gives you freedom. Sometimes you'll need to do more.

Put roadblocks in front of your stressors. I happen to stress about my inbox. Turning off my outlook (it stops incoming messages) doubles and sometimes triples my productivity as it frees up my mind to focus on the task at hand.

Work first. Reward later.

A MEANINGFUL LAW SCHOOL EXPERIENCE DURING AN UNPRECEDENTED TIME

By Athena Dafnas, Dena Papaioannou and Zoi Samonas

From the outset of our initial week of classes at Ryerson Law, what was emphasized was not merely the strict importance of learning black letter law in order to be a good lawyer - but, more importantly, what it takes to be a good lawyer. This theme placed an abundance of prominence on valuing diverse perspectives, innovation, and fostering community as characteristics necessary for a meaningful legal career.

When thinking of what it means to establish a meaningful legal career, it is necessary to narrow in and ask what makes a meaningful law school experience? In our eyes, this experience is one that, too, is enriched with diverse perspectives, innovative approaches, and community.

Ryerson Law is the living embodiment of greater representation in the legal field, and as such, our curriculum reflects this representation. Teachings at Ryerson Law are imbued with an emphasis on how intersectionality is fundamental to legal understanding and application. With particular

attention to BIPOC perspectives, there is a focus on systemic issues existing within the law due to its colonialist design. Resolving these tensions is emphasized throughout the curriculum and varies from standard pedagogy by focusing one's attention on social issues inherent in the law.

Pedagogy is varied further at Ryerson Law through its Integrated Practice Curriculum, allowing students to focus on legal theory while simultaneously gaining practical legal skills through tutorial settings. This practical aspect highlights how truly innovative the Ryerson Law curriculum is. Through the combination of skill with theory, Ryerson Law students begin to put the law into practice. It is quite unique for a first-year law student to review a non-disclosure agreement or draft a retainer agreement, however at Ryerson, this is commonplace.

Innovation, one of Ryerson Law's primary focuses, has received additional attention within the curriculum due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Zoom school, to say the least, has saved students some precious sleep and commute hours, but all the greater has been more well-received than expected. As students and professors have been forced to adapt their teaching and learning styles, Ryerson Law has successfully managed to transfer its curriculum to the online realm. As such, students are bearing the fruit

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of unique and creative teaching methods that retain engagement and foster an ability to learn. Dr. Hilary Evans Cameron, a Legal Research and Writing Professor at Ryerson Law, utilizes podcasts to teach critical legal concepts, thereby varying traditional legal teaching methods and showing that there is more than one way to arrive at a final destination.

If there has been one thing that has been a challenge during this unprecedented law school experience, it has been the inserted layer of complexity in establishing a community. Simply put, you cannot grab a coffee with a colleague after class. However, by embracing our Hellenic heritage, we have begun to foster a community of Hellenes within the Faculty of Law. Together, we have established the Ryerson Hellenic Law Student's Association ("HLSA"), a group presently in the process of gaining its official status. The group shares a mutual goal of strengthening and nurturing connections within the Hellenic and Philhellenic community at the Faculty of Law and the community at large. With goals of providing professional networking opportunities and educational mentorship programs to promote legal education to Hellenic youth, the HLSA delivers an avenue to foster community, connect with our cultural heritage and participate in meaningful work throughout the law school experience.

Ryerson Law students chose to enter into a unique experience during unprecedented times. However, these times have not stopped Ryerson Law from offering a curriculum enriched with diverse perspectives and innovative pedagogy. Ryerson Law continues to prove day by day that the law school experience is capable of adaptation. Moreover, by focusing on our desire to establish a community, the HLSA has provided an avenue to forge meaningful social connections within the law school. Ryerson Law students are not receiving a by the book academic experience, but one that is innovative, socially aware and capable of being shaped by the values of its diverse student community.



THE INFAMOUS GREEK BUREAUCRACY

By Elina Paraskevopoulou, Paraskevopoulou & Co (Athens, Greece)

Greece may be famous for all the good things we know, but there is one dreadful attribute that is still haunting us all. The infamous Greek bureaucracy.

Many of you reading this article have countless stories to share that probably fly across the generations. I've had clients from the States, Canada, Australia and elsewhere, all crying out loud for help, as they were trying to understand what is happening, how much will it cost them, and when the whole process will be finished.

Four straightforward questions that often found hard to get to the right answers. Greeks living abroad are often challenged by the monster we call Greek bureaucracy, especially when they are about to inherit an estate.

