

Animals and the Law: Their Evolving Value and Methods for Ensuring Welfare



Date: Thursday, February 5, 2015 | 1:30 pm to 4:50 pm

This program is eligible for up to 3.25 Substantive Hours

Location: Westin Harbour Castle Conference Centre,
 2 Harbour Square, Toronto, ON

The OBA has been approved as an Accredited Provider of Professionalism Content by The Law Society of Upper Canada.

Program Chairs: **Kevin Toyne**, Brauti Thorning Zibarras LLP
Rachel Godley, Davis Webb LLP

From the often contentious family law cases dealing with who gets custody of the family pet to the recent focus on the regulation of aquariums and zoos, to the push to create black letter law that establishes the value of animals beyond mere property, this program will shine a light on the issues and show why animal law is emerging as an exciting practice area. Hear from experienced animal law and family law practitioners and from industry and government representatives on the latest developments and emerging legal challenges.

Whether you are a lawyer who deals with animal law cases or have an interest in how the law is evolving with respect to the rights of animals, register now for the latest developments and trends.

1:30 pm **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

3:00 pm **Networking Break**

1:35 pm **"Beyond Property" - The Evolving Value of Animals Under the Law**

Camille Labchuk, Animal Justice Canada
Julie Tyas, Devry Smith Frank LLP
Sophie Gaillard, Montreal SPCA

- Analysis of efforts to erode the property status of animals under the law, including:
 - Review of cases that have decided that animals are worth more than their replacement value in civil cases involving death or injury of a companion animal
 - The U.S. experience: update on the status of the series of cases seeking to bring legal rights to chimpanzees and orcas
- Divorce and division of property
 - Dealing with animals in separation agreements
 - Custody of animals versus division of property
- Update on the proposed Quebec Code amendments and the attempt to reflect that animals have a value/place beyond property

3:20 pm **From Self-Regulation to Black Letter Law: Methods of Ensuring Animal Welfare**

Michael Hall, Executive Director, Canadian Livestock Genetics Association
Michael Bernard, Political Officer, Humane Society International/Canada
Barb Cartwright, Canadian Federation of Humane Societies

- Analysis of industry self-regulation.
- Voluntary versus government-sanctioned codes
- Creation and function of the codes and the challenges in making them
- Overview of municipal codes and regulation
- Creation of shelter laws

4:35 pm **Questions & Answers**

4:45 pm **Closing Remarks**

4:50 pm **Program Concludes**

2:50 pm **Questions & Answers**

PROGRAM REGISTRATION IS ONLINE www.oba.org/pd

Questions? pd@oba.org