

**UNIFORM LAW CONFERENCE OF CANADA
CONFÉRENCE POUR L'HARMONISATION DES LOIS AU CANADA**

**Minutes of the Opening Plenary Session of the 105th Annual Meeting
Of the Uniform Law Conference of Canada
At the Rodd Charlottetown Hotel
In Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
On Monday, August 21, 2023, at 1:00 PM ADT**

Called to order at 1:07 PM ADT.

Opening Remarks

ULCC President Sarah Dafoe welcomed delegates to the 105th annual meeting of the ULCC and introduced herself as the current President of the ULCC and a member of the Alberta delegation. She expressed delight with the warm welcome already received from the host committee. Ms Dafoe acknowledged that the land we were gathered on is the ancestral land of the Mi'kmaq and that we respect the Mi'kmaq as the Indigenous people of Prince Edward Island.

Ms Dafoe indicated that there are approx. 70 registered delegates, presenters, guests, with representatives from all jurisdictions across Canada except Northwest Territories and Nunavut. There are many familiar faces in the room and part of the satisfaction of ULCC work arises from working with people from across the country whom we get to know on a personal basis at our in-person meetings.

Ms Dafoe extended a warm welcome to the new delegates in attendance, indicating that she hopes they enjoy their time in the meetings and learned more about how the ULCC operates. She encouraged the new delegates to reach out to their colleagues with any questions they may have. She asked the ULCC veterans to help ensure that the new delegates felt included and welcome, stating that the ULCC grows and evolves by ensuring that those new to the organization feel comfortable during the week and want to participate in, and not simply observe, the work of the ULCC.

Introductions

i. Members of the Executive Committee

Ms Dafoe introduced the members of the 2022-23 Executive Committee: Vice-President Matthew Hinshaw (Alberta), Immediate Past President Laura Pitcairn (Canada), Chair of the Civil Section Christine Badcock (Yukon), Chair of the Criminal Section Anny Bernier (Quebec), Chair of the Advisory Committee on Program Development and Management Peter Lown, K.C. (Alberta), Criminal Section Secretary Aleksander Godlewski (Canada), former Criminal Section Secretary (until her retirement in December 2022) Dorette Pollard (Canada), and as of April 1, 2023, Chair of the Communications Committee Tyler Nyvall (British Columbia).

Ms Dafoe indicated that, this past year, the Executive Committee also invited a number of members to participate as members-at-large, as follows: Manon Dostie (Canada), Maria Markatos (Saskatchewan), Chloé Rouselle (Canada), and Lisa Stead, K.C. (Newfoundland and Labrador).

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Ms Dafoe introduced the ULCC’s Executive Director, Michelle Lemieux, stating that delegates may have met her the previous year at the annual meeting in Edmonton, when Ms Lemieux was brand new to the Executive Director role. Ms Dafoe said that, having worked with Ms Lemieux over the past year, she believed that the ULCC is unbelievably lucky to have Ms Lemieux as its Executive Director and that it is thanks to her that the ULCC committees are on track, documents are accessible, and the auditors are happy. She thanked Ms Lemieux for her work over the past year.

iii. International Guest

Ms Dafoe welcomed to the meeting Mr Carl Lisman, Past President of the Uniform Law Commission in the US, indicating that Mr Lisman is no stranger to the ULCC. She invited delegates to introduce themselves to Mr Lisman throughout the week.

iv. Delegates to the Annual Meeting

Ms Dafoe invited the Jurisdictional Representatives (hereafter “JR” or “JR”) to introduce the members of their respective delegation.

Overview of the Week’s Social Activities

Jeffrey S. MacDonald, a delegate of the host jurisdiction and a member of its planning committee, welcomed all delegates and provided an overview of the week ahead including the social activities.

