

March 26, 2010

New judge appointed to the Provincial Court

Edmonton ... A new judge has been appointed to the Provincial Court of Alberta.

Laura Louise Burt has been appointed to Civil Court, Calgary effective April 12.

"I welcome Ms. Burt to her new position," said Alison Redford, Minister of Justice and Attorney General. "I am confident she will provide strong leadership, and her scope of education and experience will serve the judiciary well."

Burt graduated with a Bachelor of Laws from Queen's University in 1991 and a Bachelor of Civil Law from Oxford University in 1994. After graduation, she practiced civil litigation for approximately 11 years at Peacock, Linder & Halt LLP focusing on commercial, insurance and professional negligence matters. More recently, Burt acted as senior litigation counsel with the Alberta Securities Commission and as a justice of the peace and traffic court commissioner. She has been a sessional instructor at the University of Calgary, Faculty of Law and involved in a number of professional associations including the Law Society of Alberta and the Alberta Women Lawyers Association.

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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Media inquiries may be directed to:

Carla Kolke
Justice Communications
780-427-8530
Carla.kolke@gov.ab.ca

To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

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