

MEMO

FROM Office of the Master

TO ALL MEMBERS OF CCLA

RE: Observation of Pre-Trial Conferences by Law Students from
University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law

DATE September 9, 2018

Upper year students at the Faculty of Common Law, University of Ottawa, enroll in several different courses in Dispute Resolution. One such course is a Dispute Resolution Practicum designed by Professor Jacqueline Huston and now run by Professors Ashley Deathe and Julie Shugarman. It is of great assistance to the students' learning to observe an actual DR process in action; some practitioners come into the classroom to offer demonstrations and students are encouraged to observe a court settlement process.

For several years, members of the Judiciary who engage in Trial Management and Settlement Conferences have supported these innovative programs at the Law School by having selected students observe these court processes. We are again offering this experience to students for the 2018-2019 academic year and, from time to time, there may be student observers at some Pre-Trial Conferences.

Each student observer will sign an Undertaking not to disclose any substantive or identifying information received during the course of the observation. (*A copy of this Undertaking is attached*). Students will prepare a brief report for their professors that will not identify the parties or counsel, and it will not disclose any other identifying details of the case. (*A copy of the report form is attached*.)

If any client is unwilling to have a student observer present, we will of course accommodate that client's wishes.

We invite all members of the litigation bar to support this learning initiative by alerting clients ahead of time to the possibility that student observers may be in the room during Pre-Trial Conferences.

Thank you for your support of these students and future colleagues.