



THE CANADIAN
BAR ASSOCIATION

CBA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE FOR PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

OCTOBER 18 – 19, 2019 | HALIFAX, NS

CBA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE FOR PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

BUILDING THRIVING COMMUNITIES | Presented by the CBA National Women Lawyers Forum

OCTOBER 18-19, 2019 | HALIFAX MARRIOTT HARBOURFRONT HOTEL, HALIFAX, NS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18

6:15 – 7:15 **MORNING YOGA** | Sable Foyer
Join Tori Jarvis Grant of On the Mat Yoga for a morning Flow yoga session. All levels are welcome. Pre-registration is requested, as a limited number of spaces are available.

7:30 – 16:00 **REGISTRATION** | Nova Scotia Foyer

7:30 – 8:30 **NETWORKING BREAKFAST** | Nova Scotia Foyer

Sponsored by:



8:15 – 8:30 **OPENING REMARKS** | Nova Scotia ABCD

Speakers: **Heidi Schedler**, Halifax Water (*Halifax, NS*)
Vivene Salmon, President – Canadian Bar Association (*Toronto, ON*)

8:30 – 10:15 **KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: WOMEN OF INFLUENCE: PRESENCE, POWER, AND POLITICS** | Nova Scotia ABCD
(1.75 hours of ethics, professionalism and practice management)

During this workshop you will learn:

- How to diagnose whether your current leadership presence is helping or undermining your career;
- Simple communications tricks to help you dial up your leadership presence starting today;
- The 3 critical stories you must tell in order to position yourself as an influential thought leader in your space (even if you're just getting started in the field);
- Practical career-enhancing strategies to build confidence, navigate unconscious gender bias and build stronger strategic networks.
- Insightful, highly practical and immediately relevant, this session will equip you with life-long tools you can use to deepen your influence, build your credibility and create an even more profitable practice. What's more, you'll learn critical leadership and influencing skills you can pass on to other women in your life.

Speaker: **Eleanor Beaton**, *Internationally recognized expert in women's leadership*

Sponsored by:



10:15 – 10:25 **REFRESHMENT BREAK** | Nova Scotia Foyer

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10:25 – 10:45 **TRAVEL TO HALIFAX CONVENTION CENTRE**

[Walking maps](#) will be available at Registration, and taxis will be available from the hotel main entrance.

10:45 – 12:00 **NAVIGATING THE CORPORATE SPACE AS WOMEN OF COLOUR, INTERSECTIONALITY BETWEEN GENDER AND RACE** | Halifax Convention Centre, 1650 Argyle St
(1.25 hours of ethics, professionalism and practice management)

Collaborative panel with the Canadian Association of Black Lawyers, Dalhousie University and the CBA National Women Lawyers Forum

The importance of recognizing women of colour in leadership matters. This panel of women will discuss their experiences, strategies and knowledge about navigating the intertwined barriers of the intersection of race and gender in the profession. Instead of continuing to assimilate into this male dominated profession, women have radically shifted the conversation. Breaking down ingrained habits, policies and old standards, addressing the significance and value of rebuilding organizations to evolve into a more balance, diverse and resilient way of leading. There are varying difficulties women of colour experience in the legal profession, a few areas we will explore include:

- Balancing careers and family
- Addressing stereotypes and biases
- Finding our voice and sustaining it in a male dominated profession
- Health and well-being
- Knowing your allies

Moderator: Susan M. Johnson, McInnes Cooper (Halifax, NS)

Speakers: Terrie-Lynne Devonish, Aon (Toronto, ON)
Vivene Salmon, President – Canadian Bar Association (Toronto, ON)
Candace Thomas, Q.C., Stewart McKelvey (Halifax, NS)
Jessica Upshaw, Nova Scotia Power (Halifax, NS)

12:00 – 12:30 **RETURN TO HALIFAX MARRIOTT HARBOURFRONT HOTEL**

12:30 – 13:45 **NETWORKING LUNCH** | Nova Scotia Foyer

13:45 – 15:15 **CONCURRENT SESSIONS:**

CARING FOR OURSELVES & OUR COMMUNITIES | Halifax ABC
(1.50 hours of ethics, professionalism and practice management)

Before “self-care” was an Instagram hashtag, Audre Lorde referred to it as a form of political action. This panel features two leading voices in feminist activism in Nova Scotia (and beyond) who live out that calling. They will talk about strategies for keeping up your energy and caring for yourself so you can best serve your communities.

Speakers: El Jones, Journalist & Activist
Martha Paynter, RN PhD(c), Dalhousie University School of Nursing (Halifax, NS)

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PUBLIC SPEAKING AND COMMUNICATION - FINDING YOUR OWN UNIQUE STYLE | Acadia ABC
(1.50 hours of ethics, professionalism and practice management)

We all need to communicate, however the ways in which we communicate and how, will differ for everyone. As we are all unique, we have our own styles and one size certainly does not fit all. In this session, we challenge you to find your own unique communicator. To help us with how to do that, two community leaders will share their experience in dealing with positive and challenging situations including pitfalls experienced throughout their careers. They will also share how, in their perspective, their backgrounds have led them to this point and how they were able to develop their own unique communication styles. We hope that this session will allow you to identify how you can find your own unique communication style, and what may best work for you.

