



SERVING
the PUBLIC
INTEREST

Celebrating

50 and 60 Years of Service

The Law Society of Alberta

December 3, 2009
Fairmont Hotel Macdonald
Edmonton, Alberta

Mission

To serve the public interest by promoting a high standard of legal services and professional conduct through the governance and regulation of an independent legal profession.

Vision

The vision of the Law Society of Alberta is to be recognized as a model for protecting the public interest and preserving the fundamental principles of justice through a self-regulated, independent and trusted legal profession.

Honourees

50 Years

Kenneth R. Biddell, QC

The Honourable Mr. Justice P.S. Chrumka

Roderick A. McLennan, QC

Roy A. Philion

James D. Ross

The Honourable Mr. Justice A.H. Wachowich

60 Years

William G. Chipman, QC

The Honourable Samuel S. Lieberman, QC

The Honourable Joseph J. Stratton, QC

Programme

Reception

11:45 AM

Opening Remarks

Peter Michalyshyn, QC
President, LSA

12 Noon

Lunch

12 Noon

Roasted Garlic and Fennel Bulb Bisque with Snipped Chives
Grilled "Spring Creek Ranch" Striploin Steak
Sauteed Mushrooms and Red Wine Jus
Rosemary Roasted Potatoes
Seasonal Vegetables
Chocolate Coffee Chunk Cheese Cake

Celebrating 50 & 60 Years of Service

Peter Michalyshyn, QC
President, LSA

12:15 PM

50 Years of Service

Kenneth R. Biddell, QC

Kenneth R. Biddell, QC, roll number 1927, was born in Regina, Saskatchewan on January 2, 1930. From the University of Saskatchewan, he received his bachelor of education degree (1954) and law degree (1958). He articulated with Bruce Wallace Mahoney and Gunner Orn Eggertson. Mr. Biddell was called to the bar June 10, 1959 before the Honourable Mr. Justice Cairns.

A veteran lawyer, he began his 50-year law career with the firm Biddell, Risher & Link. In 1990, the firm name changed to Biddell & Link. He began a solo law practice in 1995 in the Biddell Law Office in Medicine Hat. He was appointed QC in 1985.

The Honourable Mr. Justice P.S. Chrumka

The Honourable P.S. Chrumka, roll number 1923, was born in Tilley, Alberta. From the University of Alberta, he received his Bachelor of Arts (1955) and his law degree (1958). He articulated with Edward J. McCormick, QC. He was called to the bar June 5, 1959 before the Honourable Mr. Justice J.W. Riley.

Mr. Justice Chrumka practised law with Edward J. McCormick, QC and, in 1961, joined the Calgary Crown Prosecutors Office. In 1975, he became Chief Crown Prosecutor for Calgary and the Judicial District of Calgary. He was appointed Justice to the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta (1982), Deputy Judge of the Supreme Court of Yukon (1991), Deputy Judge of the Supreme Court of NWT (1991), and Deputy Judge of the Nunavut Court of Justice (2002). After a quarter of a century on the bench, he stepped down from the Court of Queen's Bench in Alberta (2007). He was appointed QC in 1976.

Roderick A. McLennan, QC

Roderick A. McLennan, QC, roll number 1914, was born in Bracken, Saskatchewan. After completing his arts degree (1957) and law degree (1958) at the University of Alberta, he articulated with Robert A. Weeks. He was admitted to the bar on May 29, 1959 before the Honourable Mr. Justice Neil Primrose.

Mr. McLennan, QC, began practising law at McLennan Ross LLP, and for 50 years remained a one-firm lawyer. He is now currently senior partner and one of Alberta's most experienced counsel. He has practised in the area of commercial litigation, construction law, professional liability and media. He was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1974.

50 Years of Service

Roy A. Phillion

Roy A. Phillion, roll number 1936, was born in Edmonton. After graduating from the University of Alberta with his Bachelor of Arts degree (1954) and from the University of Saskatchewan with his law degree (1958) he articulated under Charles Becker, QC. He was sworn into the bar on June 30, 1959 with the Honourable Mr. Justice Hugh John Macdonald presiding over his ceremony.

Mr. Phillion immediately hung out his shingle in Edmonton, thus embarking on a 50-year career as a sole practitioner.

James D. Ross

James D. Ross, roll number 1939, was born at Elk Point, Alberta. From the University of British Columbia, he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree (1955) and his law degree (1958), and articulated under Arthur W. Crossley in Edmonton. He was called to the bar and sworn in by the Honourable Mr. Justice Peter Greschuk on July 15, 1959.

