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Judge appointed to Peace River Provincial Court

Edmonton - A new judicial appointment has been announced by Dave Hancock, Minister of Justice and Attorney General. Hugh Clark has been appointed to Peace River Provincial Court, effective May 14, 2001.

This appointment was approved by Cabinet by Order in Council.

"I am pleased to appoint Mr. Clark to the Provincial Court of Alberta," said Hancock. "His extensive experience, particularly in the area of criminal law, will be an asset to the Provincial Court."

Hugh Clark is the Chief Crown Prosecutor for Peace River. He received his law degree from the University of Saskatchewan in 1979, and spent several years in private practice before joining the Crown's office in 1990. He is a three-time recipient of the Alberta Justice Outstanding Achievement Award, and has also been recognized for his work with the Peace River Victim Services Society.

All candidates for Provincial Court appointments are screened by the Judicial Council, which forwards a list of recommended applicants to the Provincial Court Nominating Committee. The Judicial Council has representatives from the Provincial Court, the Court of Queen's Bench, the Alberta Court of Appeal and the Law Society of Alberta. It also includes two persons appointed by the Minister of Justice.

The Provincial Court Nominating Committee then interviews a number of candidates from the list provided by Judicial Council and provides the Minister of Justice with the names of those appointees felt to be of the highest calibre. It is from this list that the Minister recommended Mr. Clark to Cabinet.

The Provincial Court Nominating Committee was established in March 1999. It is made up of eight members appointed by the Minister of Justice, including members of the public and representatives of the legal profession.

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Justice Web Site

: <http://www.gov.ab.ca/just/>

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