Thankfully many things have changed over the last decades, making the process more efficient and reliable. The first and probably most important thing you need to remember is that this is a procedure that can seamlessly occur, provided you find a lawyer you trust.

In other words, someone who can answer these 3 questions without creating more questions for you.

Here are some tips to remember when you are about to inherit a property in Greece:

How do I reject the inheritance?

You have 1 year from the date of the deceased's passing to reject the inheritance. If you fail to do so in 1 year then you are the legitimate heir.

How do I accept the inheritance?

You have the 1-year limit again, but if you fail to declare so in 1 year, all you have to do is pay a small penalty of around 120 EUR to the State. It is important to remember that no one can steal your property away, including the State, just because you failed to accept the inheritance promptly. Bear in mind that all real estate property in Greece is accepted by notarial deed. You need to pay the tax first (if any), then sign the act of inheritance acceptance and finally go to the notary so that the deed is transcribed in the land registry office of your region/city. Depending on the matter's complexity, the expected time frame for this procedure ranges from 3 months to a year.

"Greeks living abroad are often challenged by the monster we call Greek bureaucracy, especially when they are about to inherit an estate."

"So next time you come to Greece, it will be for you to enjoy the property you inherited and not to queue on the line of a public officer!"

Do I have to pay any taxes?

There is a tax-free up to 150,000 EUR worth of property for the immediate in line relatives. Bear in mind that tax-free levels differ according to the kinship and overall value of the property inherited.

How do I run things sitting in Canada?

All you have to do is find a lawyer you trust and provide him with a power of attorney. You don't have to fly to Greece and you are not asked to be physically present at any part of the procedure. Everything can be done remotely.

So next time you come to Greece, it will be for you to enjoy the property you inherited and not to queue on the line of a public officer!

If you have any questions or you need help, and information on the Greek real estate and business environment, please feel free to contact me at ep@paraskevopouloulaw.com



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: LEGAL NEWS FROM GREECE

By Chloe Boubalos

After a trial lasting over 5 years that is considered one of the most important political trials in Greece's modern history, the Golden Dawn neofascist party was declared a criminal organization on October 7, 2020. The conviction of several MPs and their associates related to a violent campaign of intimidation and a slew of vicious attacks against migrants and far-right

critics in 2012 and 2013. This included the fatal stabbing of anti-fascist rapper Pavlos Fyssas in 2013. At the sentencing hearing on October 14, 2020, presiding Justice Maria Lependioti delivered lengthy prison sentences to the party's leadership. Giorgos Roupakias, the party member convicted of murdering Mr. Fyssas, received the harshest sentence of life plus 10 years.

The court's decision dealt Golden

Dawn's extreme nationalism and racism a resounding blow, coming at the heels of the party's failure to re-enter Greece's parliament during general elections in 2019.

The arc of Golden Dawn's presence on the political stage in Greece is striking. It emerged on the scene in the depth of the country's financial crisis in 2012 and 2013. Indeed, Golden Dawn's swift rise was parasitic on rampant public discontent during the financial and migrant crisis in Greece, seizing upon widespread anger and frustration to secure political sway and orchestrate mass street violence. By 2012, Golden Dawn was Greece's third largest political party, holding 18 of the 300 seats in parliament; this was a steep increase from their presence on the political stage as late as 2009 when they had virtually no electoral support.

The verdict also reflects the nation's socio-political values. In a short time, Golden Dawn has been brought to its knees in the biggest trial of its kind since Nuremberg. Its pursuit of fascist policies through hateful messages and violence have been condemned, sending a powerful message about the democratic values underpinning Greece's political configuration and its national identity.



"The verdict also reflects the nation's socio-political values. In a short time, Golden Dawn has been brought to its knees in the biggest trial of its kind since Nuremberg."

FRIENDS OF THE HCLA

Interview with Peter Minaki by Chloe Boubalos

Attendees of the 2020 Hellenic Professionals' Gala may recall Kalofagas' food stand where he served saganaki and ouzo truffles, and Instagram users may well be familiar with the array of meals and treats on @kalofagas. We connected

with Peter Minaki, the chef behind Kalofagas, to get his crowd-pleasing kokkinisto with beef short ribs recipe (make note of the suggested wine pairing!) and to shoot the breeze.

"My mother is a great cook and I get a lot of inspiration from home cooks around the world. Vefa Alexadiou from Greece is still an inspiration."

How did you get into cooking?

I began to cook back in 1990, when my parents bought a home in Halkidiki. At first it was fun, have the home to yourself all summer, grill food, order take out/delivery. That got tiresome and I missed home cooking. So I began to cook, starting with pasta dishes.

