Celebrating Excellence

2019

Distinguished Service

AWARDS

Canadian Bar Association - Alberta Branch
Law Society of Alberta

Celebrating Excellence
Program
February 5, 2019  
11:15 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Westin Edmonton, Devonian Room  
Edmonton, Alberta

Lunch            11:30 a.m.  

Master of Ceremonies: Ola Malik, Vice President,  
Canadian Bar Association - Alberta Branch

Grace delivered by The Honourable M.T. Moreau, Chief Justice, Court of Queen’s Bench of Alberta

Distinguished Service Awards Presentations      12:30 p.m.  

Frank Friesacher, President, Canadian Bar Association - Alberta Branch  
Don Cranston, QC, President, Law Society of Alberta
Throughout her career as a lawyer and legal academic, Professor Tamara Buckwold “has been motivated by a desire to assist in the development, reform, full understanding, and proper application of commercial law in Canada,” wrote nominator Chris Sprysak, former Associate Dean of Research & Faculty Development at University of Alberta, and current Associate Professor U of A Faculty of Law, continuing, “The legal and academic communities have greatly benefitted from Tamara’s high-quality legal scholarship over the last 30 years.”

Ms. Buckwold received her Bachelor of Laws from the University of Saskatchewan in 1980, and was called to the Saskatchewan Bar in 1981. Subsequently, she completed her Master of Laws at the University of Saskatchewan in 1995. Professor Buckwold practiced for several years at the firm of Priel, Stevenson, Hood & Thornton in Saskatoon. She first began her career as an academic and a teacher in 1987 when she joined the University of Saskatchewan College of Law as a sessional lecturer, and was promoted to assistant professor in 1992. Professor Buckwold now serves as a full-time professor at the University of Alberta Faculty of Law, where in 2016 she was awarded the Faculty's Tevie H. Miller Teaching Excellence Award.

Professor Buckwold has worked closely with and written several reports for the Uniform Law Conference of Canada, the Alberta Law Reform Institute, and the Law Reform Commission of Saskatchewan, among others. She has contributed to proposals for reform and the Personal Property Security Act issued by the Canadian Conference on Personal Property Security Law. Professor Buckwold has published a book, book chapters, book reviews, journal articles and peer reviews; has numerous published studies and papers under her belt; and has been invited to present lectures, papers and presentations at esteemed universities and legal organizations across the country, such as York University’s Osgoode Hall Law School, the University of Windsor Faculty of Law, the Canadian Bar Association, the Legal Education Society of Alberta, and the National Judicial Institute of Canada, to name only a few.

In her nomination, nominator Chris Sprysak, wrote, “In a Faculty filled with award-winning teachers and scholars, Tamara has distinguished herself as one of the Faculty’s best,” and that is certainly evident by her three decades of contributions to legal scholarship in our province.
Tracey D. Stock’s dedication to pro bono legal service and community activism spans over 45 years, beginning as a section leader with Scouts Canada, later volunteering with Calgary Legal Guidance (CLG), and committing to decades of giving more than 2,000 hours per year, the equivalent of a full-time job, while continuing his work as a full-time lawyer and engineer. He has served as a role model for colleagues in the legal profession, the field of engineering, and as an upstanding Albertan, devoting hundreds of thousands of hours to pro bono and community service, and is described by his nominator, Kent D. Jones, EIT, MSc, as, “a remarkable Albertan who has made an enormous difference in the lives of thousands of young Albertans and disadvantaged Albertans.”

Mr. Stock is a graduate of Queen’s University (BA, 1981), University of Toronto (BASc, Chem. Eng., 1982), University of Calgary (JD, 1988), and Athabasca University (MBA, 2001), finally receiving a PhD as a Doctor of Philosophy from University of Calgary in 2011. But his education is only the beginning: Mr. Stock has been of service to the community before his higher education even began, working as a first aid instructor (St. John Ambulance Association), CPR instructor (Alberta Heart and Stroke Foundation), warehouse volunteer (Calgary Food Bank), and platelets and plasma apheresis donor with more than 655 donations to date with Canadian Blood Services, and most impressively, has served as an active volunteer in some capacity with Scouts Canada since 1975.

In 2014, Tracey D. Stock was the recipient of Calgary Legal Guidance’s Distinguished Service Award, recognizing his now almost thirty years of volunteering to provide free legal advice to disadvantaged Calgarians, especially focused on tenant and employment issues. At CLG he also supports educational outreach programs at the Calgary Public Library, Advice-A-Thons, and schools. Since 2005, he has also provided pro bono legal counsel to the Chinook Council of Scouts Canada.

