



## ELECTIONS FOR 2020 LIV COUNCIL

### MEET THE CANDIDATES



#### Christopher Andrews

I have 30 years' experience in the criminal justice system with almost 10 years with Victoria Police and 20 years as a solicitor. I regularly appear in various Courts as an solicitor advocate and have experience as a lobbyist, sole practitioner and as the principal of a multi office practice. Individually legal firms face diminishing returns on investment and ever increasing costs in a highly regulated marketplace. Collectively the profession faces significant headwinds and requires experienced strong leadership in navigating these changes. I have a genuine interest in helping and mentoring young lawyers, students and the disadvantaged. I believe that I can facilitate such change whilst representing the varied membership of the LIV and ensuring you have a say in how your profession is regulated.

I thank you for taking the time to vote and I look forward to assisting the membership in obtaining their objections through the LIV.

**Category for Election:** Country

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 1999

**Firm Name & Address:** Andrews Legal Group T/A Mepstead Lawyers and Berwick Legal, 108 Main Street, Pakenham VIC 3810

**Proposer:** Douglas Parker, Doug Parker & Associates  
12 Winterhill Link, Bundoora VIC 3083

**Seconded:** Peter Mericka, Lawyers Conveyancing Suite 6,  
3-5 Hewish Road, Croydon 3136



#### Tom May

The LIV exists for its Members.

It is essential that the Council show commitment, passion, leadership and engagement towards:

- Providing opportunities for members to grow as lawyers and as people, through the Sections and through becoming more comfortable with changing technologies and changing work patterns.
- Taking steps to simplify regulation.
- Focusing on the attainment of justice
- Providing governance of the profession at world's best practice standards.
- Providing value for money by keeping down annual fees and charging appropriately for services on a user-pays basis.

I have been a member of the Council for over 18 years and presently I am on the Audit (and Risk), and Ethics Committees and Governance Working Group.

I was President, Chairman or member of:

- Three LIV Sections
- Education-related and Community Organizations
- My firm's Executive
- Monash University Council for over 25 years
- Monash Alumni Board

I have also been a part-time lecturer at Monash and Deakin.

**Category for Election:** City

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 1973

**Firm Name & Address:** Madgwicks Lawyers, Level 6,  
140 William Street, Melbourne VIC, 3000

**Proposer:** Sasha Kate Roberts, Madgwicks Lawyers Level 6,  
140 William Street Melbourne VIC, 3000

**Seconded:** Peter Grant Hammond, Madgwicks Lawyers Level 6,  
140 William Street Melbourne VIC, 3000



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## ELECTIONS FOR 2020 LIV COUNCIL

### MEET THE CANDIDATES



#### **Donna Ross**

My career spans several decades and continents: I was admitted in New York in 2003 and previously worked in New York and Paris law firms and companies, giving me a broad-based legal and business background. I am an LIV Accredited Specialist in Mediation Law and featured in the Leaders in Law Campaign. I would like to offer my experience, negotiation and mediation skills and multi-cultural background to the legal profession as an LIV Council member.

I have a particular interest in:

- Gender and ethnic diversity;
- Technology and new law;
- Innovation in practice, including workplace flexibility and fixed-fee pricing;
- Increasing legal aid for civil cases; and
- Promoting ADR.

I serve or have served as:

Chair of Resolution Institute's Victorian Arbitration Committee (former Victorian Chapter Chair).

Member: Italian Australian Lawyers Association Board.

French-Australian Lawyers Society Supervisory Committee.

ICC Asia-Pacific Commercial Mediation Competition Steering Committee.

Chair of ITSOC (non-profit board).

**Category for Election:** City

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 2017 (2003 in New York)

**Firm Name & Address:** Donna Ross Dispute Resolution, Level 13, 200 Queen Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

**Proposer:** Marie Wilkening LeBrun, Svenson Barristers, 205 William Street Melbourne VIC 3000

**Second:** Amy Sheggerud-Woods, Mills Oakley, Level 6 530 Collins Street Melbourne VIC 3000



#### **Lauren Crome**

I began my legal career in 2015 and have experience in both commercial and community law.

In my current role, I provide advice and representation on a range of legal issues facing disadvantaged young people living in Melbourne's North West. I also provide legal education and work on law reform initiatives to advocate for the needs of these community members.

I am an active member of Victoria Women Lawyers' (VWL) Justice Committee, and a mentor through VWL's Law Student Mentoring Program.

