

DONALD C. MURRAY, Q.C.

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Curriculum Vitae

Current Employment:

Lawyer and Adjudicator

Associated with SmithEvans Law Firm. Preferred area of practice is criminal justice defence services, professional discipline, human rights, and labour arbitration. Since January 2020.

Independent and Panel Decision-Making (overview)

Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission Board of Inquiry member, since 2003

Minister's List of Arbitrators, NS Trade Union Act, since 2012

Nova Scotia Barristers' Society Professional Responsibility Hearing Committee, since 2007

Ad hoc Panelist, Discipline hearing panel VolleyballNS. 2016

Ad hoc Safe Sport Adjudicator, Skate Canada as well as Skate Canada-Nova Scotia, with several hearings and decisions since December 2015

Indian Residential Schools Adjudication Secretariat, 2011 - 2016

Degrees:

LL.B., Dalhousie University; 1984

B.A.(Hons.), Mount Allison University; 1977

Member of the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society (since August 1985)

Appointed Queen's Counsel: June 2002

Adjudicative Experience

Claims Adjudicator in the Independent Assessment Process pursuant to the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement from August 2011 to July 2016.

Nova Scotia Barristers' Society Professional Responsibility/Discipline Panels and Committees, since 2007

Member of the Minister's List of Arbitrators, Nova Scotia *Trade Union Act* since 2012

Roster Member for Boards of Inquiry, Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission. Effective July 1, 2003 Decisions made in relation to direct and systemic racial discrimination, accommodation of physical disability, mental disability, age discrimination, discrimination based on family status, procedural issues, and the fashioning of appropriate remedies.

Ad hoc Safe Sport Adjudicator, Skate Canada as well as Skate Canada-Nova Scotia, with several hearings and decisions since December 2015

Ad hoc Panelist, Discipline hearing panel VolleyballNS. 2016

Public Inquiry Position

Chair, Legal Aid Review Team (N.S. Dept of Justice and Nova Scotia Legal Aid Commission). December 1995 to April 1996.

Evaluated legal aid program content and delivery methods against statutory and public service expectations; provided analysis and recommended budgetary and institutional cultural initiatives to achieve greater consistency between mandate and actual service delivery. At the time, Nova Scotia Legal Aid had an annual budget of approximately 12 million dollars.

Labour Relations Experience

Shop Steward and executive-role positions, United Steelworkers of America, Local 1051, while a mill employee at the Faro, Yukon lead-zinc mine (1977 - 1980). Labour Arbitration Course, United Steelworkers of America. 1979.

Amateur Sport Membership and Volunteer Service

Memberships

Skate Canada since 1999

Curling Canada since 2015

Lawn Bowls Canada since 2016

Volunteer Roles with Sport Organizations

Skate Canada

Skate Canada National Review Board, hearing safe sport complaints cases for the National as well as the Provincial organizations (since 2015)

Member at Large, Skate Canada Nova Scotia Board. May 2006 to 2011

Data Specialist, Level 1 (since 2010)

Volunteered at National Skate Canada events in Halifax, including Skate Canada (2004), Canadians (2007), and Eastern Regional Festival of Synchronized Skating (2009)

Curling Canada

Timer and Level 1 Official: Various local and provincial competitions since 2015

Synchro Canada

Ad hoc appeal administrator under Synchro Canada's Appeals Policy (2016 – 2017)

Football Canada

Level II Canadian Football official with the N.S.F.O.A. (2005 to 2011)

Bluenose Marathon 2004 (Course Marshall)

Communications Experience

Legal consultant and advisor regarding script content for the CBC television drama "Diggestown," Seasons I, II, III; with Season IV currently in progress

Halifax Chronicle-Herald columnist on public issues in relation to the functioning of criminal justice. Fall 1993 to December 1996. Special contributions 2014, 2015, 2020

Professional Employment:

Associated Counsel

With Sealy Cornish Coulthard Law Firm. Criminal justice defence services, professional discipline, human rights, Residential Schools Compensation adjudication, and justice reform consultation. November 2012 to December 2019.

Sole Legal Practitioner

Preferred area of practice of criminal justice defence services, professional discipline, human rights, and justice reform consultation. From October 2001 to October 2012. Appearances before the Supreme Court of Canada in R. v. James, sub nom R. v. Smith, 2009 SCC 5, and R. v. E.M.W., 2011 SCC 31

Partner, Pink•Murray and Pink•Murray•Graham

Preferred area of practice was criminal law defence work, with service in some professional discipline and public law matters. October 1992 to September 2001. Chair of the Legal Aid Review Team, 1996

Associate and Partner, Stewart McKelvey Stirling Scales (formerly Stewart MacKeen & Covert)

Legal services primarily in criminal and public law, as well as labour and employment law. Appearances before the Supreme Court of Canada in R. v. Skinner et al., [1990] 1 S.C.R. 1235 R. v. Mackenzie, [1993] 1 S.C.R. 212. Counsel to William Urquhart, Marshall Inquiry. Per diem prosecution work for the federal Department of Justice. 1984 to 1992

Student Lawyer, Dalhousie Legal Aid Service

Family and criminal law caseload. Summer, 1983.

Professional Society Adjudication and Assistance Positions:

Nova Scotia Barristers' Society

Member of Council (elected) 1995 to 1999

Member, Professional Responsibility Hearing Committee, since 2007;
Chair since June 2021

Member, Lawyers Assistance Program Committee 2000 to 2007

Member, Ethics and Professional Responsibility Committee 2005 to 2008

Member and former Chair, Administration of Justice Committee 1995 to 1999. Chair 1996 to 1998

Member, Discipline Committee 1996 to 1999

Member, Discipline Policies and Procedures Committee 1998 - 2001,
including service on the Discipline Task Force 2000 - 2001

Teaching Roles

Lecturer, Dalhousie Law School, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Professional Responsibility (Fall 2004, Fall 2005; occasional 2008 - 2011)
Evidence, with Professors Tom Cromwell and Bruce Archibald (1990)

Several continuing legal education presentations and published articles, including several with respect to vicarious trauma and stress management issues for professionals. Specific bibliography available on request.

Community Positions

Member at Large, Christ Church Dartmouth Parish Council. Since February 2019. Warden (3 year term) commencing February 2020

Chair, Official Board, St. John's United Church (Windsor and Willow), Halifax, N.S. 1997 to 2002

International Development Experience

Justice Reform Consultant for CIDA and the Canadian Bar Association in Bangladesh with particular emphasis on diversion and probation services for youth. Presented lectures at workshops applying institutional and technical experience from Canada within the resource capabilities of a developing country: June 2004.

Justice Reform Consultant for CIDA in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States with particular emphasis on program establishment of legal aid. 2000 – 2004.

Other Professional Contributions

Nova Scotia Barristers' Society

Member and former Chair, Legal Aid Committee 1992 to 1995. Chair 1994 to 1995

Member, Library Task Force/ Library Services Committee 2001 to 2004

Member, Courthouse Users Committee 2003 to 2008

Member, Supreme Court Liaison Committee (Criminal) 1997 to 2000

Member, Provincial Court Liaison Committee 1996 to 1997

Canadian Bar Association (member since 1983)

Chair, Civil Liberties Subsection (N.S. Branch) 1987

Chair, Sole Practitioners' Subsection (N.S. Branch) 2003 – 2004

Member, Annual Professional Development Conference (2018)