

July 14, 2010

## **New judge appointed to the Provincial Court**

*Edmonton...* Claus Karl Willi Thietke, Q.C., has been appointed to Provincial Court, Peace River/Northern Region, effective July 26.

“I welcome Mr. Thietke to his new position,” said Alison Redford, Minister of Justice and Attorney General. “I am confident he will provide strong leadership to the Provincial Court Bench.”

Thietke graduated with a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Saskatchewan in 1985. Since 1992, he has practiced general law with an emphasis on litigation with the firm Norheim Simpson, now Thietke Harcourt LLP. For more than 15 years, Thietke acted as counsel for the Child Welfare Authorities in Northern Alberta and a number of First Nation Authorities. He is a past director of the Peace River Crisis Association and the Peace River Regional Women’s Shelter and has lectured to the Northern Regional and First Nation Child Welfare Authorities. Thietke was appointed as Queen’s Counsel in 2006.

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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