

A JOINT PROGRAM OF *THE ADVOCATES' SOCIETY*  
AND *OSGOODE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT*

# THE 23<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL COURSE ON WRITTEN ADVOCACY

Learn how more than 1,000 lawyers have taken their written advocacy skills to a new level with:

- Expert instruction on how to improve written argument from a team of trial and appellate judges, writing professionals and top legal practitioners
- Small “hands-on” breakout groups with a maximum of eight participants
- Individual feedback and critique of your writing
- Valuable tips you can use to immediately improve the precision, strength and persuasiveness of your legal writing
- Advice on how best to engage the reader who counts – the judge
- Insight from a panel of judges on what works and what to avoid

## Special Address

Bryan Finlay, Q.C.  
WeirFoulds LLP

## Lead Instructor

Stephen V. Armstrong  
Armstrong Talent Development

## Dates & Times

October 18-19, 2019

8:30 a.m. - 5:45 p.m. (Day One)

9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Day Two)

## Location

Osgoode Professional  
Development

1 Dundas St. West, 26th Floor  
Toronto, ON

**Interactive in-person program!**

Register today at:

[osgoodepd.ca/writtenadv](http://osgoodepd.ca/writtenadv)



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With an expert  
faculty of judges,  
senior litigators  
and writers.

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## Featured Speaker

**Megan Shortreed**  
Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP

## Judges

**The Hon. Justice Peter M. S. Bryson**  
Nova Scotia Court of Appeal

**The Hon. Justice Barbara A. Conway**  
Superior Court of Justice

**The Hon. Justice David L. Corbett**  
Superior Court of Justice

**The Hon. Justice J. Michal Fairburn**  
Court of Appeal for Ontario

**The Hon. Justice John B. Laskin**  
Federal Court of Appeal

**The Hon. Justice Peter D. Lauwers**  
Court of Appeal for Ontario

**The Hon. Justice Michael A. Penny**  
Superior Court of Justice

**The Hon. Justice Robyn M. Ryan Bell**  
Superior Court of Justice

**The Hon. Justice Katherine  
van Rensburg**  
Court of Appeal for Ontario

## Practitioners

**Frank Au**  
Crown Law Office – Criminal  
Ministry of the Attorney General

**Jonathan Bell**  
Bennett Jones LLP

**Gerald Chan**  
Stockwoods LLP

**Shantona Chaudhury**  
Pape Chaudhury LLP

**Falguni Debnath**  
Court of Appeal for Ontario

**Andrea Laing**  
Blake Cassels & Graydon LLP

**Paul Michell**  
Lax O'Sullivan Lissu Gottlieb LLP

**Julia Tremain**  
Waddell Phillips Professional Corporation

## Writers

**Antonella Ceddia**  
City of Toronto, Legal Services

**Professor Greig Henderson**  
University of Toronto Department of English

**Dr. Barbara Morris**  
Humber College

**Dr. Craig Patterson**  
Humber College

**Howard C. Rubel**  
Heller, Rubel Barristers

**Dr. Melanie Stevenson**  
Writing & Rhetoric and Engineering  
Communication Programs  
University of Toronto

**Professor Cheryl Suzack**

Department of English, University of Toronto

**Kathrine Vitale Lopez**

Faculty of Law, University of Toronto

## Planning Committee

**Steven V. Armstrong**  
Armstrong Talent Development

**Jane Griesdorf**  
The Writing Consultants

**Professor Greig Henderson**  
University of Toronto Department of English

**Justice Wendy M. Matheson**  
Superior Court of Justice

**Justice Robyn M. Ryan Bell**  
Superior Court of Justice

**Margaret Waddell**  
Waddell Phillips Professional Corporation

“An amazing opportunity to  
obtain hands-on, practical  
advice from members of  
the judiciary and leading  
practitioners.”

**Matthew Huys**  
Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

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# Agenda

Day One: Friday, October 18, 2019

**8:00 a.m.**

**Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**8:30 a.m.**

**Special Address**

**Brian Finlay, Q.C.,** WeirFoulds LLP

**9:00 a.m.**

**Creating Clarity from Start to Finish**

**Stephen V. Armstrong,** Armstrong Talent Development

Stephen Armstrong will take you through the principles of clarity and apply them to a factum's overview.

**10:15 a.m.**

**Refreshment Break**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Small Breakout Groups: Writing Effective Overviews**

Your coaches – a judge, a writing professional and an experienced litigator – will lead a workshop on how to craft a persuasive overview.

**12:30 p.m.**

**Luncheon**

**1:00 p.m.**

**Arguing the *Facts* in Your Factum**

**Stephen V. Armstrong,** Armstrong Talent Development

**1:30 p.m.**

**Arguing the *Law* in Your Factum**

**Megan Shortreed**

Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP

**2:00 p.m.**

**Refreshment Break**

**2:15 p.m.**

**Small Breakout Groups: Writing Persuasive Facts**

Building on the previous sessions, this breakout group will focus on methods for the effective presentation of the facts and law in a factum or written argument.

