

Ryan Baker | Candidate for Conference Planning Coordinator

Relevant Employment Experience

Dentons Canada LLP, Toronto, ON

November 2024-Present

Director, Talent Student Programs

Responsible for all aspects of the Toronto Student Program, including the recruitment, management and professional development of summer and articling students. Work closely with senior leadership, the wider Talent team and Inclusion, Diversity and Equity leads to ensure that Dentons is the employer of choice for exceptional talent.

Bereskin & Parr LLP, Toronto, ON

September 2019-November 2024

Director, Legal Talent

Lead the recruitment and professional development programs across the firm's four offices. Oversee the strategic direction and implementation of projects aimed at the advancement and engagement of the firm's lawyers. Manage all lateral and student recruitment, including partners. Responsible for performance management, compensation setting, work allocation, and professional development programming for the firm's lawyers.

Education

2015: Called to Ontario Bar

2011-2014: Juris Doctor, Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University, Halifax, NS

2005-2010: Bachelor of Journalism (Combined Honours): Journalism and Early Modern Studies, University of King's College, Halifax, NS

Professional Affiliations

Member, Regional Leadership Council for the National Association for Law Placement (NALP) (2023-2025)

Chair, NALP, Canadian Winter Meeting (2020, 2021)

Chair, NALP, Canadian Directory of Legal Employers Working Group (2020-2022)

Member, NALP, 2L Toronto Recruit Working Group (2021-2023)

Member, Professional Development Consortium

Statement of Interest

I am very interested in taking on the role of Conference Planning Coordinator on behalf of the NALP Canada Region. Having taken on a variety of positions within NALP over the past 6 years, I feel well-suited to taking on this opportunity and working to plan the best Annual Education Conference possible for our members. I have attended four conferences to date, and think that experience will help me collaborate with our American colleagues to help create a balanced, current, and informative slate of sessions.

I have strong relationships with our Canadian membership on both the firm and school sides, which allows me to understand pain points, topics of interest, and current trends in the market across both "aisles" as well as different regions in Canada. As I wrap up my two-year term on the RLC, I'm looking forward to hopefully giving back to NALP in a new way!