He indicated that the PEI host committee has done an admirable job of putting together a compelling social agenda for delegates for the week. On Monday night, the delegates are invited to attend the Clark W. Dalton, K.C. Reception in the hotel, where drinks and hors d’oeuvres will be served. Tuesday is a free evening for delegates to explore the sites, sounds and tastes of Charlottetown and the surrounding area. On Wednesday, the traditional East vs. West softball game will be held at Victoria Park, a short walk from the hotel, to be followed by a barbecue dinner at the Cultural Pavilion in Victoria Park. The closing reception and banquet will be held on Thursday, in Memorial Hall of the Confederation Centre of the Arts, at which time delegates and guests will be entertained by comedian Patrick Ledwell. Lastly, the Civil Justice Committee meeting will be held offsite on Friday. Mr MacDonald concluded by thanking the delegates for their attendance, saying that he hopes they will enjoy the beautiful Island.

Tribute to Clark W. Dalton, K.C.

Ms Dafoe said that the ULCC experienced an unexpected and significant loss when it was learned that ULCC Project Coordinator Clark Dalton K.C., passed away in late February 2023. Clark became the National Coordinator for the ULCC Commercial Law Strategy back in 2006 and, upon the conclusion of the Commercial Law Strategy, took on the role of the ULCC’s Project Coordinator.

Ms Dafoe indicated that the organization looked to Clark for his knowledge and understanding of ULCC procedure and history, as well as for his ability to flag emerging issues and make connections for the organization. He probably knew more about the ULCC than anyone else, yet he was always gentle with his suggestions and very modest about his accomplishments. Clark was a booster for the ULCC, and someone the ULCC could rely on. He led

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from behind, and everyone associated with the ULCC benefitted from his efforts in ensuring the ULCC has ongoing relevance to governments and the legal profession.

However, said Ms Dafoe, Clark was more than a source of information or ideas; he was a people person and, though somewhat shy, loved the informal conversations with folks in between the official meetings. She stated that it is because of these qualities that the opening reception has been renamed in Clark's honour, where there will be an opportunity to raise a glass in his memory.

Ms Dafoe indicated that Peter Lown, K.C., would next provide some words about Clark and, following Mr Lown's comments, the floor would be opened to anyone who would like to speak about Clark and share memories about him and his contributions to the ULCC.

Mr Lown, started by saying that Clark would be uncomfortable about being in the spotlight as he shunned the limelight and preferred collective achievement and credit. He enjoyed the success of colleagues and institutions even though he often had a large hand in that success. Mr Lown knew Clark and had worked with him for over 35 years, indicating that Clark grew up and was educated in Alberta and received his LL.B. from the University of Manitoba, Robson Hall. The last time they met in Winnipeg for the ULCC meeting, Clark went on a tour and was delighted to find Dalton Avenue, which was named after his father who had been a deputy minister in the Manitoba government. After he graduated from law school, Clark moved to the Northwest Territories, to practice in Inuvik and Yellowknife. He went on circuit with judge, prosecutor, defense lawyer, and clerk, traveling throughout the Northwest Territories on a small plane to attend court.

Clark spoke fondly of those experiences and the friendships he made and maintained after he left the Northwest Territories; he had a lot of stories from that time. Finally, Clark became the Alberta boy that most know, and he was appointed as Director of Policy and Analysis by the Alberta Attorney General. His achievements were many and his network was extensive. He is perhaps best known for his work on Alberta's *Personal Property Security Act* and the *Personal Information Protection Act*.

Mr Lown first met Clark in 1987 when he joined the Alberta Law Reform Institute (ALRI), where Clark was a board member appointed by the Attorney General. The relationship between an independent law reform agency and the office of the Attorney General is a crucial, sensitive, and dynamic one; Clark knew this and was very good at preserving the necessary trust and balance between the two organizations. There were a lot of Clark-isms, perhaps the most frequent and famous being, "Well, you know I can't speak for the government, but let me say this about that".

