

NAMES IN THE NEWS

MOVES

■ **John Manley** is leaving *McCarthy Tétrault LLP* to become the president and CEO of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives (CCCE). Manley was counsel at the Toronto and Ottawa offices. He will join the CCCE this fall. The CCCE is a national business association, composed of 150 chief executives and leading entrepreneurs from all major sectors and regions of Canada. CCCE members lead companies that collectively administer \$3.5 trillion in assets, have annual revenues of more than \$800 billion, and are responsible for the vast majority of Canada's exports, investment, research and development and training.

■ In Toronto **Lorne Shapiro** has returned as a partner with *Basman Smith LLP*. Shapiro will practise in the business and real estate group. **Douglas Crane** joins *Skurka & Spina LLP* as counsel to the firm, where he will continue his practice in civil and criminal litigation, administrative law, arbitration and mediation, professional negligence defence and lawyers and professional discipline defence. **Hena Singh** joins *Rubin Thomlinson LLP* and will continue her practice in employment law and workplace human rights. **Sylvie Guilbert** joins *Sherrard Kuzz LLP* and will continue her employment and labour law practice representing the interests of employers.

■ In Hamilton **Maxine Birdsell** joins *Mackesy Smye LLP* as an associate. ■ In Vancouver **Adam Ueland** joins *Branch MacMaster* as an associate practising in the areas of class actions and insurance litigation.

APPOINTMENTS

■ *Adair Morse LLP* partner **Thomas McEwen** has been appointed to the Ontario Superior Court of Justice.

■ **Nathalie Des Rosiers** is the new general counsel of the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, as well as the executive director of the Canadian Civil Liberties Education Trust. Previously she was the acting vice-president – governance of the University of Ottawa. She replaces **Alan Borovoy**, who announced his retirement late last year after 41 years at the helm of the association.

Melding entrepreneurship, lawyering

MELISSA DUNNE TORONTO

Lawyers love tradition. After all, the profession is built upon precedents, what came before.

But Toronto lawyer and entrepreneur Michael Carabash is all about innovation, change, trying new things — basically he's about anything but following tradition.

Carabash, 27, has blazed his own trail in life.

Born and raised in Toronto, he got an undergraduate degree in political science from the University of Toronto. He did not know exactly what he wanted to do, but he knew he wanted to do something exciting, different. At first, this meant working at the local zoo.

"After undergrad, I worked at the zoo as a lifeguard," recalled Carabash recently. "I even got 'Employee of the Month'."

But the exuberant young man was destined for more.

He soon snagged a summer job at the Office of the Attorney General. This inspired Carabash to attend York University in Toronto. In 2007, he graduated with a joint LL.B./MBA.

At first, Carabash thought he'd go in to criminal law, but he quickly found out the reality was much different than a *Law & Order* episode. So, instead, he took an in-house gig and did a short stint at McMillan LLP.

Never one to take the road most travelled, Carabash decided to strike out on his own.

He became a solo practitioner and started a small business.

His business, Dynamic Lawyers, charges lawyers \$50 a month to connect with people who privately post legal questions on its website dynamiclawyers.com. Carabash sees the site as a win-win situation: Lawyers get to find potential clients, and the public can do some quick one-stop shopping for a lawyer. He also sees the site as a way to get more traditionally minded lawyers to embrace the Internet and challenge themselves

LAWYER OF THE WEEK



Michael Carabash

to think of new ways to get and connect with clients.

"I made it for myself and for the new tech-savvy generation," says the Toronto lawyer, who is a big believer in the power of the Internet.

"So far, the lawyers are happy with... The (public) is really happy with it."

The site, which just launched last November, has been so successful it recently launched in Los Angeles.

Recently, Carabash joined Patriquin Law in downtown Toronto as an associate, focusing on corporate commercial matters for entrepreneurs and small and medium enterprises, while continuing to work on Dynamic Lawyers on the side.

He has also shown a knack for self-promotion. Since he started the website just over six months ago, Carabash has managed to get mentions in national newspapers

» Got news?

Contributions to *Names in the News* can be e-mailed to names@lexisnexis.ca

Name: Michael Carabash
Law school: York University's Osgoode Hall Law School
Called to the Bar: 2008

Career Highlights:

2007 Took in-house articling position with Ontario Power Generation Inc.

2008 Began practising as a sole practitioner immediately after getting called to the Bar

2008 Officially launched his own business, www.DynamicLawyers.com

2009 Joined Patriquin Law to focus on business law for entrepreneurs

such as *The Globe and Mail*, and he was recently on the *Goldhawk Live* television show.

With such a busy professional life it would seem there is little time for anything else. But, perhaps as expected of a Gen Yer, work/life balance is a top priority.

"I'm not a workaholic," says Carabash, who cops to routinely working 12- to 16-hour days. "It's not all about the amount of money I can make. I do a lot of other things."

Somehow, on top of his work obligations, Carabash finds time to spend with his family and friends. He enjoys working out, cooking and is even taking dance lessons.

Pushing for change in the legal profession remains a top priority.

"My goal five to 10 years out is for Dynamic Lawyers to become a dominant player in the legal market," says Carabash, "to really make an impact."

Whether the Canadian legal community is ready or not, young guns like Carabash are shaking things up and breathing new life in to a profession often weighed down by its reverence for the past. ■

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