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**LawSocietyofAlberta**

[www.lawsocietyalberta.com](http://www.lawsocietyalberta.com)

## **News Release**

### **LAWYERS, MEDIA AND JUDGES SET TO DEBATE PUBLICATION BANS**

(Calgary, April 7, 2005) – Issues surrounding publication bans, courtroom technology, and disclosure of information will be presented and questioned at the Law Society of Alberta's Media and The Law seminar, taking place on Saturday, April 9 at the ATCO Centre, Canada Olympic Park, Calgary, Alberta.

The seminar will open with a workshop on publication bans, referring to the bans on the Gomery inquiry, the Air India trial and the upcoming Robert Pickton trial. Over 100 lawyers and members of the media and judiciary are expected to participate.

"In light of the recent publication ban on the Gomery inquiry, and material subject to this publication ban appearing on a website out of the United States, this seminar is very timely and promises to generate quite a bit of controversy," said Doug McGillivray, QC, president of the Law Society of Alberta. "It is no secret that the media, judges and lawyers see things from different angles, and with different perspectives."

Renowned keynote speaker Jane Kirtley, Professor of Media Ethics and Law, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, University of Minnesota will deliver the keynote address "The Odd Couple: Judges and journalists have more in common than you think".

Kathleen Petty, host of CBC Newsworld, will emcee the seminar, which is sponsored by Parlee McLaws LLP, Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP, CBC News, the Calgary Sun, the Canadian Bar Association Alberta and supported by the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta.

#### Program Highlights:

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|-------------------------|---|
| 9:00 – 10:45 a.m.       | Gatekeepers: Judges or Journalists<br>Who should control the disclosure of information?     |
| 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Future Technologies: Show us the Bling!<br>What will new technology bring to the courtroom? |
| 12: 45 – 1:30 p.m.      | Keynote Speaker Professor Jane Kirtley  |
| 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.        | You be the Judge<br>How well is the public informed by the justice system and the media?    |

The media are invited to attend. Full conference program is available at [www.lawsocietyalberta.com](http://www.lawsocietyalberta.com) under News and Events.

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