

# KCLA News

Korean Canadian Lawyers Association Newsletter

May 2010

## Welcome to a New Era!

Hello, and welcome to the first modern edition of the KCLA Newsletter!

We thought that a newsletter would be a great way to make our members feel more connected to one another. In our busy profession, feeling connected to a community is not easy. We felt that it's our role to help you do that. We hope to provide news about what's happening among our members and in our community, occasional commentaries, profiles, and anything else to keep you connected.

The KCLA exec is working hard to make this organization meaningful and relevant to all our members. Your continual feedback and support is greatly appreciated! ☞

Sincerely,

Your 2010 KCLA Executive Committee

## KCLA Mentorship Program

*The tradition of lawyers helping lawyers become better lawyers is as old as the profession itself: From the 13<sup>th</sup> century, when judges were first required to provide for the apprenticeship of lawyers... the profession has repeatedly stated that sharing skills and knowledge with each other, and especially junior members of the bar, is a value it holds dear.*

- LawPro Magazine: Focus on Mentoring (April 2002)

One of the goals of the KCLA for 2010 is to focus on mentorship.

The profession of law is one based on skills and knowledge. While law schools do much to prepare one for the practice of law, there are limitations to an academic setting.

Traditionally, the skills and knowledge not

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## News & Events

### ☞ SPECIAL EVENING WITH SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE BAR

Please see related article in this newsletter. The KCLA will be launching its Mentorship Program.

Where: 52 Chestnut Park Road

When: Thursday, June 3, 2010 at 7:00 pm

Dress Code: Business Casual

This event is for KCLA members only. If you wish to attend, kindly join or renew your membership for 2010 in advance or at the door.

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## **An Evening with Senior Members of the Bar at Won Kim's Residence**

The KCLA will be kicking off the summer with a classy cocktail party! The two co-founders of KCLA, Won Kim and Julia Shin-Doi, continue to demonstrate their leadership by spearheading this wonderful event. Won Kim has graciously opened up his residence to all KCLA members to partake in a splendid evening with catered food and plentiful beverages. Senior members of KCLA have generously sponsored this event. Come and mingle with old friends and meet colleagues who share the same demands of our profession. We will also be announcing the launch of KCLA's new Mentorship Program at this event.

We hope that you join us!

An invitation will be sent to you very shortly, please respond "Yes"! ☞

## **Background to this Event**

The KCLA began in 1995. At the time, there were very few Korean Canadian lawyers. The original members of the KCLA were the vanguard and were all students or junior lawyers.

15 years have passed since the KCLA was established. Those original members are no longer quite so junior. Unfortunately, as senior members of the Bar, they have busy practices and have been unable to attend many social functions in recent years.

This is the chance for us to honour their success and to connect with a new generation of upcoming lawyers. ☞

taught in law school were learned simply by doing.

This trial and error learning was supplemented by the sharing of expertise from a mentor. Formal mentorship programs were the norm and junior lawyers regularly worked closely with their mentors.

There is value to building a reputation that Korean Canadian lawyers are well mentored individuals that have the benefit and resources of an entire community behind them.

Therefore, the KCLA will be initiating a

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### **(News & Events)**

☞ Belated congratulations to Tai Nahm on his admission to partnership at Fasken Martineau LLP.

☞ Belated congratulations to Jason Park on his admission to partnership at Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP.

☞ Belated congratulations to Won Kim of Kim Orr LLP on his successful motion to certify a class action in *Grant v. Canada (Attorney General)*.

☞ Congratulations to Walter Kim on his recent victory before the Ontario Court of Appeal in the case of *Procter & Gamble Inc. v. The Minister of Finance*.

☞ **PLEASE SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH US!**  
**PLEASE SEND ANY NEWS TO**  
[kclaw.ca@gmail.com](mailto:kclaw.ca@gmail.com) **TO BE INCLUDED IN**  
**OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER!**

Mentorship Program for three main reasons:

1. Having chosen the profession of law, we as lawyers should honour its traditions. Mentorship is a tradition as old as the profession itself.
2. For senior members of the Bar, we would argue that as mentors, you would receive both personal satisfaction and gains in professional reputation.
3. As Korean Canadian lawyers, we would suggest that it is in our best interest to ensure that Korean Canadian lawyers have a positive reputation in the community and a reputation that a Korean Canadian lawyer does not stand alone, but has resources that make him or her a lawyer worth considering.

This Mentorship Program will only be available to KCLA members. We would encourage you to join or renew your KCLA membership and participate in this new initiative. For further information, please attend the "Special Evening with Senior Members of the Bar" event. ☞

## Contact Us

The members of the 2010 KCLA Executive Committee are:

Gloria Song  
Janet Jin  
Sang Joon Bae  
Simon Park  
Tina Chun  
Walter Kim

☞ Please share your comments and opinions with us. Email us at [kclaw.ca@gmail.com](mailto:kclaw.ca@gmail.com).

☞ We would also like to hear what's new with you and share that information with members of the KCLA.

☞ Visit our website at [www.kclaw.ca](http://www.kclaw.ca)

## KCLA Legal Clinic

For the past few years, KCLA has endorsed a mandate of educating the immigrant Korean Canadian community in the greater Toronto area on their legal rights as well as facilitating access to appropriate legal services. It is the sad truth that first generation Koreans often have language and cultural barriers that deter this community from obtaining an essential service such as legal advice or legal representation. KCLA recognizes that our members, as trained lawyers of Korean descent, represent a unique percentage of the Korean Canadian community and that we have the potential and means to bridge this gap between the Korean Canadian community and their access to legal services. To this end, we felt a responsibility and duty to initiate a forum of legal education and access.

Together in co-operation with the KCWA Family & Social Services, KCLA has conducted a number of legal clinics, the most recent legal clinic being April 22, 2010 at 339 Bloor Street West. Typically the initial hour of the legal clinic is a presentation on a general topic area of law that may be of interest to the Korean community. At the most recent legal clinic, Sang Joon Bae provided an informative presentation on the processes of civil litigation. In previous legal clinics, KCLA has covered real estate, labour and immigration law. The second hour of the legal clinic is reserved for one-on-one fifteen minute consultation sessions wherein volunteer KCLA members provide summary advice to members of our Korean community. A special thank you to the KCLA members who volunteered their time and participated in the consultation portion of our most recent legal clinic: Jae-Yon Jung, Philip Cho, Robert Choi, Sang Joon Bae, Simon Park, Tina Chun and Walter Kim. The response and feedback from the Korean Canadian community has been extremely positive and grateful and KCLA has committed to organizing and participating in two more legal clinics this year.

If you are interested in volunteering in one of these legal clinics or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [www.kclaw.ca](http://www.kclaw.ca) ☞