

## **Mandate**

The New Lawyers' Subcommittee mentoring program is available to articling students and new lawyers practising in the Hamilton area, as well as students enrolled in their second or third year of law school. Our focus is to connect these individuals with other articling students and lawyers practising in the Hamilton area.

Please note that we are not able to assist you in securing a summering, articling or associate position. For assistance with those inquiries please refer to our resource list below and frequently asked questions.

## **FAQs**

### **1. What is the NLS mentoring program?**

- a. It is a program designed to connect prospective and new lawyers in the Hamilton area to members of the Hamilton bar through networking opportunities.
- b. We also aim to connect mentees with someone with whom they feel comfortable asking work and career-related questions.

### **2. Can the mentoring program help me get a job?**

- a. Regrettably, no. Please refer to our mandate described above.

### **3. What can I expect of a mentor and what can they expect of me?**

- a. All of our mentors are volunteers. Some may be able to offer a greater time commitment than others, such as meeting for coffee or a simple exchange by email or telephone.
- b. Mentees can expect all of our mentors to be eager to help prospective and new lawyers to the Hamilton area by answering any questions about practising in Hamilton or providing advice and support.
- c. Mentees should be genuinely interested in practising law in Hamilton or the Hamilton area. Mentees should have a desire to make connections with future or current colleagues.

### **4. How do I get a job in the Hamilton area?**

- a. Please refer to the Hamilton Law Association Job Opportunities page at: <https://www.hamiltonlaw.on.ca/Contact>;
- b. You may also wish to refer to the Ontario Reports, published weekly at: <http://digital.ontarioreports.ca>; and
- c. Many law firms will post job opportunities directly on their website.

## **5. How do I secure an articling position in the Hamilton area?**

- a. If you wish to take part in the articling recruitment process in the Hamilton area, there are deadlines for participating candidates and firms which are mandated by the Law Society of Upper Canada.
  - i. Review the Articling Brochure located on the Hamilton Law Association website at: [https://hamiltonlaw.on.ca/resources/Documents/HLA\\_ArticlingBrochure-Hamilton\\_22\\_R3.pdf](https://hamiltonlaw.on.ca/resources/Documents/HLA_ArticlingBrochure-Hamilton_22_R3.pdf), which provides a list of firms who are identified as taking part in the Hamilton process; and
  - ii. Review the Law Society of Upper Canada website at: <https://lso.ca/becoming-licensed/lawyer-licensing-process/articling-candidates> [note: the Hamilton process is at section D7 – Recruitment by firms outside of Hamilton]; and
- b. Please note that each year the Hamilton Law Association invites candidates and law firms participating in the Hamilton articling recruitment process to a reception which takes place during the scheduled week of interviews. For more information about this event, please contact the HLA at 905-522-1563 or [events@hamiltonlaw.on.ca](mailto:events@hamiltonlaw.on.ca)
- c. If there are other firms that you are interested in applying that are not on the list of firms taking part in the Hamilton process, you may wish to contact those firms directly and send your curriculum vitae, together with school transcripts; and
- d. Speak with your career office/department at your law school for additional assistance.

## **6. What if I am law student outside of Canada and a candidate in the National Committee of Accreditation (“NCA”) program?**

- a. If you are within the deadline for the formal recruitment program for the Hamilton area (see Question 3 above), then you are able to take part in this process.

## **7. How do I secure a summering position in the Hamilton area?**

- a. There is no formal process for summer recruitment in Hamilton. Each firm which is hiring summer students will have its own procedures and deadlines. If you wish to know which firms are hiring for summer positions, please visit the HLA website at: <https://hamiltonlaw.on.ca/Sample-forum>