30TH ANNIVERSARY
CONFERENCE AND GALA
2026

# THE FUTURE OF LAW

## INFLUENCE, INNOVATION, AND IMPACT

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

VANTAGE VENUES | OCTOBER 16, 2026

# Conference Agenda

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026**

| TIME | TITLE | SPEAKER(S)/ PANELIST(S) | DESCRIPTION | ROOM |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8:30 am – 9:30am | ***Registration, Breakfast and Networking*** | | | Garden Two |
| 9:30 am – 10:30 am | **30 Years of Advocacy and Justice: The Luamba Case and the Fight Against Racial Profiling** | OPENING REMARKS:<br>**Aye-Lama Bah**, Canadian Association of Black Lawyers, Professional Development Committee<br>MODERATOR:<br>**Solomon McKenzie**, Canadian Association of Black Lawyers, Advocacy Committee<br>FIRESIDE CHAT:<br>**Mike Simeon**, Mike Siméon, avocat<br>**Sajeda Hedaraly**, Canadian Association of Black Lawyers, Advocacy Committee<br>**David Nyarko**, Viola Desmond and Svens Télémaque, The Parole Board of Canada | Join CABL for a morning plenary exploring the landmark Luamba case, examining its trial evidence and litigation strategy to uncover how a traffic stop became a constitutional challenge against racial profiling. | Garden Hall |
| 10:30 am – 11:30 am | **The Advocate's Playbook: Strategy, Judgment, and Practice**<br>Lenczner Slaght | MODERATOR:<br>**Lavinia Latham**, Alphonse Latham LLP<br>SPEAKERS:<br>**Morris Odeh**, Gowling WLG<br>**Marie-Laure Saliah-Linteau**, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt<br>**David Alli**, Hicks Morley<br>**Theresa Donkor**, Rudnicki and Company | Experienced advocates share practical insights on courtroom strategy, oral submissions, ethics, and cross-examination, concluding with an interactive Jeopardy-style game to test key takeaways. | F1 |
| 10:30 am – 11:30 am | **The Modern Business Lawyer: Strategy, Technology, and the Future of Transactional Practice**<br>mccarthy tetrault | MODERATOR:<br>**Lola Williams-Afolabi**, Williams Armstrong LP<br>SPEAKERS:<br>**Paul Davis**, McMillan LLP<br>**Andrew Alleyne**, Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP<br>**Danielle Butler**, Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP<br>**Olayinka Fawunmi**, Recurrent Energy | This session explores how technological disruption and complex commercial relationships are reshaping business law, offering lawyers strategic guidance to better advise clients, manage risk, and execute transactions. | Garden Hall |
| 11:30 am – 11:45 am | ***Morning Break*** | | | Garden Two |
| 11:45 am – 12:45 pm | **Beyond the Bar: Charting Your Path in a Changing Legal Market** | MODERATOR:<br>**Enoka Bainomugisha**, Canadian Association of Black Lawyers, Professional Development Committee<br>SPEAKERS:<br>**Jessica Eruchalu**, Parvis<br>**Jonathan Wallace**, Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP<br>**D'antal Sampson**, Harvey<br>**Tracy Ventresca**, Ventresca Law | An interactive panel equipping new calls with practical job search and career-building strategies, focusing on unique pathways for internationally trained lawyers and early-career Black legal professionals. | F1 |
| 11:45 am – 12:45 pm | **The Next Chair at the Table: Leadership, Influence, and Career Growth for Mid-Senior Lawyers** | MODERATOR:<br>**Sam Tecle**, Gowling WLG<br>SPEAKERS:<br>**Sue-Lynn Noel**, Purolator Inc<br>**Alana Gore**, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt<br>**Wura Dasylva**, Miller Thomson LLP Thomson<br>**Dr. Charles Osuji**, Osuji & Smith Lawyers<br>**Charlene Theodore**, Theodore Advisory Partners | Accomplished lawyers share strategies for mid- and senior-level legal professionals to build influence, develop leadership skills, expand business opportunities, and navigate career advancement. | Garden Hall |

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| 12:45 pm – 1:45 pm | ***Lunch and Networking*** | | | Garden Two |
| 1:45 pm – 2:20 pm | **From Representation to Transformation: Black Lawyers and Canada's Next Chapter** | KEYNOTE:<br>**Anthony Morgan**, Member of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal | Keynote address. | Garden Hall |
| 2:20 pm – 2:30 pm | ***Afternoon Break*** | | | Garden Two |
| 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm | **Building Black Wealth: From Earning to Legacy** | MODERATOR:<br>**Sara Bond**, RBC<br>SPEAKERS:<br>**Orlando Lopez**, RBC<br>**Bode Odetoyinbo**, Odetoyinbo Law Office<br>**Dami Gittens**, Nicola Wealth | Leaders across banking, investing, entrepreneurship, and estate law share practical insights on financial planning, business ownership, investing, and succession planning to build and transfer multi-generational wealth. | Garden Hall |
| 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm | **Wellness in Law: Balancing Advocacy & Well-Being** | MODERATOR:<br>**Chioma Oriuwa**, Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP<br>SPEAKERS:<br>**Shanice Prendergast**, Canadian Association of Black Lawyers<br>**Carine Diverlus**, Pieces to Peace<br>**Solomon McKenzie**, Canadian Association of Black Lawyers, Advocacy Committee | Addresses stress and burnout in the demanding legal profession, providing actionable strategies for intentional self-care and maintaining long-term mental health and career sustainability. | F1 |
| 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm | **Justice in Focus: Representation, Purpose, and the Future of the Bench** | MODERATOR:<br>**Jacqueline Beckles**, Department of Justice Canada<br>SPEAKERS:<br>**Justice Donald McLeod**, Ontario Court of Justice<br>**Justice Christopher Uwagboe**, Ontario Court of Justice<br>**Justice Darren R. Thorne**, Federal Court<br>**Justice Lori Anne Thomas**, Ontario Court of Justice | A judicial panel discussing the future of justice, judicial leadership, diversity on the bench, pathways to the judiciary, and how representation strengthens public confidence in legal institutions. | Garden Hall |
| 4:30 pm – 4:45 pm | **From Insight to Impact** | CLOSING REMARKS:<br>**Ebony Rose**, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt | A brief closing reflection. | Garden Hall |
| 4:45 pm – 6:30 pm | ***Networking Reception*** | | | Garden Two |

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