

Government of Alberta News Release

FOR RELEASE: Thursday, November 12, 1998

Provincial Court Appointments

EDMONTON--To meet an urgent need identified by Chief Judge Edward R. Wachowich, Justice Minister Jon Havelock today announced the appointment of four judges to the Provincial Court of Alberta. Chief Judge Wachowich previously indicated there was a "compelling necessity" to fill the vacancies "to ensure the efficient and timely operation of the courts."

Michael George Allen, Q.C., who has specialized in criminal law for nearly 30 years, joins the Bench in Edmonton's Provincial Court Criminal Division on December 7, 1998. Mr. Allen graduated from the University of Ottawa with a law degree in 1969. He began his career as an assistant Crown Attorney in Ontario and then served in Alberta as a Crown Prosecutor and Assistant Chief Crown Prosecutor. In 1985, Mr. Allen became Chief Crown Prosecutor in Edmonton and in 1990 was appointed Assistant Deputy Minister, Criminal Division, Alberta Justice. Mr. Allen has been active as a community volunteer with court interpreter and Aboriginal court worker programs and as a member of the Edmonton Safer Cities Advisory Committee.

Janet Dianne Soneff Franklin, Q.C., becomes Edmonton's newest Family and Youth Court Judge on December 7, 1998. Ms. Franklin, a partner in the law firm of Ackroyd Piasta Roth & Day, has practised in the areas of civil litigation, administrative and labor law. Ms. Franklin, who worked on the *Task Force on the Criminal Justice System and its Impact on the Indian and Metis People of Alberta*, was a member of the board of directors of the Sheltered Workshop, Victorian Order of Nurses, Sexual Assault Centre and the Legal Aid Society of Alberta.

Darwin James Greaves, Q.C., who began his law career as a Crown Prosecutor in 1974, has been appointed a Judge of the Provincial Court Criminal Division in Medicine Hat. Mr. Greaves, who obtained his law degree at the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Manitoba, has been the Chief Crown Prosecutor in Medicine Hat since 1976. His community service has included volunteer efforts as a guest lecturer on different aspects of the legal system to various community organizations and schools. Mr. Greaves' appointment is effective November 16, 1998.

Paul Gordon Sully, Q.C., who has been a lawyer for more than 30 years, will assume his new duties as Judge of the Provincial Court Criminal Division in Edmonton on November 23, 1998. Mr. Sully obtained his law degree from the University of Manitoba in 1967 and has been a partner in the Edmonton law firm of Brownlee Fryett since 1969. His extensive career includes criminal prosecution and defence as well as family law and arbitration. Mr. Sully is well known as a long time soccer coach and community volunteer.

A new process for the appointment of Provincial Court Judges, which will include a nominating committee consisting of members of the public, one of whom must be a member of the legal profession, is expected to be implemented early in 1999.

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