

July 30, 2008

New judges appointed to Provincial Court of Alberta

Edmonton... Bruce R. Garriock, Q.C., George J. Gaschler, Q.C. and Terrence J. Matchett, Q.C. have been appointed as judges to the Provincial Court of Alberta. Both Garriock and Matchett will sit in Edmonton and Gaschler will sit in Calgary.

“I am pleased to welcome three outstanding individuals to their new positions,” said Minister of Justice and Attorney General Alison Redford. “Their successful careers and combination of knowledge, education and professional experience will help provide excellent leadership and strengthen our justice system.”

Bruce R. Garriock, Q.C. received his law degree from the University of Alberta in 1975. He was called to the bar in Alberta in 1976 and in British Columbia in 1989. He is currently a senior partner of Brownlee LLP, Barristers and Solicitors. His practice areas include general commercial and corporate, including governance issues, incorporations, reorganizations and shareholder agreements, leases, joint ventures and First Nations business ventures and corporate structures. He has also been an active member in his community advising various boards and governing bodies including non-profit boards and First Nation councils and organizations.

George J. Gaschler, Q.C. received his law degree from the University of Saskatchewan in 1976. He was called to the Alberta bar in 1979. He has practised in Fort Macleod for 25 years and the City of Calgary Prosecutions Office for three years. His main practice areas include land expropriations, water resources and irrigation projects, civil litigation and municipal law. Past counsel included the Lethbridge City Police Association, and ad hoc agent for the Lethbridge Crown office. His community service includes President of the Fort Macleod and District Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the Minister’s Advisory Board for the Head Smashed-In Buffalo Jump Interpretive Centre and a member of the Fort Macleod historical Association Mounted Police Museum board of directors.

Terrence J. Matchett, Q.C. received his law degree from the University of New Brunswick in 1977. He was called to the Bar in New Brunswick in 1977, in Saskatchewan in 1980, and in Alberta in 1985. Since August 2001, he has been Deputy Minister of Alberta Justice and Deputy Attorney General. Prior to that, he was the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Criminal Justice Division. He is also a former prosecutor and Director of the Special Prosecutions Branch of Alberta Justice. His experience includes several years as Regional Crown Prosecutor responsible for criminal prosecutors in northwestern Saskatchewan as well as three years in the private sector defending criminal matters. He has lectured at numerous continuing legal education conferences and seminars as well as at the University of Alberta Law School, and was a member of the Judge Advocate General Advisory Panel on Military Justice.

Matchett’s appointment is effective July 30 and both Garriock, and Gaschler’s appointments are effective August 5.

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 and recommends the names of those appointees felt to be of the highest calibre to the Minister of Justice.

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 made by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

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