

June 1, 2023

IPBA
Roppongi Hills North Tower 7F
6-2-31 Roppongi, Minato-ku,
Tokyo 106-0032 Japan

Attention: Randa Morioka

Dear Randa,

Re: **IPBA Scholarship Program Report**

I attended the 2023 IPBA Conference in Dubai as an IPBA Scholar. The entire experience was fantastic.

The conference itself was first class. From a diverse and interesting set of panels to attend, fantastic networking opportunities, and great conference events such as the dinner in front of the Burj Al Arab, the IPBA is setting itself apart and is clearly making a name for itself as a must-attend event for international practitioners, alongside the best and most sought after major international legal conferences.

I found the conference programming to be, for the most part, exceptional. Strong panels anchored to the conference theme, with a truly a global perspective on the issues at hand. Moreover, the conference showed itself to be a fantastic for networking. Alongside conference events side events hosted by law firms were also great ways to meet new colleagues and expand my network.

More specifically, my experience as a scholar was phenomenal. Our scholar cohort was incredibly diverse, and the group had an immediate bond. This is a group that has since kept in touch and will continue to benefit from the scholar experience through the “built-in” network that was created. The programming for scholars was informative and provided a great opportunity to learn about the legal practice in the UAE. Highlights included the visit to the DIFC and conversation with Judge Ali Al Mandhani, as well as meeting some standout practitioners based in Dubai at Hadeef & Partners and Al Tamimi & Company.

The warm reception to scholars from conference organizers, past scholars, and other attendees ensured that many of us will continue to be involved in the IPBA for years to come. I have personally been in touch with committee chairs and look forward to further engagement with the IPBA. I am looking forward to seeing scholars and new colleagues next year in Tokyo!

I extend my sincere gratitude and thanks to the IPBA scholarship team that includes Ms Randa Morioka, Mr. Mahesh Rai, and Ms. Sophia Lin who worked so hard in their running of the Scholarship programme. This was a truly wonderful experience.

Yours truly,

Dentons Canada LLP

Sean Stephenson
Counsel

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