As an early career lawyer myself, I understand that the first few years of practice can be challenging. As a result, I am extremely passionate about advocating for, and supporting, new lawyers.

If elected, I will bring energy, enthusiasm and a strong commitment to the role. In addition, I will continue to advocate for equal access to justice, improved conditions for new lawyers and more opportunities for women practitioners.

**Category for Election:** New Legal

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 2017

**Firm Name & Address:** Northern Community Legal Centre, Level 3, Building 2, 1100 Pascoe Vale Road Broadmeadows, VIC 3047

**Proposer:** Jennifer Smith, Northern Community Legal Centre, Level 3, Building 2, 1100 Pascoe Vale Road, Broadmeadows, VIC 3047

**Second:** Joanne Carlton, Moonee Valley Legal Service, 13A Wingate Avenue, Ascot Vale, VIC 3032



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## ELECTIONS FOR 2020 LIV COUNCIL

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#### David De Alwis

As the peak body representing lawyers in the state, the LIV must cater to lawyers of all demographics especially those who work in the city. If elected, I will spend my time on the council lobbying for real and meaningful change within the profession. I will be particularly keen to work to support city lawyers maintain good mental health through removing the stigma surrounding 'mental health days' and to ensure that employers understand that artificial performance indicators place undue stress on employees and lead to burnout of some of the brightest legal minds.

I will also lobby for better services for LIV members including encouraging the LIV to formally organise a "peer to peer catchup program" to enable members who work in small firms or small teams to be able to debrief and bounce ideas off their peers.

I look forward to serving you on the Council.

**Category for Election:** City

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 2011

**Firm Name & Address:** Aitken Partners,  
28/140 William Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

**Proposer:** Dylan Chaplin-Burch, Aitken Partners,  
28/140 William Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

**Seconded:** Reuben Gill, Aitken Partners,  
28/140 William Street, Melbourne VIC 3000



#### Zubair Mian

I am humbled, privileged and honoured, seeking re-election. Elected to LIV Council 2015. Graduated Melbourne University, admitted to practice 1986, an experienced commercial litigator.

Strong leadership is essential in representing your interests. My diverse experience inspires me to represent you with compassion, sincerity and conviction. I believe some values are worth fighting for. I stand for "LIV members Must come first and receive value for their Membership". Their wellbeing is of utmost importance. I am strong advocate for ethnic and gender diversity in Legal Profession and passionate about improving conditions for young lawyers.

My Past and Present positions held:

- President, Eastern Solicitors Law Association since 2012 (ESLA Inc. [www.esla.org.au](http://www.esla.org.au));
- LIV Executive Council;
- LIV Committees including Bail review;
- Building working Group;
- Diversity;
- Access to Justice;
- LIV Awards;
- Membership and various others;
- Founding member and Vice President, AALA until 2017 ([www.aala.org.au](http://www.aala.org.au));
- Registered Mentor LIV & AALA;
- LIV Council Liaison NSLA & MPLA

**Category for Election:** Suburban

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 1986

**Firm Name & Address:** Mian Phillips & Co Lawyers,  
422 Canterbury Road, Surrey Hills, VIC 3127

**Proposer:** Antonella Terranova, Castra Legal Costing Pty Ltd,  
106 Grimshaw Street Greensborough, Victoria, 3088

**Seconded:** Gerry Bean, DLA Piper, 140 William Street Melbourne  
VIC 3000



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### MEET THE CANDIDATES



#### **Trieu Huynh**

A career Government lawyer, I have practiced exclusively in criminal law both as a prosecutor and defence practitioner. In my current role as Program Manager Indictable Crime at Victoria Legal Aid, I work hard to ensure high quality representation for some of the most vulnerable members of our community, and a fair justice system. I have been an active member of the LIV including being on the Criminal Law Accredited Specialist Selection Committee since 2015 and the Criminal Law Section Executive Committee since 2017. If elected to Council, I will represent the interests of all members with a focus on considered, data-driven policy formation, professional well-being, access to justice, and improving member services.

