



# Review Revise Re-energize

**How law is reinvigorating its  
international credential evaluation  
processes**



# In my presentation:

- **Introduction**
- **WHY a credentialling review**
- **HOW: The approach we chose**
- **WHAT: The outcomes**
- **SO WHAT: Lessons learned**



# **National Committee on Accreditation (NCA) of the Federation of Law Societies of Canada**



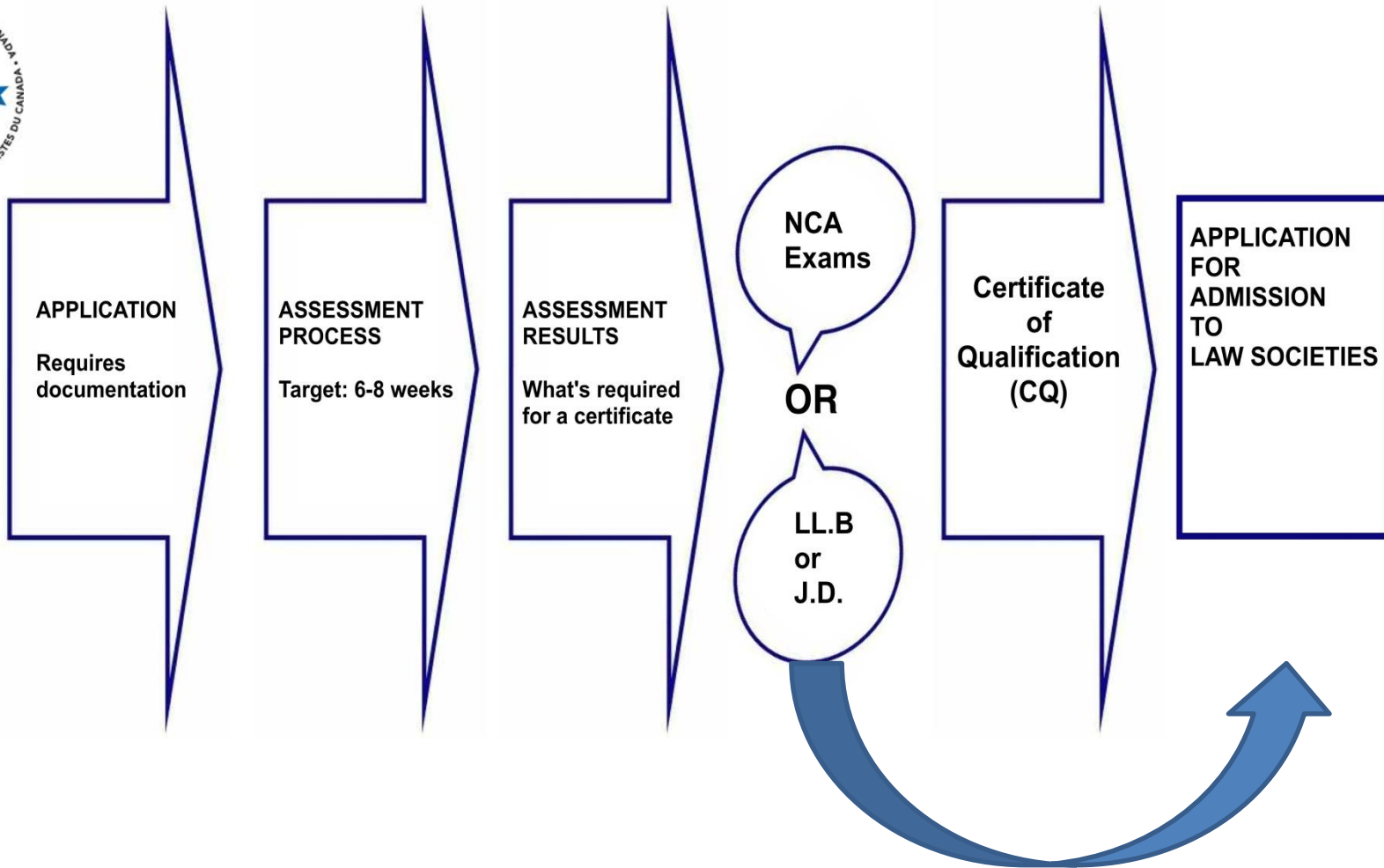
**“The Federation of Law Societies of Canada is the national co-ordinating body of the 14 law societies which are mandated by provincial and territorial law to regulate Canada’s 120,000 lawyers, Quebec’s 3,800 notaries and Ontario’s 9,000 licensed paralegals in the public interest.”**





**The mandate of the NCA is to assess the qualifications of individuals with legal education and professional experience obtained outside of Canada, or in a Canadian civil law program, who wish to be admitted to a common law bar in Canada.**







# WHY conduct a credentialing system review?

- **Growing concern that NCA Certificate holders are not succeeding in bar admissions at the expected level.**
- **Recognized need to revisit the assessment approach and policies**



# HOW a credentialling system review can be conducted

- **Governance**
- **The standard against which candidates are assessed**
- **Training and preparation of candidates**
- **Appropriate testing mechanisms**
- **Operations**





# WHAT we found:

- **28 recommendations in seven areas**
- **The final report was delivered in April 2017, presented to Council in June 2017**
- **Implementation planning is underway along with consultation with the regulators**



# WHAT we found:

(implementation update)

- **New interactive website**
- **Gap analysis planning to lay groundwork for developing a competency-based assessment system**
- **Governance improvements**
- **Planning for data collection and analysis**



# SO WHAT: What we learned

- **Engaging the right consultants is key to a successful project**
- **Gap analysis planning to lay groundwork for developing a competency-based assessment system**
- **National bodies must be responsive to their members, the regulators**
- **A system can be run in an “exemplary fashion” but still need fundamental fixes to governance, policy, operations**



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