



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“A New Era for the College” – the Virtual 23rd Annual Conference

Vancouver, June 2, 2020



Karen Martin, President

The Canadian College of Construction Lawyers held its Twenty-Third Annual Conference on May 29 and 30, 2020. For the first time in its history, the Conference took place “virtually”. Despite the inability to meet in person, the collegiality and good fellowship was palpable throughout the Conference.

The Board of Governors held its annual meeting on the afternoon of Friday, May 29, 2020.

On Saturday, May 30, 2020, the day commenced with the College’s Annual General Meeting.

New appointments and designations made at the AGM included:

- **Karen Martin** – President
- **Ken Crofoot** – Immediate Past President
- **John Murphy** – Vice-President
- **Geoff Machum**, QC – Treasurer
- **Patricia Morrison** – Secretary
- **Glenn Ackerley** – Program Coordinator
- **Nicholas Gagnon** – Assistant Program Coordinator

Following the AGM, outgoing president, Ken Crofoot, incoming president, Karen Martin and Treasurer, Geoff Machum, QC presided over the induction and introduction of ten (10) outstanding new Fellows from across Canada to the College:

- **Colin Piercey**, Partner, Stewart McKelvey (Halifax)
- **Jason Annibale**, Partner, McMillan (Toronto)
- **Marni Dicker**, Executive VP and General Counsel, Live Work Learn Play (Toronto)

- **Andrew Heal**, Partner, Heal & Co (Toronto)
- **Paul Ivanoff**, Partner, Osler (Toronto)
- **Maria Ruberto**, Partner, Pallett Valo (Mississauga)
- **Jason Roth**, Partner, Bennett Jones (Calgary)
- **Andrew Wallace**, General Counsel, PCL Constructors Inc. (Edmonton)
- **Christopher Rusnak**, Partner, Harper Grey (Vancouver)
- **Christopher Hirst**, Partner Alexander Holburn (Vancouver)

Thanks to the heroic efforts of the Program Coordinator, Patricia Morrison (Calgary) and Assistant Program Coordinator, Glenn Ackerley (Toronto), the theme of the abbreviated Conference Program became **COVID 19 – Framing the Construction Industry’s Response to Long Term Impacts.**

A panel of Fellows from across Canada, moderated by Past President, Marina Pratchett (Vancouver), shared their experiences in addressing the challenges that have arisen in recent months on construction projects, and proposed best practices to address those challenges. They also provided thoughtful insights on what the industry may expect in the future in the near and medium term, and how the Fellows might contribute to the industry’s recovery from the pandemic. The Panel consisted of Nicholas Gagnon (Montreal), David Little (Vancouver), Scott Hammel (Edmonton), Stephanie Hickman (St. John’s), Marcia Oliver (London), Doug Sanders (Vancouver), and Andrew Wallace (Edmonton)

Karen Martin, incoming president, will lead the College to the 24th Annual Conference, which is currently scheduled to be hosted in Whistler, BC in May 2021.

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 College and its Fellows, visit their website at www.cccl.org.

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