

The following motion to be made at the meeting on May 7, 2008 was received by the Secretary on March 28, 2008.

Whereas By-Laws of the Law Society of Upper Canada (LSUC) have been changed such that the LSUC no longer has members but, instead, licensees,

Whereas it is demeaning to lawyers to be treated as a class of licensee,

Whereas a society by definition must have members,

Whereas it was unnecessary to change the name and content of the barristers' oath or to administer substantially the same or any oath to paralegals, whose qualifications are substantially different from those of lawyers,

Whereas the L1 licensees' oath makes no mention of lawyers' duty to try to ensure access to justice by all or of champerty and maintenance, and whereas the new requirement to "improve the administration of justice" is a vague and incomplete substitution, and

Whereas these changes were made without consultation with the members, let alone their consent,

Be it resolved that the Benchers of the Law Society of Upper Canada (LSUC) immediately take steps to amend the By-Laws of the LSUC such that lawyers are again called "lawyers" or "barristers and solicitors" and not "licensees" and lawyers who are in good standing in Ontario are again called "members."

Be it further resolved that the Benchers of the Law Society of Upper Canada (LSUC)

- (a) immediately take steps to amend By-Law 4, section 21(1) by restoring the traditional barristers' oath and requiring that it be administered only to admittants to the bar and not in any form to paralegals, and
- (b) refrain from changing the traditional barristers' oath once restored unless they consult the CJO and all members of the LSUC (which is to say all lawyers in good standing in Ontario), inform the members of the views presented, and propose and permit members to propose changes at annual general meeting of the LSUC.