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"I am pleased to appoint the first four Provincial Court Judges selected under the new nominating committee system."

- Dave Hancock, Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

### **New Provincial Court Judges named**

Edmonton - Dave Hancock, Minister of Justice and Attorney General today announced the following judicial appointments to Provincial Court:

- **Joanne Helen Goss**  
has been appointed to the Edmonton Family and Youth Divisions

- **Norman Russell Hess**  
has been appointed to the Calgary Civil Division

- **Leonard Stephen Mandamin**  
has been appointed to the Calgary Criminal Division

- **James Bryce Mitchell**  
has been appointed to the Red Deer Provincial Court.

Brief biographies are attached.

The new nominating committee system was announced in March of this year. The committee consists of eight members, including two members of the legal profession. The committee makes recommendations from a list of qualified candidates provided by the Judicial Council. The Council pre-screens candidates and is a representative body of the Provincial Court, Court of Queen's Bench, Alberta Court of Appeal and the Law Society of Alberta, and has two persons appointed by the Minister.

"These are all very qualified individuals who will do a fine job as judges in our province," said Hancock.

The appointment of these individuals to the Provincial Court is the result of a much more open system that reflects the concerns of Albertans. The new system is the result of a review committee co-chaired by former Chief Judge Wachowich and MLA Marlene Graham, Q.C.

### **Editor's Note**

: For background purposes the news release on the nominating committee dated March 9, 1999 titled *New Committee for Selecting Provincial Judges* can be located at [www.gov.ab.ca/acn/news399.cfm](http://www.gov.ab.ca/acn/news399.cfm).

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## New Provincial Court Judges — biographies

### Joanne Helen Goss

Joanne Helen Goss, of Edmonton, graduated from the University of Alberta Law School in 1984 and has practiced as a lawyer, Chartered Mediator and Chartered Arbitrator. She has extensive experience in public consultation and dispute resolution particularly in the environment field. She has lectured at the University of Alberta and is a published author in the field of dispute resolution. In 1994 she was appointed the first Chartered Mediator in Canada by the Arbitrators and Mediators Institute of Canada Inc.

**Effective Date:** September 7, 1999

### Norman Russell Hess

Norman Russell Hess, of Calgary, has practiced law for over 25 years and is currently a self-employed practitioner in Calgary. His experience includes conveyancing, real estate development and financing, and corporate and commercial, intellectual property and corporate finance law. Mr. Hess has been president and past-president of the Hillhurst Sunnyside Non-Profit Housing Association, a coach and volunteer for Calgary Special Olympics, and is Treasurer of the Law Alumni Hockey Association.

**Effective Date** September 20, 1999

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### Leonard Stephen (Tony) Mandamin

Leonard Stephen (Tony) Mandamin, of Edmonton, has practiced law for 15 years with Mandamin & Associates at offices located at Enoch, Alberta. Mr. Mandamin specializes in Aboriginal Law. He is a member of the Indigenous Bar Association and Canadian Bar Association and is Adjunct Professor at the School of Native Studies at the University of Alberta. He previously served on the Edmonton Police Commission and was elected Chairman in 1995 and 1996. He currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Edmonton Canadian Native Friendship Centre. He is a member of the Wikwemikong First Nation, which consists of Anishnawbe people, also known as Ojibway.

**Effective Date:** September 30, 1999

### James Bryce Mitchell

James Bryce Mitchell, of Red Deer, is a partner with Johnston, Ming, Manning and Company and has practiced law for 21 years. Mr. Mitchell's career includes appointments as a Federal Prosecutor in Edmonton in 1975 and joining the Provincial Attorney General Department as a Crown Prosecutor in 1977. He went into private practice in 1978. He served on the Red Deer Police Commission as Vice-Chairman from 1988 to 1990 and as Chairman from 1990 to 1994. He is active in the Law Society of Alberta and Canadian Bar Association.

**Effective Date:** September 20, 1999

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