NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION RE: OPEN HOUSE IN COURTROOM 502 AT THE HALIFAX LAW COURTS

Monday, Sept. 23, 2019

Members of the Bar are invited to an open house next week to view the new fully integrated audio and video system for Courtroom 502 at the Halifax Law Courts.

When: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Friday, Oct. 4, 2019

Where: Courtroom 502, 5th Floor, The Law Courts, 1815 Upper Water St., Halifax

Over the summer, crews installed monitors and speakers throughout the courtroom to prepare for the eight-day Knowledge House criminal appeal, which wrapped up earlier this month. The case included hundreds of banker's boxes of documents, which would have been impossible to fit in the courtroom. Instead, the Nova Scotia Department of Justice invested in the new setup, which allows evidence and exhibits to be viewed electronically.

The new system includes VoiceLift technology, which amplifies people's voices and enables a better hearing experience for everyone in the courtroom; fully integrated video and telephone conferencing capabilities that connect all microphones in the courtroom and the video and teleconferencing units through one speaker system; and a media box so journalists can plug in directly to the audio system. Courtroom 502 is now considered to be the most technologically advanced courtroom in Nova Scotia.

Earlier this month, the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal issued a notice outlining the changes to the courtroom and the possible implications that counsel should be aware of before appearing in that Court. That notice is available here.

Lawyers and IT staff are encouraged to stop by the open house on Friday, Oct. 4, for a demonstration of the new system and to test their own devices with the new technology.