



MEDIA & THE LAW: WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE ACCESS & PUBLIC TRUST

A conference for journalists, judges, students, and justice system professionals, brought to you by the Nova Scotia Courts

FRIDAY, MAY 11 & SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2018 | PIER 21, HALIFAX, N.S.

INTERACTIVE SESSIONS

Justice 101: Roles & Responsibilities in the Criminal Justice System — Learn about the roles and responsibilities of the organizations working in the criminal justice system, from the laying of a charge to the trial stage, and how these groups operate in relation to each other and within a democratic society.

Anatomy of a Journalist: Who We Are & What We Do — Hear from Nova Scotia journalists and journalism professors about the roles and responsibilities of the media, today's changing newsroom, the rise of citizen journalism, and the accountability of bloggers and independent media websites.

Keeping Up with the Times: Justice in the Digital Age — A look back on technology and the Courts over the last decade, including the rise of social media and its impact on the legal system, and a glimpse into the future with webcasts, cameras in court, and other technology affecting news coverage.

The Public's Right to Know & The Media's Right to Ask — Learn about the open courts principle and Nova Scotia's modernized guidelines for media and public access to the Courts, and take part in a discussion on how to ensure more consistent access to court documents and other legal information.

Sexual Assault: Presenting the Complete Picture

— A discussion of the unique ethical obligations associated with covering sexual assault trials, including the presumption of innocence, testing the credibility of witnesses, the dangers of perpetuating stereotypes and rape myths, and how sensationalized or incomplete media coverage can affect all parties involved.

PLUS, HEAR FROM SPECIAL GUESTS ON...

- Open justice and the need for a free press and an independent judiciary to work together to maintain public trust in the Canadian legal system.
- The myths and stereotypes often perpetuated in media coverage of diverse communities, and the impact that has on public trust in the justice system.
- The increasing attacks on judicial independence and other challenges facing judges around the world, and what that means for a democratic society premised on the rule of law.

For more information or to register, visit

www.courts.ns.ca