Mr Lown indicated that ALRI said goodbye to Clark at its June meeting one year, after many years of service, and that the picture of Clark in his Tilley hat, receiving his plaque, still sticks in his mind. When Clark left the government, the ULCC snatched him up to continue to do contract work. Clark didn't work part-time, Mr Lown said. He was devoted to the ULCC. He didn't have a finite list of duties; he did whatever the ULCC needed and what he could contribute, and he did it with diplomacy and the utmost competence. There was no historical detail Clark could not trace; no precedent or policy he could not find. The Project Coordinator and the Chair of the ACPDM must necessarily work together and, for the two of them, it came easy. They knew each other well, knew each other's individual *modus operandi* and knew each other's strengths and weaknesses.

For a number of years, Mr Lown drove to Edmonton several days a week and that was their opportunity to talk on the phone for 50 minutes. He would phone Clark and the answer would be "Clark here; what can I do for you?"; that was always the response. They would identify the items to be dealt with, then would catalog and resolve the ULCC issues. Clark always had his back, and the advice was always so good and so gentle. "You might want to think about...", he might say, or "What would that gain you other than you having vented?", the best of all being "Let me do some looking and I'll come up with something for you.", which meant all sorts of work but was always the right

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response. But above all else, Mr Lown will remember Clark's full-throated laugh, glass of wine in hand, and his unlimited energy devoted to what is right.

Mr Lown concluded by saying that he was listening to a Josh Groban song some time ago and thought of Clark: leadership from behind, sharing his success with everybody else, dodging the accolades, and making everyone optimally better. The words of the song were, "You raise me up to more than I can be." He did that for all of us and we will miss him terribly.

Christine Badcock said that she didn't know Clark for as long as a lot of people in the room did, but everyone who knew Clark was struck by his kindness, his generosity and his willingness to be such a generous mentor. She stated that a number of his former colleagues from Alberta, when hearing the news of his passing, all spoke about the impact Clark had on them and how keen he was to help others succeed, how generous he was in that way. Ms Badcock provided the following small anecdote that sums up Clark to her. A couple of years ago, she chaired a Civil Section Steering Committee in the absence of the chair, something she had never done before. Within minutes of finishing the meeting, Clark called her and, in such an understated way, gave her some advice. It was just the measure of the man. No one else knows about the call, he didn't make a big deal about it, he never did. It was those interactions that we had with him that really showed exactly who he was. He loved the ULCC, and he is beloved by the ULCC.

Michelle Lemieux stated that, having started with the ULCC only last August, she only knew Clark for a few months before his passing. However, in that short time, he was very helpful and supportive to her, always promptly responding to her questions, providing background and context so that she knew the why of things, and always patiently responding to her often many follow-up questions. She and Clark would meet bi-weekly and always had interesting and informal meetings. In that short time, Ms Lemieux could tell that Clark was a very engaged and caring individual – he cared about people, and he cared about the ULCC – and that he had a great sense of humour. Although she only knew Clark a short time, Ms Lemieux indicated having learned a lot from him and that he had made a positive impact for her and she misses him.

Darcy McGovern thanked Mr Lown for his comments, indicating that it is a great loss for us all but a great personal loss for Mr Lown. When Mr McGovern first started with the ULCC decades ago and was starting to chair projects and asking friends and colleagues who he should talk to, he was told that Clark was someone you could really work with, and that was absolutely the case. On a variety of projects, with a variety of people over a number of years, no one ever said to him that Clark was the problem or that he was dominating the floor, that Clark was hard to get along with or a difficult person to reach a consensus with. His professionalism as a generalist with specialist knowledge was very much the prototype for that to which we should all aspire. That camaraderie and that commitment to his organization has left a phenomenal legacy. The *Personal Property Security Act* and the *Personal Information Protection Act* are absolute bedrock legislation. That's a legacy that Clark can take forward personally and as part of this organization, and it's something that we can all be proud of on his behalf. On a more personal level, we have all experienced listening to the birds in the background while Clark was on a call, as well as his talking about sailing. Clark was someone you could work with, play with, a fun guy to bump into, and was always someone who had a good story and a good person to mix with. From Saskatchewan's point of view and working with Alberta and with Clark in his role at the ULCC, he's been a very valuable colleague and someone we will dearly miss.

