

Advisory Committee on Judicial Appointments

The Advisory Committee on Judicial Appointments is an Executive Council established standing committee with responsibility for making appointment recommendations to the Minister of Justice for provincial and Family Court judicial appointments.

The Advisory Committee is composed of:

- Two lawyers appointed by the Council of the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society
- One judge of the Provincial Court and one judge of the Family Court, both to be appointed by the Chief Judge and one of whom may be the Chief Judge.
- Four members appointed by the Minister of Justice, two of which must be public representatives; a public representative is an individual who is not a member of the Barristers' Society

Current Members:

Justice J.E. (Ted) Scanlan started practicing law in Pictou, Nova Scotia in 1980. Appointed to the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia in 1993 and the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal in 2003. Ted elected Supernumerary Status in the Court of Appeal in 2017. Ted continues to sit as a Deputy Judge in both the Court Martial Appeal Court of Canada and the Nunavut Court of Justice. For over thirty years, Ted has taught judges in Canada, and countries including Serbia, Ukraine, and Croatia.

Denise MacDonell has been a real estate professional for 12 years and is a Managing Associate Broker at Red Door Realty. Denise is a Fellow of the Real Estate Institute of Canada (FRI), is a past Director and committee member at the Nova Scotia Association of REALTORS® (NSAR). Denise has served as a member of the Education and Standard Forms Committees of the NS Real Estate Commission. Prior to real estate, Denise worked in university administration.

Jade Pictou is a Mi'kmaq Lawyer from Nova Scotia. Jade is employed with the Public Prosecution Service of Canada. Prior to that she was criminal defence counsel working with MacKillop Pictou Law Group Inc. Throughout her practice, Jade has been an active volunteer sitting on many boards and committees within the community.

Kim West is President of Royer Thompson, a Canadian executive advisory firm focused on capturing the full potential of people in pursuit of organizational excellence. Previously, Kim was an owner of MT&L Public Relations. Over her career, Kim has served on many volunteer and corporate boards. She is Honorary Consul for Sweden and a recipient of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee medal. She has an honours degree in political science from St. Francis Xavier University.

Craig Clarke was born and raised in Pictou, Nova Scotia. Craig attended Acadia University for his undergraduate degree and law school at Dalhousie University. He was called to the bar in 1999. MacIsaac & Clarke (now MacIsaac Clarke & Duffy) was formed in 2001 and Craig has been the managing partner of the practice since its inception. Outside of his practice, Craig has served on the boards of numerous non-profit organizations.

Rosalind N. Michie of Stewiacke, NS. Has been a Judge of the Nova Scotia Provincial Court sitting in Amherst since March 2017. Prior to her Judicial appointment, she was a Crown Attorney with the Nova Scotia Public Prosecution Service for 16 years, five of those as a Senior Crown Attorney. She was admitted to the Nova Scotia Bar in 1997.

Matthew Darrah of Halifax, graduated from Dalhousie University in 2001 with a Bachelor of Science in psychology with First-Class Honours, and in 2004 from Dalhousie Law School. He articulated with Nova Scotia Legal Aid in New Glasgow and was appointed a staff lawyer in the Annapolis Royal office of Nova Scotia Legal Aid in 2005. In 2008, he transferred to the youth office in Halifax and moved to the Halifax South office in 2010, practicing criminal law. He has been the staff lawyer in the Halifax Domestic Violence Court since 2019.