

June 21, 2004

Four judges appointed to the Provincial Court of Alberta

Edmonton... Four new judges and two new Assistant Chief Judges have been appointed to the Provincial Court of Alberta effective July 1, 2004.

"I am pleased to appoint these individuals to the Provincial Court of Alberta," said Dave Hancock, Minister of Justice and Attorney General. "Their commitment to the principles of law and their dedication to the community ensure the province will be well served by its newest judges. I would also like to thank our new Assistant Chief Judges for their service and I wish them continued success in their new roles."

All candidates for Provincial Court appointments are screened by the Alberta Judicial Council for Provincial Judges, which forwards a list of recommended applicants to the Provincial Court Nominating Committee. The Judicial Council has representatives from the Alberta Provincial Court, Court of Queen's Bench, 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 the 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 these four individuals to Cabinet.

The Provincial Court Nominating Committee was established in 1999 and is made up of 11 members appointed by the Minister of Justice. The Provincial Court Nominating Committee has representatives from the Alberta Provincial Court, the Law Society of Alberta, the Canadian Bar Association (Alberta Branch), other members from the legal profession and the public.

These judicial appointments were approved by Order in Council.

Hugh W.A. Fuller, Q.C.

has been appointed to the Edmonton Rural Courts. Mr. Fuller graduated with his LL.B. in 1964 from the University of Alberta and was admitted to the bar on June 18, 1965, and has spent the last 38 years practicing law in Alberta. He worked as an associate with his father in St. Paul before starting his practice in Edmonton in 1966. Mr. Fuller has remained committed to the people of St. Paul as well as the clients in his Edmonton practice. His practice focused primarily on corporate commercial law, real estate and estate law in Edmonton. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1988.

James C. Koshman

has been appointed to the Edmonton Family and Youth Court. Mr. Koshman graduated law school at the University of Alberta in 1967 and for much of his career of more than 33 years he was partner in his own firm often working in commercial and corporate law and is a long time labour arbitrator. He has volunteered his time in many community organizations serving communities in Alberta. Mr. Koshman received an honorary life membership in the Canadian Ostomy Association for his many years of work on their behalf.

J.D. Bruce McDonald, Q.C.

has been appointed to the Calgary Criminal Court. After law school at the University of Toronto, Mr. McDonald returned to Calgary and has been a partner at Bennett Jones LLP since 1979, working primarily in civil law and gaining experience at all levels of court. He has been active in community activities in the Calgary region for more than 30 years. He has worked as a lecturer in the profession and with the Legal Aid

Society.

Victor T. Tousignant, Q.C.

has been appointed to the Calgary Family and Youth Court. Mr. Tousignant obtained his law degree from the University of Calgary in 1985 and has gained extensive experience in family law in nearly 20 years of practice, most recently with Tousignant Moe and Hannah. He was one of the founders of the Dispute Resolution Pilot Project in Calgary and is working to promote collaborative law in Alberta. Mr. Tousignant has volunteered his time and published many articles in support of this new approach to family law.

Judge James Richard McIntosh

has been named Assistant Chief Judge for Northern Alberta. He was appointed to the Provincial Court in 1989. Prior to his appointment, he spent 12 years in private practice in Peace River. His practice has emphasized criminal, commercial, corporate and family law. He received his law degree from the University of Alberta in 1976, and a Bachelor of Education degree in 1972. Judge McIntosh has been acting in this position since December 2002.

Judge A. Gail Vickery

has been named Assistant Chief Judge for Calgary Family and Youth Court. Judge Vickery obtained her law degree in 1975 from Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia and was appointed to the Provincial Court in 2000. In 1984 she was the first woman to become a partner in a major law firm in Calgary, and in 1995 she became the chief representative of Macleod Dixon in the Republic of Kazakhstan before returning to Canada in 1999. She is a past president of Calgary Family Services.

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Justice Web Site

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