Sandra Petersson stated that she first met Clark through the Alberta Law Reform Institute and then continued to work with him in the uniform law context capacity. She indicated remembering those days when there was a website, but it wasn't working very well, and Clark really was the website for the ULCC. He was the guy you could email or phone and in three minutes would have provided you with the answer that would have taken you hours to find yourself on the website. She recalled one year at the reception that is now named in his honour, how proud he was to have hired our now-President Sarah Dafoe in Alberta Justice. As a measure of the man, she also recalled

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how quickly the news of his passing spread throughout the legal community in Alberta, despite there not being an obituary. Suddenly everyone knew; you thought of someone you should tell because they had worked with him. Ms Petersson ended by thanking Clark and by saying that he will be missed.

Laura Pitcairn said that, being part of the Criminal Section, she hadn't previously been as familiar with Clark and his work as those on the Civil Section. However, having gained additional insight further to her leadership role on the Roles Review Committee and as ULCC Vice-President and President, and having seen Clark in action, she was always amazed at the breadth and wealth of his knowledge. She could ask him anything even if it was a Criminal Section question from 40 years ago, and he would have the answer. He was very dedicated. Having also been responsible, as President, for renewing Clark's contract, working with S Dafoe and Clark, Ms Pitcairn indicated that he was adamant that, even though he was essentially working full-time for this organization, he didn't want more compensation. He was just happy to do it and to be engaged. She was very impressed with his dedication and the wealth of his knowledge, and ended by saying that he was a very impressive person.

S Dafoe concluded the tribute to Clark by encouraging everyone to raise a glass to him at the reception to be held that evening.

President's Report

Ms Dafoe presented her report, indicating that at last year's closing plenary, she had identified two priorities for her year as President. The first priority related to the format of future annual meetings and engaging in discussions about what, if anything, must be done to ensure meaningful participation and inclusion in future ULCC annual meetings. The second priority was to support the Roles Review Committee in its work and ensure there was progress on reviewing the roles of the Project Coordinator and Chair of the Advisory Committee on Program Development and Management. Ms Dafoe was happy to report that work progressed significantly on both priorities over the past year and that it will need to continue over the coming year.

Ms Dafoe stated that the JRs attended a virtual meeting in late January to discuss annual meeting format, and that each jurisdiction was given an opportunity to provide their input and ask questions. There was a thoughtful and energetic discussion. After carefully considering the input received from the JRs and in keeping with their overall feedback, the Executive Committee decided to pursue holding an in-person annual meeting in 2024. In planning for that meeting, the ULCC and host jurisdiction are exploring the incorporation of some virtual meeting features, if it is technically and financially viable to do so.

Ms Dafoe went on to say that the decision to hold an in-person annual meeting applies only to the 2024 annual meeting, as the ULCC believes that the question of format needs to be carefully considered each year. Technological improvements may provide easier and more affordable virtual options in the future; the expectations of our delegates and respective governments may change; and the long-term viability of the ULCC, as well as the effectiveness of its work, must always be kept top of mind.

Ms Dafoe indicated that the Roles Review Committee's original objectives were to ensure that the ULCC is supported by appropriate structures and that the Committee's work is key to the long-term sustainability of the ULCC. She said that the delegates would hear more on this topic from Laura Pitcairn when she provides the Committee's report during this opening plenary. Ms Dafoe took the opportunity to express her sincere thanks to Ms Pitcairn and her co-chair Valérie Simard for their hard work on this file this past year. While their work is not yet completed, they have moved the needle considerably on this initiative for the ULCC.

In closing, Ms Dafoe thanked everyone for allowing her the opportunity to take on the role of President over the past year, stating that it has been an honour and she has learned a lot. She was reminded on an almost daily basis

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that the ULCC’s greatest asset is its people; the delegates who all provide their talent and expertise and whose willingness to volunteer some of their valuable time to advance the goals of ULCC is priceless. She sees how much ULCC delegates care about the ULCC, and this warms her heart.