**4:00 p.m.**

**Individual Writing Exercises**

Participants who use computers to draft may wish to bring their laptop computers to use during the workshop. Please ensure your writing sample is preloaded.

**5:45 p.m.**

Writing Exercises Submitted for Overnight Review by Coaches - Course Adjourns until Saturday

Day Two: Saturday, October 19, 2019

**8:00 a.m.**

**Registration and Continental Breakfast**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Style: Grace, Strength and Clarity**

**Dr. Barbara Morris,** Humber College

Learn the elements of style that will make your prose clear and forceful for the reader who counts – the judge.

**10:00 a.m.**

**Refreshment Break**

**10:15 a.m.**

**Small Breakout Groups: Style**

Through writing and editing exercises and discussion, you will focus on the strength and clarity of your writing at the sentence and paragraph level.

**11:45 a.m.**

**Lunch Available**

**12:00 p.m.**

**Luncheon: Judges' Panel  
What Works, and What Drives Us Crazy!**

**12:45 p.m.**

**Small Breakout Groups: Individual Feedback**

Faculty will provide commentary on your writing sample and editing exercises. The focus is on practical advice and guidance that will improve the effectiveness of your legal writing.

Note: A 15 minute floating break will be taken.

**3:30 p.m.**

**Course Concludes**

**Justice Marvin Catzman Bursary Fund**

This bursary was created in memory of Justice Catzman, whose commitment to improving legal writing was underscored by his participation in the Written Advocacy program. It provides a candidate who would not otherwise be able to attend the program due to financial constraints, full admission to the program. To apply, send a CV, a cover letter, and a copy of your previous year's tax return by September 4, 2019 to:

Gail Geronimo  
Program Lawyer  
Osgoode Professional Development  
1 Dundas Street W. 26th Floor  
Toronto, ON M5G 1Z3

# MANDATORY WRITING SAMPLE

By September 19, 2019,  
you **MUST**:

- a) Mail **one (1) copy** of a sample of your legal writing to: Osgoode Professional Development, 1 Dundas St. West, 26th Floor, Toronto, ON M5G 1Z3, Attention: Anita Leung
- b) AND email [writtenadvocacy@osgoode.yorku.ca](mailto:writtenadvocacy@osgoode.yorku.ca) a copy of the same sample. Please save the file as your name.

## WHAT TO SEND:

- Given the structure of the program, we recommend that you submit a factum. A factum on behalf of the applicant, appellant or moving party is preferred, but if necessary, a respondent's factum is acceptable.
- If you have not yet written a factum, a written argument or other court submission is also acceptable.
- Articles and/or other written legal and non-legal documents are not acceptable.

- It is imperative that the sample **not** relate to matters currently before the courts – no exceptions.
- Please email [writtenadvocacy@osgoode.yorku.ca](mailto:writtenadvocacy@osgoode.yorku.ca) if you have any questions or concerns about your writing sample.

## PLEASE NOTE:

- The writing sample should be stapled (not bound).
- Your name **MUST BE** clearly marked on the **front page of the sample**.
- Do not include supplementary documentation and appendices.
- Participants who use computers to draft may wish to bring a fully charged laptop computer to use during the workshop. Ensure your writing sample is preloaded on your computer and if possible, bring a USB key to save your edited sample during the program.

## Registration Details

### Fee per Delegate **\$1,795 plus HST**

Fees include attendance, program materials, lunch and break refreshments. Group discounts are available. Visit [www.osgoodepd.ca/group-discounts](http://www.osgoodepd.ca/group-discounts) for details. Please inquire about financial assistance.

### Program Changes

We will make every effort to present the program as advertised, but it may be necessary to change the date, location, speakers or content with little or no notice. In the event of program cancellation, York University's and Osgoode Hall Law School's liability is limited to reimbursement of paid fees.

### Cancellations and Substitutions

Substitutions of participants is permitted with payment of a \$150 administration fee per substitution. For participant substitution requests two weeks or less prior to the program, please contact Gail Geronimo at [ggeronimo@osgoode.yorku.ca](mailto:ggeronimo@osgoode.yorku.ca). Substitutes must contact Osgoode Professional Development to ensure a writing sample is submitted.

Cancellations received in writing prior to October 3, 2019 will receive a full refund (less \$150 administrative fee). No other refund is available. Non-attendance at all or part of the program does not entitle a participant to a refund or a credit.



OsgoodePD and The Advocates' Society have been approved as Accredited Providers of Professionalism Content by the LSO.



Eligible CPD Hours: LSO (ON): 15h CPD (9h Substantive; 6h Professionalism); NY CLE Board: 16.5 skills credit hours for Transitional and Non-transitional lawyers.

This program may be eligible for CPD/MCLE credits in other Canadian and US jurisdictions. To inquire about credit eligibility, please contact [cpd@osgoode.yorku.ca](mailto:cpd@osgoode.yorku.ca).



[osgoodepd.ca](http://osgoodepd.ca)

Osgoode Professional Development



416.597.9724

1 Dundas Street West, Suite 2600



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Toronto, ON Canada M5G 1Z3



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