Are there any chefs that have influenced your work the most?

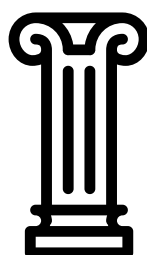
My mother is a great cook and I get a lot of inspiration from home cooks around the world. Vefa Alexadiou from Greece is still an inspiration.

Do you have a favourite meal to savour in the cooler fall and winter months?

There are so many, I love comfort food. This coming weekend I am making a roast pork loin with potatoes and quinces.

What's the most challenging Greek recipe you've tackled?

Learning to make phyllo pastry from scratch. It took years to perfect.



Now for some simpler queries...

(1) Tzatziki or melitzanosalata?

Melitzanosalata.

(2) Moussaka or yemista?

Yemista.

(3) Avgolemono – soup or giouvarlakia?

Giouvarlakia.

(4) Tiropita or spanakopita?

Spanakopita.

(5) Greek coffee or frappe?

Freddo cappuccino.

(6) Baklava or loukoumades?

Loukoumades.

(7) Ouzo or raki?

Raki.

(8) Assyrtiko or moschofilero?

Assyrtiko.

(9) Karpouzi or peponi?

Karpouzi 100%.



FRIENDS OF THE HCLA (CONT)

Kokkinisto With Beef Short Ribs



- 8-9 pieces of meaty short ribs
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 medium red onions, diced
- 2 carrots, peeled and sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, smashed
- 3 bay leaves
- 1 tsp. of peppercorns + 5-6 whole allspice berries (tied in a cheesecloth)
- 1 cup dry red wine
- 1 tbsp. wine vinegar
- 2 cups plum tomatoes, pureed
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1 cup water or stock
- Salt and pepper to taste

Kali orexi!

Pre-heat the oven to 350F.

1. Place a large pot on your stovetop over medium-high heat. Rinse and pat-dry your beef and season with salt and pepper. Add your beef short ribs in two batches (don't crowd them) and brown on all sides. Reserve.

2. Now add the onions, carrots, garlic, allspice and peppercorns and simmer for 5-7 minutes or until the onions soften. Now add the vinegar and wine and simmer for another 5 minutes while stirring occasionally.

3. Add the short ribs back into the pot along with the tomato puree and the water (the meat should still be partially exposed). Bring to a boil, add some salt and pepper and place the lid on. Place in your pre-heated oven for 90 minutes. Take out of the oven and remove lid. Taste and adjust seasoning. Place back in oven without the lid for another 30 minutes.

4. Remove from the oven, add your parsley and serve with some mashed or roasted potatoes, rice pilaf or pasta. I also highly recommend a dry Greek red wine, a Xinomavro grape varietal.

"Finally, here's the recipe, which is perfectly suited for a cozy Sunday evening meal"

If the kokkinisto seems like a big ask, Kalofagas offers catering services for those that want the flavour and fare without the mess. Check it out: <https://www.kalofagas.ca/catering/>

WELCOME TO OUR NEW CALLS!



Daniel Guerrisi, Associate at
Dutton Brock LLP



Danielle Tavernese, Associate
at Bell Temple LLP



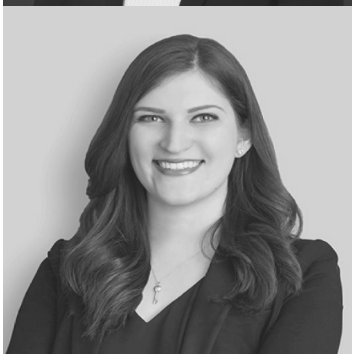
Georgios Triantafillou,
graduate of the dual
American and Canadian JD
program at the University of
Windsor



Sotiri Varlokostas, Associate
at Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt
LLP



Jessica Proskos, Associate at
Monaco Chartier Criminal
Lawyers



Stephanie Tassopoulos,
Associate at Miller Thomson
LLP



James Trougakos, Associate
at Davies Ward Phillips &
Vineberg LLP



Zoe Kalakos, Associate at
Inch Hammond
Professional Corporation



**Cassandra
Economopoulos**, graduate
of the University of Ottawa



Yonida Koukio, law
practice candidate at
McCarthy Tétrault



Spiros Vavougios, Legal
Counsel in the Office of the
General Counsel and Board
Secretariat at Ryerson
University



Patrick Kanopoulos,
Associate at Torys LLP



Katerina Maragos,
Associate at Borden Ladner
Gervais LLP

A MESSAGE FROM THE HHF

By Parthena (Patty) Keroglidis

"Since its inception almost 25 years ago, the HHF has been relentless in its commitment to its original mandate – to preserve, promote and advance Hellenism in Canada."