Ms Dafoe cautioned, however, against taking the ULCC for granted. Welcoming new delegates and encouraging their long-term involvement is one way to strengthen the ULCC. In addition, new delegates may become subject matter experts. Finally, improving the ULCC’s diversity is an important way to ensure the ULCC can continue to contribute its valuable work to the Canadian legal system for another 105 years.

Financial Resolutions

i. Receipt of Audited Financial Statements (Draft) for 2022-2023

Matthew Hinshaw indicated that all had received the audited financial statements of the ULCC as part of their meeting materials. The resolution was read in English by Mr Hinshaw and in French by Anny Bernier.

MOVED by Matthew Hinshaw, seconded by Anny Bernier, **THAT** the Audited Statements for the fiscal period ending March 31, 2023, be received as presented. Motion carried.

ii. Appointment of the Auditor for Fiscal 2023-2024

The resolution was read in English by Mr Hinshaw and in French by Ms Bernier.

MOVED by Matthew Hinshaw, seconded by Christine Badcock, **THAT** the firm of Hendry Warren LLP be appointed as Auditors for the Uniform Law Conference of Canada for the fiscal period April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024. Motion carried.

iii. Banking Resolution

The resolution was read in English by Mr Hinshaw and in French by Anny Bernier.

MOVED by Matthew Hinshaw, seconded by Manon Dostie, **THAT** for amounts over \$5,000, two members of the Executive Committee or a member of the Executive Committee and the Executive Director, be given signing authority for all banking matters of the ULCC **AND THAT** for amounts up to \$5,000, and for the purpose of purchasing G.I.C.s and term deposits, the signature of the Executive Director alone will suffice. Motion carried.

Confirmation of the Nomination Committee

Laura Pitcairn reported that she had convened the Nomination Committee for the positions of President and Vice-President. The Committee members include Catherine Cooper, Manon Dostie, Chloé Rousselle, Elizabeth Strange and Laura Pitcairn. Ms Pitcairn indicated that, during the week, the Committee will be considering who to nominate for Vice-President and invited anyone who may have any nominations to bring them to one of the Committee members during the week.

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Outline of the Business of the Week

i. Criminal Section

Criminal Section Chair Anny Bernier stated that many interesting things will be happening in the course of the Section's meetings during the week; however, as with every year, the main course is undoubtedly the presentation and debate surrounding the 38 resolutions that were submitted.

Ms Bernier said that, among the subjects to be examined, to name but a few, are the possibility of establishing a working group to evaluate the opportunity of revising the severity of penalties for murder committed against an intimate partner; the question of increasing the maximum penalty for voyeurism and non-consensual distribution of intimate images; and expanding the use of video recordings in sexual prosecutions of adults.

Ms Bernier added that the Criminal Section's working groups are certainly another very important element that contributes unequivocally to the progress of federal legislation. She stated that, to her knowledge, the ULCC is the only forum that brings together all the judicial players in criminal law and that is why, when the Section decides to establish a working group, it is assured that all points of view will be taken into account in the analysis of the legal issues raised. Obviously, consensus is not always easy to reach, and nuances are sometimes necessary. There are also constraints on the availability of all the participants to contend with and the work sometimes takes longer than initially anticipated. More effort is required in terms of maintaining the coherence of the work while faced with the constant evolution of the law.

Ms Bernier indicated that the Section would have the honour of receiving the final report of the Working Group on section 487 of the *Criminal Code* concerning search warrants. This project has been a colossal task that has involved the collaboration and energy of many colleagues over the past five years. She took the opportunity to thank all the members of the Working Group, especially Matthew Asma from Ontario who accepted to take over the chairmanship of this working group last year and who pulled out all the stops so that the Section could benefit from the fruits of this work this year.

