

News Release Communiqué



Ministry of the
Attorney General

Ministère du
Procureur général

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ATTORNEY GENERAL ANNOUNCES FOUR JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS

TORONTO — Attorney General Chris Bentley today announced the appointment of four judges to the Ontario Court of Justice, effective January 30, 2008.

“The broad range of legal experience each of these individuals brings to their new roles will allow them to make significant contributions to the Ontario Court of Justice,” said Bentley.

Mr. Justice Marc Bode was called to the Bar in 1980 and has practised criminal, family, labour and employment law. He has been Legal Aid Ontario’s area director for the district of Thunder Bay and served as president of the Legal Aid Ontario Area Directors Association. He was a member of the Thunder Bay Youth Justice Committee and a member of the Ontario Bar Association Council, where he focused on continuing legal education. Mr. Justice Bode also served as president of the Thunder Bay Law Association. Chief Justice Annemarie Bonkalo has assigned Mr. Justice Bode to preside in Thunder Bay.

Madam Justice Carole Curtis was called to the Bar in 1978. Since 1979, she has been the sole proprietor of the firm Carole Curtis, Barristers and Solicitors, working in all areas of family law. She has worked extensively in the area of child protection, including acting for children as a lawyer on the panel of the Office of the Children’s Lawyer. She appeared as an expert witness in family law matters at two inquests into domestic violence. Madam Justice Curtis was a member of the Family Law Rules Committee. She has been involved in conducting many legal education programs and has published articles on a number of different family law and child protection issues. As a bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada, Madam Justice Curtis has sat on, and chaired, many committees and task forces. Chief Justice Annemarie Bonkalo has assigned Madam Justice Curtis to preside in Toronto.

Mr. Justice Peter Caldwell West was called to the Bar in 1982 and has practised criminal law at a Toronto law firm for 25 years. He is the author of numerous articles on criminal law theory and practice, and has also served as a part-time Crown Attorney. Mr. Justice West taught part-time at Osgoode Hall Law School, and has been a frequent speaker at legal educational events. He has also been the Chair of the Board of Directors of Youth Unlimited, an organization providing support to high-risk and marginalized youth in the Greater Toronto Area. Chief Justice Annemarie Bonkalo has assigned Mr. Justice West to preside in Newmarket.

Madam Justice Jennifer Ruth Hoshizaki has practised family law, criminal law and civil litigation since her call to the Bar in 1993. She has represented the Family Responsibility Office and Kenora-Patricia Child and Family Services in family law matters. She has been a criminal defence lawyer and also served as a federal prosecutor. Madam Justice Hoshizaki was president of the District of Kenora Law Association. She has served as a member of the board of directors of the Dryden Regional Health Centre and the Hoshizaki House, a crisis centre for women and children. Chief Justice Annemarie Bonkalo has assigned Madam Justice Hoshizaki to preside in Kenora.

The McGuinty government has appointed 73 judges since being sworn in on October 23, 2003.

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