



March 12, 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 to the Provincial Court.

The new judge appointments are J Martin Nadon, Jodie Harris and Michelle Stanford Q.C.

Judge Nadon – will be sworn in on April 6, 2021. He will be assigned to the Northern Region with Chambers in Prince George.

Judge Nadon has practiced law for almost 30 years. He began his legal career at a firm in Nanaimo where he worked in all practice areas with an emphasis on family and civil litigation. Five years later, he opened his own practice in Kelowna, with a specialization in criminal law. Since 2001, he has been Crown counsel for the Ministry of Attorney General, having conducted a range of trials in Provincial and Supreme Court.

Judge Harris – will be sworn in on April 12, 2021. She will be assigned to the Fraser Region with Chambers in Abbotsford.

Judge Harris has dedicated 15 years to public service as a prosecutor in both the Provincial Court and Supreme Court of British Columbia. She started her career in corporate and commercial litigation as an articulated student and then associate at Blake Cassels and Graydon, LLP in Vancouver. Four years later, her focus changed to criminal litigation in her role as Crown counsel with the BC Prosecution Service. When not practicing law, she engaged in community outreach, educating law students and police agencies in various capacities.

Judge Stanford – will be sworn in on April 12, 2021. She will be assigned to the Northern Region with Chambers in Williams Lake.

After six years in acute care and as a head nurse, Judge Stanford shifted to a career in law, by attending law school and then articling at a law firm specializing in personal injury law. A brief court appearance at 222 Main Street in her articling year convinced her to become a criminal lawyer. She has been a lawyer for 27 years and developed a varied practice in Kamloops that included administrative and criminal law, and worked as a special prosecutor. Stanford was appointed as Queen's Counsel in 2018 and was the first Black and female Bencher in Kamloops and Yale County.

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