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CONVOCATION

IN PUBLIC SESSION

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 2018 - 9:00 a.m.

OSGOODE HALL, TORONTO

1 then -- and only the statute can limit voting rights,  
2 then the by-laws regarding attendance are invalid in  
3 themselves.

4           The Law Society has a broad by-law  
5 making authority, it has a broad subordinate  
6 legislative authority which has been upheld in Supreme  
7 Court decision recently in Trinity Western, and so I  
8 don't see anything in the argument that's being put  
9 forward and, with great respect, I don't share  
10 Mr. Strosberg's view. Thank you.

11           TREASURER MERCER: Ms. Papageorgiou.

12           MS. PAPAGEORGIOU: So I want to talk  
13 about diversity. Diversity was a very big issue at the  
14 last election and I think that the governance reforms  
15 that began a few years ago are one of the reasons why  
16 the group of benchers who have currently been elected  
17 is a very diverse group, but when you add in all of the  
18 life benchers and the Treasurers, it is no longer a  
19 diverse group, and that's important for a few reasons.

20           There is a potential that there is a  
21 dilution of the voices of the elected members of the  
22 bench and probably a more significant implication is  
23 that former treasurers who were not elected, and I know  
24 this has been touched on before, have the ability to  
25 swing an election.

1                   I don't see how that is right. Avvy Go  
2                   said -- there's been a lot of talk today about these  
3                   voices that we need and that somehow there's ageism.  
4                   There is no ageism in this organization against people  
5                   who are older; if anything, the ageism is opposite. We  
6                   do not have a proper representation of younger  
7                   benchers, and, you know, when I look around this room I  
8                   wonder why that might be.

9                   I know that when I was in my 20s, 30s  
10                  and early 40s, I would never have run to be a bencher,  
11                  and I think it's because of the composition of the  
12                  bench that existed. So I just think -- I don't know  
13                  how you can attract people when the group is not  
14                  diverse altogether.

15                  And just touching again on what Avvy  
16                  said, there are a lot of voices that are actually  
17                  missing, important voices; the young people and also  
18                  people from the clinics. And I think we have a lot of  
19                  the voices that are represented by the life and the  
20                  former treasurers.

21                  TREASURER MERCER: Mr. Cooper.

22                  MR. COOPER: Thank you, Treasurer. My  
23                  mentor, Ms. Leiper, who has assisted me in my criminal  
24                  law career for, I don't want to say it, but more than  
25                  25 years and has given me great guidance, in 2011 when