

*November 25, 2009*

## **Three new judges appointed to the Provincial Court**

*Edmonton* ... Three new judges have been appointed to the Provincial Court of Alberta.

Gordon Ernest Deck, Q.C. has been appointed to Central Region/Red Deer, effective November 26; Mary Anne McCorquodale to Calgary Civil, effective November 26; and, William Arnold Andreassen, Q.C. to Central Region/Camrose, effective December 8.

“I welcome these three individuals to their new positions,” said Alison Redford, Minister of Justice and Attorney General. “I look forward to working with them as we strive to keep Alberta’s communities safe and secure and to increase access to justice for Albertans.”

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. The 11 members are appointed by the Minister of Justice and represent 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.

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### **Backgrounder: Judges’ biographies**

#### **Media inquiries may be directed to:**

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To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

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Biographies:

### **Gordon E. Deck, Q.C.**

Gordon Deck graduated from the University of Alberta law school in 1980. From his time of graduation, Deck practiced law with Johnston Ming Manning LLP. His work focused on the areas of dependent adults, foreclosures, estate litigation and more recently, corporate and commercial law. Deck was chair of the Red Deer Catholic School Division for 17 years and served as director of the Red Deer & District Community Foundation and the Red Deer Chamber of Commerce. He is presently on the Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Red Deer.

### **Mary A. McCorquodale**

Mary McCorquodale graduated from the University of Alberta law school in 1985 and was admitted to the Law Society of Alberta in 1986. McCorquodale practiced civil, commercial and family law in a number of positions with firms in Edmonton and Calgary and served as in house legal counsel at the University of Calgary. Most recently, she worked as a hearing chair at the Appeals Commission for Alberta Workers' Compensation. McCorquodale is currently a board member of the Certified Management Accountants of Alberta (CMA) and an associate member of the Alberta Arbitration & Mediation Society.

### **William A. Andreassen, Q.C.**

William Andreassen graduated from the University of Alberta law school with the Horace Harvey Gold Medal in Law in 1979. After graduation, he worked in the areas of wills and estates and real estate. Since 1985, he has worked with Andreassen Olson Borth, a general practice with significant work in areas of criminal and matrimonial law. Andreassen was a course instructor with Augustana University and a founding member of the Camrose Sport Development Society.

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