



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

“22nd Annual CCCL Conference Lands in Historic Niagara-on-the-Lake”

Niagara-on-the-Lake – [Wednesday, June 12, 2019] – The “Loveliest Town in Canada” was the setting for the Twenty-Second Annual Conference of The Canadian College of Construction Lawyers, from May 30 to June 2, 2019. More than eighty-five Fellows, plus guest speakers and panellists gathered at the beautiful Queen’s Landing Hotel under the theme of *THE MODERN CONSTRUCTION LAW LANDSCAPE*.

The agenda kicked off on Thursday afternoon with the Annual Meeting of the CCCL Board of Governors, followed by a cocktail reception and formal greeting by President Matthew Alter, Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP.

The next day’s Conference modules began with a panel discussion titled *The Modern Construction Project: How Project-Related Technology is Changing the Industry*. The session was moderated by Trish Morrison from Borden Ladner Gervais LLP, and included panellists Francesca Maio, SNC Lavalin; Bruce Karn, EllisDon; and Lampros Stougiannos, Miller Thomson LLP.

Following a break, Bill Kenny from Miller Thomson LLP, led a discussion on the topic of *Construction Mediation: Best Practices for a Successful Outcome*, with panelists Tom Stipanowich, Pepperdine University; Duncan Glaholt, Glaholt LLP Barristers & Solicitors; John Craig, Bennett Jones LLP; and Christopher O’Connor, Q.C., O’Connor Alternative Dispute Resolution. Next, Moderator Howard Wise from Goodmans LLP, led a talk on *Construction Practice Case Trends: View from the Bench*, with insights from Thomas Cromwell, Canadian jurist and former Puisne Justice on the Supreme Court of Canada; Justice Robert A. Graesser, Alberta Court of Queen’s Bench; and Justice Geneviève Marcotte, Court of Appeal of Quebec.

Thomas Cromwell also served as luncheon Guest Speaker, sharing insights on *Dispute Resolution: Better Process Design for Better Access to Justice*.



The day's modules concluded with a discussion on *USMCA: Impact on North American Construction Industry*, moderated by Olivier Kott and panelled by Roberto Hernandez, Comad, SC; Douglas Oles; Helmut Johannsen; and Josh Strub, PNR Railworks Inc. Following the close of the business session, the group enjoyed cocktails, dinner and music at the Wayne Gretzky Estates Winery & Distillery. Entertainment was provided by the Andrew Machum Ensemble, the son of Fellow Geoff Machum from Stewart McKelvey.

Day Three showcased *Hot Topics in Construction Law*, with presentations on Prompt Payment and Adjudication; Insuring the P3 Project; CCDC 30 – the Newly Integrated Project Delivery; the Impact of the Legalization of Cannabis; Risk Management for Cyber Security; Deferred Prosecutions and the New Remediation Agreements; and Legal Issues Arising from the use of BIM on Projects.

Over the course of the Conference, Fellows and their spouses and guests had the opportunity to enjoy many of the region's popular attractions including a Niagara Gorge hike, Culinary Class, Helicopter Tour, Golf, and a Cycling and Winery Experience. The entire group also participated in a Voyage to the Falls excursion.

The festivities officially wrapped up on Saturday evening with a Gala Dinner and New Fellow Induction Ceremony at the Hotel. Former Supreme Court of Canada Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin delivered a thoughtful and engaging keynote presentation on life after the bench.

Chris Armstrong, Partner, McLean & Armstrong LLP, West Vancouver; Andrea Lee, Partner, Glaholt LLP, Toronto; and Michael Skene, Partner, Borden Ladner Gervais, Vancouver were inducted as new Fellows of the College.



New appointments included John Murphy, Borden Ladner Gervais as Treasurer, Geoff Machum, Q.C., Stewart McKelvey as Secretary, and Nicolas Gagnon, Lavery, De Billy, LLP as Program Coordinator. Outgoing President Matthew Alter, Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP passed the torch to incoming President Kenneth Crofoot, General Counsel for Goodmans LLP. The 2019 Niagara Conference was steered by the steady hand of Program Coordinator Geoff Machum, Q.C. Stewart McKelvey.

“There’s a reason we returned to Niagara-on-the-Lake for the third time in the history of the College,” commented outgoing CCCL President Matthew Alter, Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Toronto. “Not only is it a beautiful place to visit, but it is also a vibrant and flourishing community that is continually in the process of reinventing itself.... It provided a wonderful backdrop in which to discuss the dynamic world of Construction Law.”

New to this year’s Conference was the support of various program elements and events by a number of sponsors. The CCCL would like to express its appreciation for the generous support from Berkeley Research Group LLC; FTI Consulting; HKA; and Lakeland Consulting Inc.

Incoming President Kenneth Crofoot will be leading the way to the 23rd Annual Conference, May 28 to 31, 2020, to be hosted at St. Andrews-by-the-Sea in New Brunswick.

The Canadian College of Construction Lawyers strives to facilitate and encourage the association of outstanding lawyers who are distinguished for their skill, experience and high standards of professional and ethical conduct in the practice or teaching of construction law, and who are dedicated to excellence in the specialized practice of construction law. For more information about the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers and its Fellows, visit their website at <http://www.cccl.org> or contact:

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