

Wellington Law Association – SCJ Civil/Family/Estates Bench and Bar Committee

Minutes

February 5, 2019, 4:45 pm, Wellington County Courthouse

Present: Mark Muir Rodenburg (chair), Justice G. Lemon, Justice N. Mossip, Trenton Johnson, Cherolyn Knapp, Teresa Pearson, Don Kidd, Angela Vincenzo

Regrets: Jacquie Rodden Yetman

1. Agenda approved.
2. Minutes of September 11, 2018 meeting approved.
3. **Business Arising from the Minutes:**
 - Trent provided a copy of his draft “Notice to the Bar” with regards to the scheduling of long motions/applications.
4. **Court Operations and Staffing:**
 - Angela Vincenzo, Supervisor at 74 Woolwich reported that there continues to be ongoing hiring and training of new staff for all three court locations (2 in Guelph and 1 in Kitchener).
5. **SCJ Court Scheduling**

Teresa reiterated yet again that confirmation forms and the Trial Scheduling Endorsement Forms are still not being completed properly (this was referred to in detail in the November 21, 2017 minutes and repeated in the January 23, 2018 minutes and the September 11, 2018 minutes).

The minutes of November 21, 2017 will be circulated to all members of the Bar yet again so hopefully this situation will improve. All family and civil lawyers should refer to the Central West Practice Direction at <http://www.ontariocourts.ca/scj/practice/practice-directions/central-west/cw/> and, in particular, with regards to confirmation forms for family matters Part I A, paragraphs 2 through 6, and with regards to confirmation forms for civil matters Part II H, paragraphs 66 through 70.

Trial Scheduling Endorsement Forms, as required pursuant to Rule 17(11) of the Family Law Rules, are often not being handed in.

Eight long motions were heard during the recent trial sittings with no actual trials being held for a variety of reasons.

With regards to the Estates department, there is only one person currently in the department, but she is also a judicial assistant and the latter duties take precedent over the former duties.

It is not helpful to keep asking her when the Certificate of Appointment will be available as it will be available when it is available.

If materials are filed which are incorrect a checklist will be used by staff showing the mistakes and this checklist will be provided back to the filer along with the materials attempted to be filed.

Angela Vincenzo helpfully provided a list of website links and Mark is to insert these into a "Notice to Bar" to be reviewed at the next meeting.

6. **Update from the Bench**

Trial Scheduling Endorsement Form – this is an Order of the Court and should be treated as such. The Trial Schedule Endorsement Form must be inserted into the Trial Record, along with other Orders, pursuant to Rule 23 of the Family Law Rules.

7. **Civil E-filing Pilot project**

This went live in Guelph on November 27, 2017.

8. **Small Claims Court**

Don had nothing to report.

9. **Update from WLA**

The Wellington Law Association Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at Cutten Fields.

10. **Other Business**

There was none

11. **Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 4:45 p.m. Wellington Law Association Law Library**

12. **Meeting adjourned.**