

December 5, 2007

New judge named to the Provincial Court of Alberta

Edmonton...

John David Holmes, QC, has been appointed to Red Deer Provincial Court, effective December 17.

Judge Holmes graduated with a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Alberta in 1982 and was appointed as Queen's Counsel in 2002. Prior to his judicial appointment, he focused primarily on civil litigation and has 24 years of private practice experience.

"I am pleased to welcome this exceptional individual to his new position," said Minister of Justice and Attorney General Ron Stevens. "Judge Holmes' combination of education and professional experience will help provide excellent leadership."

Judge Holmes was the Judicial District representative of the Alberta Civil Trial Lawyer's Association from 1992 until 2002. He was involved in establishing the Central Alberta Community Legal Clinic, which provides free legal services to those in-need, with the assistance of local lawyers who volunteer their time. He also served two terms as a Bencher of the Law Society of Alberta.

The Alberta Judicial Council screens all candidates for Provincial Court appointments and forwards a list of recommended applicants to the Provincial Court Nominating Committee.

The committee then interviews candidates from the list provided by the Judicial Council and in turn recommends to the Minister of Justice the names of those appointees felt to be of the highest calibre.

The Provincial Court Nominating Committee was established in 1999 and is made up of 11 members appointed by the Minister of Justice. It 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. 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 people appointed by the Minister of Justice.

Judicial appointments are approved by Order in Council.

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