

NOVA SCOTIA REPORT
FALL BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 2023

JUDICIAL COMPLEMENT

At the end of August, the Minister of Justice appointed Judge Perry Borden as our new Chief Judge replacing Chief Judge Pam Williams.

There are currently twenty-nine full time Judges serving in the Provincial Court in Nova Scotia, with twenty-eight of these being in Criminal Court and one primarily in the Family Court. We also have thirteen per diem Judges serving the Provincial Court.

Since my last report we have one new appointment to our Court:

Judge Angela Casley

With the completion of the expansion of the Family Division of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia our complement of judges has been reduced from 35 to 29. There is currently one vacancy on our court, and one unfilled position for a judge that is on long term disability.

JUDICIAL COMPENSATION

Judges in Nova Scotia are in year one of the current three year tribunal cycle after the Government accepted all the recommendations from the December 2022 Tribunal Report. Our current salary is \$306,960 and is set to be varied on April the 1st of the next two years and continue at 80% of a s.96 judges' salary. Currently there are no major issues on the horizon and we are enjoying the calm after six tumultuous years.

It is anticipated that at some point in the near future we will be asking the government to return to the binding process that existed prior to 2016, but no firm decision has been made on that issue to date.

EDUCATION

The NSPJA Education Committee continues to provide high quality educational programs. Judge Peter Ross and Judge Ann Marie Simmons are co-chairs and work diligently with their Committee members to meet the needs of the Provincial Court.

We have two education conferences per year. One in the Spring which is dedicated to the Nova Scotia Provincial Court and one in the Fall that is an Atlantic Education Conference with the four Atlantic Provinces, with the location rotating each year.

We had a very successful Spring conference which was held at Baddeck, Nova Scotia on May 31, 2023. Our fall conference is CAPCJ in St. John's.

We meet every two years for an All Courts Education Seminar which encompasses all levels of Court in Nova Scotia. This is a unique opportunity for all judges within the province to come together in an environment where educational topics of mutual interest are addressed. Judges of all the Courts participate in the planning of the two-day conference with the assistance of NJI.

SUBMITTED BY DANIEL A. MACRURY
CAPCJ REPRESENTATIVE FOR NOVA SCOTIA