

ADVERTORIAL

TRUST TROUBLES LITIGATION, TAX AND ETHICAL ISSUES
Employment Diversity Initiative

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The presentations at the upcoming B'nai Brith Seminar on Trusts are based on a fictional scenario. A lawyer (played by Melanie Yach of Aird Berlis LLP) advised a wealthy young adult TV star, Brad Phillips, to transfer all of his money into a trust benefiting himself and a handicapped sister. When Brad himself

becomes a lawyer he begins to ask questions. Where is his money? Why did his parents' lawyer and accountant advise him to set up this trust? Why didn't they recommend that he get independent legal advice? Why was his sister made a beneficiary? Brad wants to sue the trustee, the lawyer and the accountant when he finds out that his money has been almost entirely depleted.

This scenario raises a host of issues related to breach of fiduciary duty, conflict of interest, professional negligence and inappropriate tax planning all of which are addressed in our presentations. It also segues into Ian Hull's presentation on the Employment and Diversity Initiative ("EDI") of the Law Society of Ontario (LSO) when the lawyer, under

cross-examination by Stephen Brunswick of Teplitzky Colson is asked, "Isn't it true that your own partners think you were negligent and that's why you lost the election to be managing partner?" Her response: "I lost because I am the only woman in a 100-person law firm and the firm systemically discriminates against minorities, in general, and women, in particular."

Ian, is a founding partner of Hull & Hull LLP, which is a mid size firm employing men, women and visible minorities. He is a senior respected member of the bar uniquely situated to speak about EDI. In its January 17, 2017 edition, Canadian Lawyer Magazine reported that the leadership in Canadian law firms is still largely white and male citing a study showing that 75.34 percent of senior leaders were men and 90.78 percent were Caucasian. The LSO acknowledges that certain lawyers face obstacles at all stages of their careers. The goal

of EDI is to break down these obstacles by making workplaces more inclusive and reducing barriers created by racism, unconscious bias, and discrimination. Educating lawyers on EDI issues is a big part of the LSO's plan. Lawyers are required to complete three professional hours of accredited programming focusing on EDI by 2020. The LSO has accredited a number of programs including the B'nai Brith Estate & Trust Group's June 4th CLE program.

Bnai Brith Canada expresses its gratitude to its sponsors and especially The Bank of Nova Scotia Trust Company and Canada Israel Bonds (Platinum Sponsors), and the Royal Bank of Canada (Gold Sponsor). The event will take place on June 4, 2019 at Sha'arei Shomayim Synagogue at 470 Glencairn Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M5N 1V8 and is open to lawyers, accountants and paralegals. **To reserve your place please call Keren at 416-633-6224 x 109.**



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Tuesday June 4th, 2019
Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue
470 Glencairn Avenue, Toronto

Registration & Breakfast: 7:30 AM
Program: 8:00 AM - 12:35 PM
Cost: \$136 plus HST

This program is eligible for CPD
hours required of Lawyers
and Accountants

To register, contact Keren
at 416-633-6224 x 109
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