Gary Oates, a member of Mr. Stock’s Scout groups as a youth, writes, “Tracey is exceptionally committed to sharing utmost service for communities of disadvantaged Calgarians needing legal advice, young people needing support, guidance, and encouragement, and those needing health support in Alberta and Canada.” Mr. Stock has helped innumerable Albertans over the years and has selflessly offered not only assistance, but also empathy to those who need it most.
John-Paul E. Boyd

Service to the Community

Mr. Boyd graduated from the University of British Columbia Faculty of Law in 1999, and has since then made a direct impact through his service to the community through countless hours of community and volunteer work, acting as a role model for other lawyers, and effective contributor to the role of law in society.

Currently the principal in John-Paul Boyd Arbitration Chambers, Mr. Boyd began his law career at Cran Madryga & Company, Markovitz Law Offices in 1999. Mr. Boyd's passion for volunteerism is evident, as he soon thereafter began his distinguished volunteer career as a clinic supervising lawyer at the UBC Law Students’ Legal Advice Program. He later went on to work as a clinic lawyer for the Salvation Army Pro Bono Program, Program Director: Family Law Roster Program for Pro Bono Law British Columbia, was a Founding Director and Secretary for the British Columbia Hear the Child Society and served as the Executive Director for the Canadian Research Institute for Law and the Family.

Mr. Boyd is actively involved as an external article reviewer for the Alberta Law Review; a member of the advisory board and external article reviewer for the Canadian Journal of Family Law; a presenter for Community Education Service for Alberta Health Services; as well as a member on the Advisory Board for the Alberta Legal Information Society, to name but only a few.

Mr. Boyd has not only provided service to the community, he has shown results in doing so. He successfully launched the Limited Scope Retainer Project together with Rob Harvie, Q.C., and was one of the founders of the British Columbia Parenting Coordinators Roster Society, and has helped establish parenting coordination as a respected dispute resolution tool. Mr. Boyd is a regular contributor for Slaw, Lawyers Daily, and Law Now, writing on hot button issues in the legal community.

Mr. Boyd has provided CPD education for thousands of lawyers in many contexts. He is “a leader in public legal education and progress toward accessible family justice, introducing new dispute resolution processes, and finding new, cheaper ways of hearing from children,” according to nominator Wendy E. Best, Q.C., showing once again that his commitment to service to the community is truly remarkable.
Kevin Feth, Q.C. has been practicing law since 1989, and in that time, has made a great impact on the legal profession in Alberta. Nominator Robert Philp, Q.C., describes Mr. Feth as a leader whose contributions span a multitude of legal organizations, and whose outstanding commitment to the legal community, as well as the general public, demonstrate his distinguished service to the profession.

Mr. Feth is currently a partner at Field LLP, with his practice divided between labour and employment law, human rights, education law, administrative law, commercial and constitutional litigation, indigenous law, and appellate advocacy. For the past decade, he has advised universities, public institutions, the provincial government, large corporations, indigenous peoples, First Nations and Metis Settlements. He has acted as the President of the Law Society of Alberta; President of Pro Bono Law Alberta; Chair of the Legal Aid Task Force; and chairs of the Law Society’s Access to Justice Committee; Conduct Process Task Force (Alternative Measures); and Quality Assurance Policy Task Force, and a member of Canadian Bar Association Council, to name only a few.

As President of the Law Society, Mr. Feth initiated the creation of and chaired the task force to take on the chronic underfunding of Alberta’s legal aid program. And as President of Pro Bono Law Alberta, Mr. Feth convened the first provincial meeting of Alberta’s pro bono organizations, leading to the creation of the Pro Bono Sector Collaborative, which facilitates cooperation, information exchange, resource sharing, and the development of best practices among community clinic and other organizations within the pro bono sector.

Mr. Feth is a current member of committees of the Federation of Law Societies of Canada addressing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action, and dealing with the minimum standards of law degree programs, including the Trinity Western University proposed law school. In addition to his volunteer work, Mr. Feth consistently takes time to formally and informally mentor young lawyers. “His skills, knowledge, and dedication to learning make him an exceptional resource for newer members of the profession,” said nominator Robert Philp, Q.C., continuing, “Kevin is passionate about the legal profession and takes it upon himself to provide exceptional support and service. He has made a difference in the profession and has positively impacted lawyers in Alberta and across Canada. He is a role model for other lawyers and is well respected within the community.”
The Distinguished Service Awards celebrate excellence in the legal profession. Jointly awarded by the Canadian Bar Association - Alberta Branch and the Law Society of Alberta, these prestigious awards recognize the many outstanding contributions Alberta lawyers make to the pro bono legal service, to legal scholarship, to the community, and to the profession.