**Category for Election:** Government

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 2006

**Firm Name & Address:** Victoria Legal Aid, 9/570 Bourke Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000

**Proposer:** *Katie Miller, Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission, Level 1 North, 459 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC*

**Seconded:** *Anoushka Jeronimous, Victoria Legal Aid, 9/570 Bourke Street Melbourne VIC 3000*



#### **Kathy Wilson**

I have had significant experience in both Melbourne and suburban law firms with a broad background and as an LIV Accredited Specialist in Wills and Estates. That experience has provided me with a deep understanding of the needs and challenges facing legal practitioners. I have had a long and active involvement with the LIV and have been a member of the Council for the last two years. I have worked to promote the LIV, its members and the practice of the law. My interest in nominating again for the Council is to continue the recent changes to the LIV to ensure a strong Council and strong management team with a clear strategic direction to better support and assist practitioners. I also wish to continue to promote the profession and the rule of law through continued media and community engagement.

**Category for Election:** Suburban

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 1998

**Firm Name & Address:** Kathy Wilson Legal, 113 Whitehorse Road, Deepdene VIC 3103

**Proposer:** *Robert Davey, Aitken Partners, 28/140 William Street Melbourne VIC 3000*

**Seconded:** *Robert Bradley, Aitken Partners, 28/140 William Street Melbourne VIC 3000*



## ELECTIONS FOR 2020 LIV COUNCIL

### MEET THE CANDIDATES



#### David McKenzie

I stand for the Council because I believe that I can make a significant contribution to advancing the interests of member lawyers in several areas.

I have a longstanding record of serving on several Law Institute committees including being current chair of the Property and Environment Law Section ("PELS") Executive committee. Immediate past co-chair of the Property Law committee and chair of the Building and Construction Group.

It is my view that the paramount issue for the Law Council is to advocate on behalf of members to the regulating authorities, government and the public the role of a strong legal profession and to ensure that lawyers are not burdened by over-regulation and are able to compete on equal terms with other bodies.

I would appreciate being given the opportunity to help formulate policy that advances the objectives stated above.

**Category for Election:** Suburban

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 2004

**Firm Name & Address:** LMG Lawyers, Level 3, 2 Brandon Park Drive, Wheelers Hill, VIC 3150

**Proposer:** *Simon Libbis, Prior Law, 219 McKinnon Road, Bentleigh East, VIC*

**Second:** *Phillip Nolan, Legal Practitioner's Liability Committee, Level 31, 570 Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC 3000*



#### Caitlin Baker

At a time of transformation and introspection within the legal profession, the bedrock principle of ensuring access to justice for all Australians is more critical than ever. As a lawyer in Slater and Gordon's class actions practice with over 8 years' experience in the class actions and personal injury sectors, I am standing for election on the LIV Council to provide a voice for those in our industry representing the most vulnerable in society. While I work at a large national firm, I am driven to shape the profession to maximise opportunities for practitioners across the legal industry to advocate for those who need accessible representation most. It would be a privilege to contribute to the mission and strategic direction of the LIV Council as an elected representative.

**Category for Election:** City

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 2017

**Firm Name & Address:** Slater and Gordon Lawyers, 485 La Trobe Street, Melbourne VIC

**Proposer:** *Mathew Chuk, Slater and Gordon Lawyers, 485 La Trobe Street, Melbourne VIC*

**Second:** *Kaitlin Ferris, Slater and Gordon Lawyers, 485 La Trobe Street, Melbourne VIC*



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### MEET THE CANDIDATES



#### **Caroline Counsel**

As a current LIV Council member and past President, I am fierce advocate on behalf of all our members, ensuring that your concerns are understood and acted on. I have had the benefit of years of connection at Section level but also the pleasure of working with suburban and regional law associations.

My history at the LIV means I am ideally suited to give you a voice on Council. Our challenges include assisting our diverse membership, supporting our members in all phases of their careers, to ensure our members' concerns are not ignored by government and that we are consulted by government. I believe it is the LIV's role to be a supportive advocate for you and if elected I am determined to ensure that support continues and improves.

**Category for Election:** City

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 1985

**Firm Name & Address:** Caroline Counsel Family Lawyers,  
7/365 Queen Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

**Proposer:** Jane Bentley, Caroline Counsel Family Lawyers,  
7/365 Queen Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

**Seconded:** Sean Robertson, Caroline Counsel Family Lawyers,  
7/365 Queen Street, Melbourne VIC 3000



#### **Adam Wakeling**

I am a governance, risk and compliance professional with over eight years of experience across the public and private sectors. I have been the 2018 and 2019 Co-Chair of the LIV Technology and the Law Committee, and I was previously the Co-Chair of the Young Lawyers Editorial Committee and a member of the Young Lawyers wellbeing working group. I am an active volunteer in the Victorian State Emergency Service with experience in training, financial administration, and volunteer advocacy. I am nominating for LIV Council to contribute my professional experience to the LIV's governance review, provide oversight over the LIV's wellbeing initiatives, build better connections between different sections and committees within the organisation, and promote the involvement of young lawyers and later lawyers in the LIV more broadly. Through its people the LIV can realise its full potential.

