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## Four New Justices Of The Peace Appointed To Western Ontario

**NEWS**

October 2, 2009

The province has appointed four new justices of the peace to the Ontario Court of Justice in Western Ontario. In total, 13 justice of the peace appointments have been made across Ontario and will be effective on October 14, 2009.

**His Worship Abdul Ali Chahbar** has been president of Arada Financial Services since 1988. Prior to that, he worked as branch manager in mortgage investments for First City Trust. Justice of the Peace Chahbar served as a City Councillor in the City of London from 1997 to 2006 and served as chairperson and vice chairperson for the City of London's Community and Protective Services Committee and Planning Committee. His Worship was also a long-standing member of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Community and Social Services Task Force. He has been a member of the London Police Services Board since 2003, where he acted as vice chairperson and was elected chairperson from 2006 to 2009. He also served as director of both London's Children's Aid Society and Merrymount Children's Services. His Worship has been appointed as a full-time presiding justice of the peace. Associate Chief Justice-Coordinator of Justices of the Peace John A. Payne has assigned Justice of the Peace Chahbar to London.

**Her Worship Kristine Marie Diaz** has worked in the mental health field for the past 22 years. Most recently, Justice of the Peace Diaz served as director of the mood and anxiety program at St. Joseph's Health Care London. Her Worship was also an assistant professor in the department of psychiatry at Schulich School of Medicine. Prior to that, she was the director of the London Mental Health Crisis Service and worked as a coordinator in centralized emergency psychiatric service and urgent care as well as inpatient care at the London Health Science Centre. She has been an expert panel member for the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario and sat on the board of the London Intercommunity Health Centre from 2000 to 2006. She is a published mental health researcher and has been invited to present her findings at academic conferences in Canada, the United States and Europe. Her Worship has been appointed as a full-time presiding justice of the peace. Associate Chief Justice-Coordinator of Justices of the Peace John A. Payne has assigned Justice of the Peace Diaz to London.

**Her Worship Adriana Magoulas** has worked with Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis since 1995, first as a shelter administrative assistant, then as the Transitional and Housing Support Program manager. Justice of the Peace Magoulas is also a part-time Spanish translator and has worked with a number of federal and provincial ministries. Her Worship attended law school in Argentina and was a practicing attorney prior to immigrating to Canada in 1990. As an active member of her community, she has been on the board of directors and an executive committee member of the Guelph Community Health Centre. She sat on the board of directors for both Victim Services Wellington and Onward Willow Project, part of Ontario's Better Beginnings Better Futures initiative. She also volunteered at the Grand Valley Institution for Federally Sentenced Women. Her Worship has been appointed as a full-time presiding justice of the peace. Associate Chief Justice-Coordinator of Justices of the Peace John A. Payne has assigned Justice of the Peace Magoulas to Kitchener.

**His Worship Thomas Andrew Stinson** has worked as manager of prosecutions and solicitor for the Regional Municipality of Waterloo, heading Part I *Provincial Offences Act* prosecutions since 2005. Justice of the Peace Stinson has also been a practicing attorney since 1996 focusing on criminal, real-estate and estate law. He has also been a part-time faculty member at Conestoga College where he taught in the municipal law clerk program. Justice of the Peace Stinson has been a long-standing member of the Knox Presbyterian Church in Guelph and a member of the Guelph-Wellington Rotary Club since 1999. He is also very active in the local theatre community. His Worship has been appointed as a full-time presiding justice of the peace. Associate Chief Justice-Coordinator of Justices of the Peace John A. Payne has assigned Justice of the Peace Stinson to Kitchener.

Justices of the peace are judicial officers appointed pursuant to the *Justices of the Peace Act*. These appointees have been interviewed by the Justices of the Peace Appointments Advisory Committee, established through the *Access to Justice Act, 2006*.

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