



# AMERICAN COLLEGE OF TRIAL LAWYERS

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS REGION 15 MEETING

New York - Upstate | Ontario | Quebec  
Omni King Edward Hotel, Toronto  
May 28 - 31, 2026

### Thursday, May 28, 2026

#### **Evening arrival and check-in**

Omni King Edward  
37 King Street East, Ontario  
Please wear name badge at all College functions

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

#### **Registration and Badge Pick-up**

Omni King Edward  
Lobby Lounge

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

#### **Welcome Cocktail Reception**

Lobby Lounge

*Business Casual Attire*

Attendees will be on their own for dinner.  
*Suggested restaurant List included in packet.*

### Friday, May 29, 2026

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

#### **Network Breakfast**

Lobby Lounge

9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

#### **General Session**

Sovereign Ballroom  
*Business Casual Attire*

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

#### **Opening Remarks and Land Acknowledgement**

9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

**Panel 1: The Challenges to Investigative Media and the Rule of Law**

- Caryma Sa'd, Lawyer and Citizen Journalist
- Rob Cribb, Journalist and Founder and Director of Investigative Journalism Bureau
- Moderator: Jonathan Rosenthal, Province Vice Chair

10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**Panel 2: Judicial Independence**

- The Honourable Alexandra Hoy
- The Honourable David Doherty
- Judge Robert E. Antonacci
- Moderator: J. Thomas Curry, General Committee Chair

11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

**Panel 3: Checks and Balances in Democracies**

- Trevor Farrow, Dean Osgoode Hall Law School
- Christian Leblanc, Canadian Media Lawyers' Association
- Laura-Julie Perreault, Journalist, La Presse newspaper
- Moderator: Nadine Touma, Fellow

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

**Spotlight Address**

- Timea Nagy, Human Rights Activist and Survivor of Human Trafficking
- Introduction: Rob Hooper, Fellow

12:15 p.m.

**General Session Ends**

**Lunch on your own**

**Optional Activities** *(Pre-registration required)*

1:00 p.m. Steam Whistle – Tour, Tasting and Lunch

2:00 p.m. Royal Ontario Museum Tour

6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

**Reception and Dinner**

**Osgoode Hall - The Law Society, Rotunda**

130 Queen Street West, Ontario (Walking distance from the hotel)

*Business Casual Attire*

6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.

**Reception**

Cocktails and Tour

7:15 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

**Dinner and Remarks**

## Saturday, May 30, 2026

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

### **Network Breakfast**

Lobby Lounge

9:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

### **General Session**

Sovereign Ballroom

*Business Casual Attire*

9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

### **Panel 1 – Teaching Civics and the Rule of Law**

- Ken Boyd, CIVIX - ACTL Foundation Recipient
- Introduction: Sandra Forbes, President-Elect

9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

### **Spotlight Address**

- Heather Greenwood Davis, Author and Storyteller
- Introduction: J. Thomas Curry, General Committee Chair

10:15 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

### **Spotlight Address**

- Michael Bryant, former Attorney General of Ontario
- Introduction: Julie Desrosiers, Fellow

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### **Panel 2 – Mental Health: Mental Health Advocacy and Policy**

- Michael Bryant, former Attorney General of Ontario
- Dr. David Goldbloom, Psychiatrist and Professor Emeritus of Psychiatry (University of Toronto)
- Beth Beattie, Lawyer and contributor to *"The Right not to Remain Silent: The Truth About Mental health in The Legal Profession"*
- Moderator: Charles L. Falgiatano, State Committee Chair for Upstate New York

12:00 p.m.

### **General Session Ends**

### **Lunch on your own**

### **Optional Activity** *(Pre-registration required)*

1:00 p.m. Rodney's Oyster Bar – Oyster Shucking Class

6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

**Reception and Dinner**

Sovereign Ballroom

*Cocktail Attire*

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

**Cocktail Reception**

7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

**Banquet Dinner and Closing Keynote:**

**Maria Mitousis – 2026 Recipient of the Beverley McLachlin  
Access to Justice Award**

- Welcome Remarks by President John A. Day
- Presentation of the David W. Scott Award to Justice Nancy Backhouse. Presented by Justice Wendy M. Matheson, Fellow
- Keynote Address by Maria Mitousis

**Sunday, May 31, 2026**

**Farewell and Departures**