

MEMO

TO: 2025 CSCJA AGM

FROM: JUSTICE KATHLEEN QUIGG, CHAIR, PUBLIC EDUCATION AND ACCESS TO

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: 2025 AGM UPDATE **DATE:** JUNE 26, 2025

The Public Education and Access to Justice Committee has a mandate to identify needs and share information with the Association and with the public on issues of access to justice and education of the public on the role of judges, the justice system and judicial independence.

It achieves this mandate through the work of the following volunteers:

Ranjan Agarwal, ON Erika Chozik, ON David Farrar, NS Lukasz Granosik, QC Nancy Key, PE David Kroft, MB Gillian Marriott, AB Janet McMurtry, SK Neena Sharma, BC Bernard Synnott, QC

As chair, I wish to thank each member of our committee for their dedication.

Project updates:

Law Day Talks

This year the committee collaborated, once again, with the CBA Judges Section to offer guest speakers at various high schools across the country from April 14 to 25, 2025. Our network of educators who expressed interest were matched with volunteer active or retired judges to speak in person or virtually on the vital role the judiciary serves in guaranteeing an open, independent and unbiased judicial system. This year 23 sessions were delivered by 17 volunteer judges.

This year was the first time we were able to respond to every teacher who requested a session. There were fewer teacher requests this year and the number of volunteer judges decreased but this may have been due the decrease in requests.

Although we are not participating in every province and territory, we continue to have requests in multiple provinces each year.

We will be sending a "save the date" to judges in December so they can reserve dates, if possible, to participate next April.

With our new social media presence, we will target posts to reach more teachers. We will also use the new Member News to reach our judges to reinforce participation in the talks.

Social Media

The committee continues to work with consultant, Lynne Yryku, on the social media initiative that was approved by this board last fall, as reported in March. Lynne has set up accounts on LinkedIn and Instagram and the committee reviews a schedule of draft posts for the coming months. As discussed, the content will strictly be a repurposing of our existing material and videos that are also available on our website.

Followers have almost doubled for each platform from March to May, even with modest average likes. Lynne advises this slow but steady growth is typical in the early stages of these projects.

With respect to engagement per post, likes per post on Instagram improved significantly despite a slight drop in views. Likes and engagement per post on LinkedIn improved significantly from March to April but went down a bit in May.

Our next steps involve posting consistently and experimenting with format. For Instagram, over the next few months, we will try a mix of images and short video clips. For LinkedIn, we will try a mix of images and carousels. Then the results on engagement will be tracked.

We will periodically highlight our social media channels on the Member News site to remind and encourage followers and engagement.

We hope to have a newsletter report to share the situations and initiatives in Quebec around access to justice. This will be shared with our members shortly after it is completed.

/KQ