**Category for Election:** Corporate

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 2014

**Firm Name & Address:** State Trustees, 1 Mcnab Avenue,  
Footscray VIC, 3011

**Proposer:** Fabian Horton, ConnectLaw,  
32 Fuller Road Inverleigh VIC 3321

**Seconded:** Matthew Daly, Sparke Helmore Lawyers,  
600 Bourke Street Melbourne 3000



## ELECTIONS FOR 2020 LIV COUNCIL

### MEET THE CANDIDATES



#### Rebecca Alexander

It's time to change the way the LIV operates.

We need to switch the focus away from niche causes that affect a few, and deal with the day to day issues encountered by regional and suburban lawyers.

The LIV has a proud history but I believe in a back-to-basics approach. We need to know the implications when the standard form of contract of sale changes, and have representatives who understand the frustrations in dealing with teething troubles on e-platforms like PEXA and RedCrest. I'm tired of opening the Law Institute Journal and flicking past articles that have no bearing on my practice.

The fee paying member base has been dropped down the list of LIV priorities. We are overregulated like no other industry. Members should be front-of-mind and let's leave politics to the politicians.

If you also want a practical approach to the LIV then I'd appreciate your vote.

**Category for Election:** Country

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 2012

**Firm Name & Address:** SLM Law, 119 Murray Street, Colcac, VIC, 3250

**Proposer:** William James Ryan, Arundell Murray & Ryan, 1 Bromfield Street Colcac VIC 3250

**Seconder:** Jeffrey Graeme Thornton, SLM Law, 119 Murray Street Colcac VIC 3250



#### Olivia Go

My name is Olivia Go and I am nominating for the LIV Council because I believe it is an excellent opportunity to contribute to the strategic direction of the LIV. The LIV must support legal practitioners in a meaningful and useful way. LIV membership should be a member's most valuable and indispensable resource.

My current role as a Senior Federal Prosecutor with the CDPP combined with my previous legal experience in private practice, in various Victorian and interstate government agencies and volunteer experience in a community legal centre place me well to understand how the LIV can best work for its members.

I have served on various committees and law associations, including holding the position of President, and have pursued my interest in social justice through completing my Master of Laws specialising in International Human Rights Law and Public International Law.

Your support in this vote is much appreciated.

**Category for Election:** Government

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 2010

**Firm Name & Address:** Commonwealth DPP, Level 16, 460 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3000

**Proposer:** Tristan Moseley, Master Builders Association of Victoria Legal Department, 332 Albert Street East Melbourne VIC

**Seconder:** Monique Burns, Master Builders Association of Victoria Legal Department, 332 Albert Street East Melbourne VIC



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## ELECTIONS FOR 2020 LIV COUNCIL

### MEET THE CANDIDATES



#### **John McPherson**

I served on Council over the last three years as a Country member. I sat on various LIV Committees and Council sub-committees during this time.

I have considerably more to offer to Council and the membership than I did when nominating in 2016 as a novice.

My recent Council experience has given me a keener appreciation of the role of the LIV within the profession and the legal system more broadly, the wishes the profession has of its representative body, and what the future might hold for us as solicitors.

I want to assist Council in its representation of members and defence of the rule of law.

I've 27 years of experience as a lawyer, the last 25 as a Principal in a country Plaintiff injuries firm, with exposure to the travails of practice in the regions, and considerable involvement in the CLC and Legal Aid sectors, and injuries law.

**Category for Election:** Country

**Year of Admission to Practise in Victoria:** 1991

**Firm Name & Address:** Arnold Dallas McPherson,  
337 Hargreaves Street, Bendigo VIC 3550

**Proposer:** *Nicole Connors, Arnold Dallas McPherson,  
337 Hargreaves Street Bendigo VIC*

**Seconder:** *Debra Lawn, Arnold Dallas McPherson,  
337 Hargreaves Street Bendigo VIC*