Having been elected as the first woman on the Hellenic Heritage Foundation (HHF) Board of Directors over 14 years ago, it has been incredible to watch the HHF grow and blossom over the years. Since its inception almost 25 years ago, the HHF has been relentless in its commitment to its original mandate – to preserve, promote and advance Hellenism in Canada.

During the pandemic, many of the projects and initiatives we support were understandably postponed or cancelled. The Foundation and its volunteers nonetheless have kept working so that these community initiatives and programs will continue into the future.

At the height of the pandemic, the HHF responded quickly to an urgent need to support those most vulnerable within our community and consequently provided much-needed PPE to the Hellenic Home for the Aged, at a time where such supplies were scarce. This led to a much larger fundraising effort over the summer where the Foundation was able to raise \$100,000 in donations to support the Hellenic Home's

operations and programming.

Another worthy organization the HHF had an opportunity to support was the Canadian Institute in Greece (CIG) and earlier this Spring, we were pleased to announce a funding commitment of \$75,000 towards the construction of the Institute's new home in Athens.

Analogous to the Hellenic Heritage Foundation, the Canadian Institute in Greece (CIG) is a charitable, non-profit organization with a mission to preserve, promote and advance Hellenic education, culture and heritage. In Canada, the CIG sponsors a biennial graduate student conference and promotes Canadian research and education in Ancient, Byzantine and Modern Greece through academic events and lectures. In Greece, the Institute hosts a number of lectures and cultural events throughout the year, including academic talks by Canadian scholars.

Through this investment, the HHF will look to build on existing synergies and collaborations through our study abroad programs in Greece, available through programs and initiatives we help sponsor at both York University and the University of Toronto.

The CIG internship programme

can particularly be useful to our Graduate Students through the HHF Chair at York University, as it provides free accommodation for a three-month stay in Athens where our Graduate Students can conduct their research in an affordable way and undergraduates can acquire very valuable experience as interns working at the CIG Library and other institutions. In addition, the CIG is expanding its range of activities which is in line with the York U Chair mission to maintain a bridge of scholars, students and researchers with Greece, and make the most of the CIG. It will be a 'second-home' for Canadian students, whether taking a summer course or conducting their research in Greece.

The HHF looks forward to building on this new partnership with the CIG and we're excited for the opportunities this capital investment will provide for our partnering institutions.

We also look forward to the year ahead when we will be commemorating the Foundation's 25th Anniversary in 2021.

We also have a number of projects and initiatives we are organizing in collaboration with the Government of Greece, to celebrate and recognize the 200th Anniversary of Greek Independence next year as

well, including:

- A Historical Podcast Series (expected to launch in January 2021);
- The unveiling of a Heritage Toronto Historical Plaque recognizing the location of the first Greek Community Centre, Greek School and Church in Toronto;
- A Public Lecture and spring networking event in April; and
- An Educational Conference to be held by the HHF Chair of Modern Greek Studies at York University (pending).

It's a rewarding organization to be involved with and its nimble response to the urgent needs the pandemic brought about, has only reaffirmed my commitment to it!



"It's a rewarding organization to be involved with and its nimble response to the urgent needs the pandemic brought about, has only reaffirmed my commitment to it!"

ONTARIO BAR ASSOCIATION COUNCIL UPDATE

By Voula Kotoulas

The board is pleased to have been invited to join the Ontario Bar Association Council this year through our membership in the Diversity Program. The OBA Council is comprised of 173 members from across the province. Council members act as ambassadors and liaisons for the OBA within their region or respective communities, identify issues and opportunities, and provide advice to the OBA executive.

We are thrilled to have a seat at this discussion table.

As part of the collaboration between our two organizations, we have been asked to keep our members apprised of the discussions at Council along with the various efforts and initiatives of the OBA. One that I find particularly exciting is the “Not Another Decade” initiative, which addresses the slow pace of change within our profession. It asks the question “If not now, when?” This initiative intends to substantially change the legal profession within the next 10 years, both in terms of its makeup and its workplace culture. We all have a role to play in fostering a more robust, representative, effective and inclusive legal profession and we invite you to consider how you may

support this initiative.


One effort we have been asked to share with our members, which recognizes the strides and advancement of women in our profession, is the Women Leading in Law blog (www.cowlinglegal.com/blog).

Since its inception in 2018, the blog has profiled 70 women from across Canada excelling in our profession.

