

Memorandum

Date: April 4, 2013

To: NALP Board of Directors
Cc: Terri Karpish; Leeann Beggs
From: Marketta Jokinen
Subject: Canadian Section Report on Working Groups

The following is an update from the Canadian Section on the activities of the Working Groups, and my final report as the Chair of the Canadian Section for 2012/13. Thank you very much for this opportunity. It has been a wonderful experience. Jennifer Lau will be the new Chair of the Canadian Section for 2013/14.

Canadian Section Working Group Reports

1. NALPConnect Working Group

Vice Chairs: Emily Orchard (University of Toronto) and Bibi Bysterveld (Faskens - Vancouver)

Working Group Members: Valerie Dufour (Borden Ladner Gervais – Montreal), Emily Finn (Fraser Milner Casgrain – Vancouver), Shannon Leo (Norton Rose – Toronto), Robyn Marttila (Western Law), Erin Wilcott (Aikins MacAulay & Thorvaldson – Winnipeg).

In the Group's continued efforts to raise awareness and promote NALPconnect, the Group has updated and posted the Articling Recruitment Timelines. In addition, the Group has posted an announcement, together with a resource, on how to use NALPconnect as well as the benefits of NALPconnect. To date, the Group has not received any feedback from either new users or those quite familiar with the tool. The Group has successfully met and completed each of this year's mandates!

2. Summer and Articling Recruitment Working Group

Vice Chairs: Jennifer Lau (University of British Columbia) and Frances Mahil (Davies Ward Phillips and Vineberg – Toronto)

Working Group Members: Ari Blicher (Aird & Berlis – Toronto), Mya Bulwa (Osgoode Hall), Maryanne Forrayi (University of Calgary), Stacy Keehn (University of Ottawa), Nancy Stitt (Gowlings – Toronto)

Toronto Summer and Articling Recruitment Best Practices Discussion

The Working Group met on February 5 to discuss some feedback arising from the Fall 2012 recruitment cycle and to determine whether any updates were required to the Best Practices Guide. Members of the Working Group (which includes both school and firm representatives) plan to reconvene later in April to prepare a summary report for other NALP members.

viDesktop Portal

The Working Group has now finalized the portal opening/closing dates for the articling and summer recruits for Calgary, Toronto, Ottawa, and Vancouver and those dates have been posted on NALPConnect.

3. *Canadian Directory of Legal Employers Working Group*

Vice-Chairs: Maryanne Forrayi (University of Calgary) and Nicole Lecours (Stikemans – Calgary)

Working Group Members: Cori Ghitter (FMC – Calgary), Robyn Marttila (Western Law), Catherine Bleau (Osler – Montreal), Chiara Woods (University of British Columbia), Clea Ward (University of New Brunswick), Erin Wilcox (Aikens MacAulay & Thorvaldson – Winnipeg), Kara Sutherland (FMC – Toronto)

The Working Group met on March 26 and will be meeting throughout April 2013 to finalize content and an outline of the Canadian Directory of Legal Employers (CDLE) move to the new U.S. based platform with an aim of providing this submission to Lisa Quirk of the NALP office by the end of April so RFPs can be obtained. A call to NALP Canadian members for further feedback on specific content will be sent out to members through NALP Connect. The goal is to have the new platform implemented for the November 2013 Directory renewal.

4. *Diversity Working Group*

Vice-Chair: Alison Cowan (University of Victoria)

Working Group Members: Leeann Beggs (Queens University), Catherine Bleau (Osler – Montreal), Carol Chestnut (Stikemans – Vancouver), Anna DeCia-Gualtieri (University of Windsor), Emily Finn (FMC – Vancouver), Thelma O’Grady (Bull Housser & Tupper – Vancouver), Emily Orchard (University of Toronto), Jane Price (University of Toronto)

The Diversity Working Group is still in the process for making plans for a Canadian Diversity Summit which will hopefully take place in December 2013 in coordination with the NALP Winter Meeting in Toronto. The Working Group is meeting regularly to work on this project.

5. *End of the Year Canadian Section Meeting / NALP Winter Meeting Working Group*

Vice-Chairs: Patti MacDonald and Alison Cowan

Working Group Members: Kari Abrams (Blakes - Toronto), Mya Bulwa (Osgoode Hall), Andre Bacchus (Heenan Blakie – Toronto), Chantelle Courtney (Davies - Toronto), Joanne Clarfield Schaefer (Bennett Jones - Toronto), Kara Sutherland (FMC - Toronto)

The Working Group won’t be meeting again until after the NALP Conference later this month when the new Working Group Vice-Chairs and Members will be confirmed.