The 50-year law practice of Mr. Ross began with the firm of Peterson Ross on the same day he was called to the bar. This association lasted until April 1991, until he formed James D. Ross Professional Corporation where he continues to practise today.

The Honourable Mr. Justice A.H. Wachowich

The Honourable A.H. Wachowich, roll number 1915, was born in Edmonton. He received his law degree from the University of Alberta (1958), and articulated with Constantine A. Kosowan. He was called to the bar on May 29, 1959 before the Honourable Mr. Justice Peter Greschuk.

He began his distinguished law career in private practice specializing in insurance law before being appointed to the District Court of Northern Alberta in 1975. Three years later, he was appointed to the Court of Queen's Court Bench. Mr. Justice Wachowich was appointed Associate Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench (1993). In 2000, he was named Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench. Mr. Justice Wachowich has also served as a Deputy Judge of the Yukon, the NWT and Nunavut.

60 Years of Service

William G. Chipman, QC

William G. Chipman, QC, roll number 1371, was born in Bridgetown, Nova Scotia and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Acadia University (1943). After serving with the Royal Canadian Air Force, he earned his law degree from Dalhousie University (1948), and was admitted to the Nova Scotia bar the same year. He was called to the Alberta bar on August 9, 1949 and was duly sworn in by the Honourable Mr. Justice S.J. Shepherd.

The law firms that he worked for in his 60-year law career were varied and included his own practises: McLaws & Company; Parlee McLaws LLP; and Chipman, Koch & Company. He currently works with Gunn Prithipaul & Hatch. Mr. Chipman was appointed QC in 1962.

The Honourable Samuel S. Lieberman, QC

The Honourable Samuel S. Lieberman, QC, roll number 1372, was born in Edmonton and earned his Bachelor of Arts degree (1947) and law degree (1947) from the University of Alberta. He articulated with Moses I. Lieberman. He was called to the bar on August 10, 1949 before the Honourable Mr. Justice H.H. Parlee.

In his extensive career, Mr. Lieberman served as Judge of the District Court of Northern Alberta; Justice of the Trial Division of the Supreme Court of Alberta; Justice in the Court of Appeal of Alberta and the NWT; and Deputy Judge of the Supreme Court of the NWT. He retired from the Bench in 1997 and practises law with the firm Miller Thompson LLP. He was appointed QC in 1962.

The Honourable Joseph J. Stratton, QC

The Honourable Joseph J. Stratton, QC, roll number 1358, was born in Calgary and joined the Royal Canadian Navy and served on convoy escort duty during WWII. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree (1947) and law degree (1947) from the University of Alberta, and articulated with G. M. Peacock. Before the Honourable Mr. Justice Hugh John Macdonald, he was admitted to the bar on June 1st, 1949.

Mr. Stratton began his varied career in law with Nolan Chamber and later formed his own firm of Stratton Lucas. He was appointed to the Court of Queen's Bench in 1980 and to the Court of Appeal of Alberta in 1987. He returned in 1995 to private practice with Davis LLP. He was appointed QC in 1968.

In 1949...

There were 27 lawyers called to the Alberta Bar.

At the 92nd meeting of the Benchers of the Law Society of Alberta on January 14, 1949, the following were in attendance:

Messrs. Henry S. Patterson, KC, President,
The Honourable Lucien Maynard, KC, ex officio
L.Y. Cairns, KC, Vice-President
G.W. Auxier, KC
E.J. Chambers, KC
W.G. Egbert, KC
L.H. Fenerty, KC
H.S. Hurlburt, KC
S.H. McCuaig, KC
R. Martland, KC
J.V.H. Milvain, KC
W.H. Odell, KC
G.E.A. Rice, KC
S.B. Smith, KC

In 1959...

Approximately 55 lawyers were called to the Alberta Bar.

At the 115th meeting of the Benchers of the Law Society of Alberta on January 14, 1949, the following were in attendance:

J.V.H. Milvain, QC
G.H. Allen, QC, President
G.J. Bryan, QC
H.T. Emery, QC
L.D. Hyndman, QC
E.W.S. Kane, QC
J.S. McCormick, QC
Q.A. McGillivray, QC
A.F. Moir
J. Harper Prowse, QC
J.J. Saucier, QC
(Absent: C.W. Clement, QC and G.W. Baldwin, QC)



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