The pandemic has raised new stressors for our profession and the OBA provides support and various resources. It has been said that while we are all in the same storm, we are not in the same boat. Some are in luxury cruise liners while others are hanging onto a life boat. We ask that you consider our new and young lawyers who may be disproportionately affected by this pandemic by virtue of shortened summer positions, virtual articling, and fewer mentorship opportunities.

For those interested, we invite you to sign up for our new Mentorship Program to be rolled out in the new year. We also ask that you consider donating or lending your unused court robes to a new lawyer in need through the Robe Bank (www.oba.org/robebank).

As the HCLA designee on Council, I invite you all to continue our dialogue on justice sector issues pressing to our community.



"The pandemic has raised new stressors for our profession and the OBA provides support and various resources."

OUR QUARANTINE DIARIES

In this new segment, we showcase what some of our members have been up to in these unprecedented times. Feel free to send your submissions to hcla.information@gmail.com!

HCLA President
Francie Smirnakis
shows off her
pumpkin carving
skills.



Our
Communications
Director Victoria
Asikis out for a
summer run.



Left: Community Relations Director, Sam Presvelos, is pictured here with his new pup, Coco. Hi Coco!

Right: James Trougakos, our Membership Director, put on a 20 pumpkin spread (some pictured here) for his nieces.

Left: Katerina Maragos, Student Director, navigates her canoe north in Algonquin Provincial Park.

Right: Secretary, Yonida Koukio, and Athan Papadas enjoying the warm November weather!



CLASSIFIEDS

Seeking Focus Group Members

The HCLA is seeking participation in a focus group to discuss the value proposition for membership. Topics will include revisiting previous survey results, mechanics of renewal and any hurdles, value-add benefits of membership, among others. Please email hcla.information@gmail.com if you would like to participate in this focus group.

Virtual Christmas Cheer

The Christmas Cheer is going virtual this year! Expect more information about our upcoming event - happening mid December - to be announced soon.

Contributions to the Legalese

If you're interested in contributing to the next Legalese, which will be published next spring, please email us at hcla.information@gmail.com. We would appreciate all submissions by March 31st.

Membership Renewals

Starting January 1, support the work that the HCLA does for lawyers, students, judges and graduates of law schools across Canada who are of Hellenic descent by renewing your HCLA Membership for the 2021 membership year (January to December). Contact our membership director at jtrougakos@dwpv.com if you have any questions.

Job News & Information

Pensions & Registered Products – If you have experience and expertise in these areas of the law, please email Francie Smirnakis (francesca.smirnakis@rbc.com) about an in-house opportunity with RBC Law Group.

On-Campus Interviews and Resume Workshop – The HCLA has held mock interviews in the past to help law students prepare for job interviews. If you are seeking guidance with resume and cover letter preparation or would like some tips on how to “ace” the virtual interview, please email hcla.information@gmail.com.

Depending on interest, the HCLA may hold a broad workshop or assist students on a case-by-case basis. If you are interested in reviewing resumes and cover letters, or being a mock interviewer, please also reach out to us.

Award Nominations

The 2020 Canadian General Counsel Awards are postponed to 2021. The nomination deadline is extended to March 26, 2021. Please consider nominating a fellow HLCA member or email hcla.information@gmail.com if you are seeking a nomination and would like the HCLA's support.

Congratulations!

The HCLA extends a hearty congratulations to recently appointed Madam Justice Papageorgiou! Gina, your appointment to the Superior Court is well-deserved!

Rankings and Recognition

If you have been ranked or awarded recognition for your legal expertise and would like to be included or profiled in future issues of the Legalese, please email hcla.information@gmail.com

Call for Mentors and Mentees!

The HCLA is looking to foster mentorship in our community. Look out for a revamped application, which will be open to non-members and members alike. We'll be featuring a memorable mentor-mentee pairing in the near future – stay tuned!

2021 Justice Karakatsanis Student Scholarships

We will be announcing details of our annual Justice Karakatsanis Student Scholarships shortly. Students should look out for the call for applications!



@thehcla



The Hellenic Canadian Lawyers' Association



@HellenicCdnLaw



hcla.ca

From the Editors

We hope you have enjoyed this second edition of the refreshed Legalese. The re-launch of the Legalese has helped our members stay connected during these unprecedented times.

As we almost turn the page on this year, we hope that you will continue to stay engaged with our newsletter and contribute to the Legalese.

The HCLA is a community. Your success is our success, and we want to celebrate you!

Best wishes for a great year ahead,

Katerina Maragos and James Trogakos