Speakers: **Naomi Metallic**, Burchells LLP and Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University (*Halifax, NS*)
Neera Ritcey, Halifax Regional Police (*Halifax, NS*)

15:15 – 15:30 **REFRESHMENT BREAK** | Nova Scotia Foyer

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**Nova Scotia
Advisory Council on
The Status of Women**

15:30 – 17:00 **EARLY RISERS: YOUNG LEADERS PANEL** | Nova Scotia ABCD
(1.50 hours of ethics, professionalism and practice management)

Building on the theme of empowering women professionals, you will be inspired by these stories as our panelists talk about where they took advantage of non-traditional opportunities, been involved in their community and have become exemplary leaders. This session will highlight community leadership, professionalism and personal stories of professional women.

Moderator: **Kelly Campbell-Lefort**, Nova Scotia Labour and Advanced Education (*Halifax, NS*)

Speakers: **Justine Colley-Leger**, East Preston Family Resource Center (*East Preston, NS*)
Sarah MacIntosh-Wiseman, Pictou County Regional Enterprise Network (*New Glasgow, NS*)
Olga Young, Jazz Aviation (*Dartmouth, NS*)

17:45 **SHUTTLE DEPARTURE** for the Canadian Museum of Immigration Pier 21
Meet in the lobby of the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel

18:00 – 20:00 **NETWORKING RECEPTION** | Canadian Museum of Immigration Pier 21 | Rudolph P. Bratty Hall

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19:30 – 20:00 **SHUTTLE DEPARTURE** for the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel



think: community minded

Stewart McKelvey is committed to fostering a culture of diversity and inclusion, and are proud to support organizations which advance these ideals in our community. We are pleased to support the **2019 CBA Leadership Conference for Professional Women** and this year's theme of *Building Thriving Communities*.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

6:15 – 7:15

MORNING RUN

Join Conference Chair, Heidi Schedler, for a slow 5-7km jog along the Halifax Waterfront. Runners will be leaving from the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel lobby at 6:15am sharp. Pre-registration is requested.

7:30 – 15:00

REGISTRATION | Nova Scotia Foyer

7:30 – 8:30

NETWORKING BREAKFAST | Nova Scotia Foyer

8:30 – 10:15

WOMEN LEADERS IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES | Nova Scotia ABCD

(1.75 hours of ethics, professionalism and practice management)

Throughout this session the speakers will share the stories of the significant issues their communities have faced and the strides that they have made.

Speakers:

The Hon. Laurel Halfpenny-MacQuarrie, Nova Scotia Provincial Court (*Port Hawkesbury, NS*)
Cheryl Simon, Indigenous Governance Lawyer, Abegweit First Nation Member (*Dartmouth, NS*)

10:15 – 10:45

REFRESHMENT BREAK | Nova Scotia Foyer

10:45 – 12:15

CONCURRENT SESSIONS:

ENTREPRENEURSHIP 101: TIPS FROM WOMEN WHO MADE IT HAPPEN | Acadia ABC

(1.50 hours of ethics, professionalism and practice management)

This session will dive into how to overcome the challenges of starting and operating a successful business. Come and learn from the first-hand knowledge of true industry leaders.

Moderator:

Kathy Sainty, Q.C., Sainty Law (*Burnaby, BC*)

Speakers:

Lisa Drader-Murphy, Lisa Drader-Murphy Group of Companies (*Falmouth, NS*)
Sarah Young, National (*Halifax, NS*)

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WOMEN IN POLITICS: THE VIEW FROM ALL ANGLES | Halifax ABC
(1.50 hours of ethics, professionalism and practice management)

One of the ways in which women can make a significant difference in our society is through politics. In this session you will hear three successful women talk about how they became involved in the political process, what it is like from the inside and the various ways in which you can become involved; being a candidate is just one. Kim Poffenroth occupies the non-partisan position of Chief Electoral Officer for New Brunswick and will discuss general mechanics of how elections are run, with observations on innovative ways to involve more women. Tara Miller, Q.C. will speak from the perspective of being a former party President and how parties generally operate. Finally, Claudia Chender, an MLA in Nova Scotia, will speak from her perspective of entering politics, running a campaign and being an elected representative of the people.

Speakers: **Claudia Chender**, Nova Scotia New Democratic Party (*Dartmouth, NS*)
Tara Miller, Q.C., MDW Law (*Halifax, NS*)
Kimberly Poffenroth, Elections New Brunswick (*Fredericton, NB*)

12:30 – 14:00 **CECILIA I. JOHNSTONE AWARD LUNCHEON** | Nova Scotia ABCD

Join us in congratulating the achievements of the 2019 Cecilia I. Johnstone Award recipient, Ms. Daphne E. Dumont, Q.C., former CBA National President and devoted member of the legal community.

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14:15 – 16:00 **KEYNOTE PRESENTATION: HAD IT COMING: WHAT'S FAIR IN THE AGE OF #METOO?** | Nova Scotia ABCD
(1.75 hours of ethics, professionalism and practice management)

Robyn Doolittle, a Canadian best-selling author and investigative reporter, will discuss her new book, "**Had it Coming**" – a response to her ground breaking Globe and Mail series "Unfounded". Doolittle brings a personal voice to what has been a turning point for most women: the #MeToo movement and its aftermath. Copies of her new book will be available for all attendees.

Moderator: **Sarah Aaron**, Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University (*Halifax, NS*)

Speaker: **Robyn Doolittle**, Author and Investigative Reporter (*Toronto, ON*)

16:00 – 16:15 **CLOSING REMARKS** | Nova Scotia ABCD

Speakers: **Heidi Schedler**, Halifax Water (*Halifax, NS*)

ONSITE AGENDA

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