



**July 2, 2021**

## **Judicial Appointments to the Provincial Court of British Columbia**

It is my great pleasure and privilege to announce that the Lieutenant Governor in Council has signed Orders in Council appointing three new provincial court judges and two judicial justices to the Provincial Court.

The new judge appointments are Dannielle Dunn, Sheila Archer and Derek Mah.

**Judge Dunn** – will be sworn in on July 27, 2021. She will be assigned to the Fraser region with chambers in Abbotsford.

Judge Dunn has dedicated most of her career to being counsel in child protection proceedings where she dealt with issues of poverty, mental illness, and addictions in families. Judge Dunn worked as a poverty law lawyer at the Langley Legal Assistance Centre, then moved to child protection litigation at Somers Poulin Hall, LLP in 2000, where she eventually became counsel for the director of Child, Family and Community Service. Judge Dunn has engaged in community work with organizations like the Access Pro Bono Society and the Queens Park Neighbourhood Child Care Society.

**Judge Archer** – will be sworn in on July 27, 2021. She will be assigned to the Vancouver Island region with chambers in Nanaimo.

Following her call to the bar in 1991, Judge Archer spent five years as Crown counsel, appearing primarily in Provincial Court on criminal law matters. From 1997-2017, her criminal law experience was within a military context, where she served as a legal officer in the Canadian Armed Forces Office of the Judge Advocate General for 20 years. Following her military release, Judge Archer joined the B.C. Ministry of Attorney General Legal Services Branch Health and Social Services division, as counsel for the Medical Services Commission. She participated in mediations and appeared at hearings where alleged overbillings of the Medical Services Plan were determined. Judge Archer also served as counsel to the Special Investigations Unit at the Ministry of Health on policy matters. Having often been the first or only woman in a given role, she has been a leader in mentoring and supervising other women lawyers practicing in similar areas.

**Judge Mah** – will be sworn in on July 15, 2021. He will be assigned to the Vancouver region with chambers in Richmond.

After being called to the bar in 2004, Judge Mah worked in the ICBC defence and family law groups at Alexander Holburn, LLP. Over time, he developed his own practice particularly within family law, and focused on plaintiff's personal injury work. Judge Mah has appeared as lead counsel in trials at all levels of court in B.C. participating in all forms of hearings and attendances, and has volunteered as a moot judge for UBC law students. He has also been a volunteer coach in recreational and minor sports leagues such as the Vancouver Thunderbirds Minor Hockey Association and Vancouver United Football Club.

The new judicial justices appointed are Leslie-Anne Wall and Hugh McCall, effective on pronouncement.

**Judicial Justice Wall** will be sworn in on July 12, 2021 and assigned to the Justice Centre and traffic.

Judicial Justice Wall is an experienced litigator with more than 31 years' experience in criminal law. JJ Wall has extensive expertise in both criminal prosecution and defence litigation. As a supervising lawyer and adjunct professor with the Law Students Legal Advice Program at the Peter A. Allard School of Law (UBC) from 2011-2017, JJ Wall has mentored students through professional opportunities and experiences. She acted as defence counsel in the circuit courts in Bella Bella, Bella Coola, and Klemtu. Throughout her career, JJ Wall has been committed to volunteering with organizations like the Drug Treatment Court of Vancouver, The Launching Pad Recovery Society, and the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers. She continues her commitment to improving access to justice, and mentoring and supporting female lawyers in the profession.

**Judicial Justice McCall** will be sworn in on August 9, 2021 and assigned to the Justice Centre and traffic.

Judicial Justice McCall was called to the Bar in 1987, and has been involved in conflict management and resolution since 1989. He received his chartered arbitrator designation in 1994, and since then he has acted as a mediator and arbitrator in numerous areas including residential tenancy, municipal bylaw, and motor vehicle warranty. He has participated in several high-profile arbitrations including the Indian Residential Schools Adjudication Secretariat (2007-2019), the Torture Claims Appeal Board, Hong Kong (2017-present), and other tribunals. Additionally, he has taught administrative hearing practices for the BC Council of Administrative Tribunals, and mentored students in the Provincial Court civil mediation practicum.

On behalf of the Court I wish to congratulate our newest colleagues on their appointments and welcome them to the Provincial Court of British Columbia.

Melissa Gillespie  
Chief Judge  
Provincial Court of British Columbia