The Section will also receive updates on the work of three other working groups: the Working Group on section 672.26 of the *Criminal Code* concerning juries and fitness hearings; the Working Group on section 490 of the *Code* dealing with the detention of seized property; and the Working Group on the treatment of animals in the *Criminal Code*. With regard to the latter working group, A Bernier indicated that a joint session with the Civil Section will also be held to determine the possibility of creating a joint working group.

ii. Civil Section

Civil Section Chair Christine Badcock started by thanking everyone who helped to organize the annual meeting including the ULCC's Executive Director, M Lemieux. She informed the delegates that the work of the Civil Section has continued since the 2022 annual meeting in Edmonton, and the Section's working groups have had a busy year. As a result, the Section will be receiving reports from several committees and working groups during the week.

Ms Badcock thanked all those who have participated in the work of the Civil Section over the past year and recognized their dedication to the ULCC. She indicated that this is the first time in a great many years that the ULCC is meeting without Clark Dalton, K.C., and that he will be greatly missed this week.

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Ms Badcock stated that the Civil Section will begin the week by diving into a report prepared by Greg Blue on proposed amendments to the *Uniform Benevolent and Community Crowdfunding Act*, which have arisen further to the adoption of the civil law version of the *Act* in 2022. On Tuesday, Professor John Mark Keyes will deliver the final report and the Drafting Conventions for adoption, both arising from the ULCC’s draft conventions renewal projects. She indicated that, as the Conventions were last updated in the 1980s, this renewal is certainly due. As well, the first report of the Working Group on Non-disclosure Agreements will be presented by Jennifer Khor, and Professor Maya Cachecho will deliver the progress report of the Working Group on Partnerships and Joint Ventures. The last report on Tuesday will be an update on the Rules of Procedure and Policies of the Civil Section, to be presented by the Section’s immediate past chair, Valérie Simard.

On Wednesday, the Civil Section will join the Criminal Section for an update from the Diversity and Inclusion Committee and the Earl Fruchtmann Seminar, following which the Section will reconvene for a presentation from Professor Catherine Walsh examining the possible implementation of the *Hague Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters (2019)*. The afternoon will be dedicated to receiving the final report on the Draft *Uniform Enforcement of Canadian Judgments Act*, to be presented by Professor Stephen Pitel who will submit the *Uniform Act* to the Civil Section for adoption on behalf of the Working Group.

Ms Badcock said that, on Thursday, the Civil Section will welcome an address by the ULCC’s international guest, Mr. Carl Lisman of the Uniform Law Commission of the United States, which will be followed by Justice Canada’s Private International Law report to be presented by Kathryn Sabo. Reports from the Advisory Committee on Program Development and Management and the Working Group on Charitable Organizations, as well as on Remote Execution of Documents, all to be presented by Peter Lown, K.C., will fill the remainder of the day.

The Civil Section will conclude its meeting on Friday with updates from the JRs on implementation activities in their respective jurisdictions, before joining the Criminal Section for a joint session on a possible joint project on the issue of the treatment of animals in Canadian Law.

Ms Badcock concluded by saying that she very much looks forward to the week ahead.

Committee Reports

i. Roles Review Committee

Laura Pitcairn started by saying that the Roles Review Committee was co-chaired this year by she and Valérie Simard and that the other members of the Committee included, from the Civil Section: Sarah Dafoe, Christine Badcock, Manon Dostie, Elizabeth Strange, Maria Markatos, John Lee (until April 2023), and V Simard; and from the Criminal Section: Matthew Hinshaw, Catherine Cooper, and L Pitcairn; as well as Michelle Lemieux, Executive Director.

The goal of the Committee in 2022-2023 was to undertake a sort of governance review of the ULCC, examining how best to redefine and restructure the duties and responsibilities of the Executive Director, Project Coordinator, and Chair of the Advisory Committee on Program Development and Management (ACPDM), to ensure that the ULCC continues to be administered in an efficient and sustainable manner. This work was done, in part, with the knowledge that the ULCC would soon be faced with having to replace both Peter Lown, K.C., and Clark Dalton, K.C., as they were both planning to retire in the near future. With the passing of the ULCC’s long-time Project Coordinator, C Dalton, in February, the work of the Committee shifted to the rather urgent task of revising the Project Coordinator job description, a role that was renamed Legal Project and Research Coordinator and recruiting someone for the position.

