



January 24, 2022

CONDOLENCES - THE HONOURABLE JUDGE MARIS McMILLAN

The Provincial Court of British Columbia announces with deep sadness that the Honourable Judge Maris McMillan passed away on January 23, 2022, after battling a long illness. Judge McMillan will be remembered by the friends and admirers she amassed over a life of kindness and generosity of spirit as a bright, warm hearted, and spirited friend, mentor, and judge. She is described as an eternal optimist and a person who saw the best in others.

Born in Moncton, Judge McMillan grew up in Quebec and settled in Vancouver after obtaining her undergraduate degree at Concordia University. She graduated from the UBC Faculty of Law in 1985 and was admitted to the British Columbia Bar in 1986. Her distinguished professional career progressed over the next twenty years during which she acted primarily as plaintiff's counsel in complex civil cases including medical negligence, personal injury, and wrongful death claims. During her legal practice, she was a frequent speaker and educator for CLEBC and the Trial Lawyers' Association of B.C. [TLABC], as well a member of the TLABC executive. Appointed Queen's Counsel in December 2005, she was appointed a Provincial Court judge a year later on December 6, 2006 and assigned to the Vancouver/Coastal Region.

During her time on the Court, Judge McMillan was very active in the work and life of the court. She was a judge in Drug Treatment Court, a leader and mentor in the Allard Law School Externship Program, and in 2012 the President of the Provincial Court Judges Association and a member of the Judicial Council. She was also a friend and mentor to many in the legal profession, on the Court, and to her legal assistants. She encouraged former legal colleagues to apply to the Court, fondly stating that it was "the best job in the world".

The Provincial Court extends its deepest condolences to Judge McMillan's husband Roy Williams, her children and grandchildren

Melissa Gillespie
Chief Judge
Provincial Court of British Columbia