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Ms Pitcairn indicated being pleased to announce that, after a great deal of work by a small recruitment committee in the spring, the ULCC has hired a new Legal Project and Research Coordinator, Christina Croteau, who started with the ULCC the previous week. Ms Pitcairn indicated that Ms Croteau was an assistant Crown Attorney in Northern Ontario for 15 years, practicing in Sudbury, Gore Bay, and Timmins. She holds a common law degree from Queen’s University with a certificate in International Public Law (LL.B.), a civil law degree from the University of Ottawa (LL.L.), and a bachelor’s degree in political science from Carleton University (B.A.(Hons)). She will be undertaking a Master of Laws at Osgoode Law School starting this winter and is in the process of moving from Sudbury to Ottawa. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time on her property on Manitoulin Island.

Ms Pitcairn stated that, going forward, the Roles Review Committee will resume its focus on the important role of Chair of the ACPDM. Over the past many years, in his retirement, P Lown, K.C., has provided an extensive amount of volunteer time to the ULCC in his role as Chair of the ACPDM and of the International Committee. It is now time for the organization to focus on how to fill these roles, knowing that P Lown would like to reduce his level of involvement.

Ms Pitcairn ended by saying that the Committee met very regularly over the past year and conducted a detailed review of the roles and responsibilities of all three core positions – Executive Director, Project Coordinator, and Chair of ACPDM – and that she and Ms Simard would be providing more information on the Committee’s past and upcoming work at the JRs’ meeting on Wednesday.

ii. Environment and Climate Crisis Committee

Chloé Rousselle thanked Ms Dafoe for the opportunity to speak about the Committee, which was formed following the adoption of the Statement of Policy on the Environment and Climate Crisis in 2020. The Committee recognizes that some of the ULCC’s core activities have an impact on the environment. Since its inception, the Committee has suggested an ecological alternative to the traditional plaque as a means of recognition. As well, a review of the environmental considerations for annual meetings has been conducted, including according to whether they are held in person, in a hybrid format, or virtually. The Committee has also recently introduced interim guidelines to encourage sustainable practices in the planning and holding of annual meetings, for example by looking at ways to reduce waste, single-use plastic, and paper.

Ms Rousselle stated that the Committee has no outstanding tasks or commitments at this moment but that it is always looking for new ways to implement the Policy and to help the Executive Committee answer any questions it may have on the topic. She said that the Committee is welcoming new members and that it is also looking for a chair as the Committee has been working without one for over a year and that it would welcome anyone interested in taking on such a role. As the Committee’s spokesperson on this day, Ms Rousselle took the opportunity to thank all members of the Committee for their work.

Ms Dafoe thanked Ms Rousselle for acting as the Environment and Climate Crisis Committee’s spokesperson, indicating that Ms Rousselle had done a great job in that capacity.

iii. Communications Committee

Tyler Nyvall highlighted some of the work of the Communications Committee over the past year and invited delegates to see him if they had any additional questions about the Committee’s work. The goal of the Committee is to better engage the ULCC’s stakeholders, who are primarily the people who have the leverage to enact the ULCC’s legislation for both Civil and Criminal. Over the past year, the Committee has worked on a communications strategy, overarching goals, a privacy policy and consents on how we use the information we collect, which is primarily business card information, spokespeople who can speak for the ULCC after the annual meeting, report

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formatting guidelines, the distribution of the *Communiqué*, and the primary way that we communicate with our interested parties. The Committee will be focusing on website priorities in the coming year.

Other Business

Michelle Lemieux, Executive Director, provided the delegates with general information regarding location of washrooms and the secretariat, health breaks, name cards, wifi, etc.

No other business was raised.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Ms Dafoe adjourned the opening plenary at 2:20 PM ADT and wished all delegates a wonderful week.