



**Council of Canadian Administrative Tribunals**  
**Conseil des tribunaux administratifs canadiens**

## **How to Write Concise Submissions and Decisions?** **September 24, 2024, 1-2:30 P.M. (EST)**

### **Biographies**

#### **The Honourable Justice Alan S. Diner, Federal Court of Canada**



Justice Diner received his LL.B. and LL.M. from Osgoode Hall Law School. He was called to the Bars of Ontario and New York, and was certified as a Specialist in Immigration Law by the Law Society of Ontario in 2013. Justice Diner headed the Canadian immigration practice at a large international law firm, and was recognized in peer-reviewed services such as Who's Who, Lexpert, and Martindale Hubbell. He practiced in other areas of administrative law with two other leading firms in Toronto.

Prior roles included managing the establishment of Ontario's Provincial Nominee Program, and other public sector work. He served as a law clerk to Justice James K. Hugessen at the Federal Court of Appeal.

Before being appointed to the Federal Court on June 13, 2014, he was also active in community service including sitting on boards, and assisting with pro- bono initiatives, and was recognized for these activities through a Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, awards from industry associations and other organizations. He continues to be involved with members of the community through his Liaison Committee work at the Federal Court, particularly in the areas of immigration and technology.

## The Honourable Sébastien Grammond, Federal Court of Appeal



Justice Sébastien Grammond was appointed to the Federal Court on November 9, 2017. Prior to his appointment, he had been professor and dean of the Civil Law Section of the University of Ottawa. His research dealt with the legal recognition of Indigenous identity, Indigenous legal systems and contractual justice. He is the author or co-author of six books and numerous articles about Aboriginal law, constitutional law and contracts, including *Identity Captured by Law: Membership in Canada's Indigenous Peoples and Linguistic Minorities* (2009), *Terms*

of Coexistence: Indigenous Peoples and Canadian Law) (2013 and Quebec Contract Law (2nd ed., 2016).

After studies in engineering, he obtained an LL.B. and an LL.M. from the Université de Montréal, as well as a doctorate in law from the University of Oxford. He clerked for Chief Justice Antonio Lamer of the Supreme Court of Canada. He then practiced law with Byers Casgrain (now Dentons Canada) in Montreal and continued to practice in parallel to his academic career. He was a member of the Quebec and Ontario bars. He argued several major constitutional law and civil law cases before the Supreme Court of Canada and many other cases before trial and appellate courts.

His pro bono advocacy led to a historic judgment of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal, with respect to the discriminatory underfunding of child welfare services in First Nations communities, as well as legislative reforms regarding child welfare, customary adoption and the rights of victims of sexual assault.

He received the Quebec Bar Merit Award, the Mundell Medal for excellence in legal writing, the Ontario Bar Association President's Award and the Rights and Freedoms Award of the Quebec Human Rights Commission. He is a member of the Royal Society of Canada.

## Dr. Barbara Morris (Ph.D. in English)



Barbara Morris (Ph. D., U of Toronto), legal writing instructor and consultant, was formerly Program Coordinator and Professor of English Literature and Composition at Humber College in Toronto.

Her current work in effective legal writing includes CIAJ's Decision Writing Seminar for Judges held annually in Montreal and CIAJ's Customized Training in Decision Writing for Tribunals, including The Refugee Appeal Division, The Immigration Appeal Division, The Human Rights Commission, The Social Security Tribunal of Canada, The College of Physicians and Surgeons, The Veterans Review and Appeal Board, The Ontario Energy Board, Canada Elections, and the newly-formed Akwesasne and Kahnawake Tribunals.

She is a presenter and instructor for Osgoode's annual Written Advocacy course in Toronto, for The School for Public Prosecutors' annual course in Ottawa, for SOAR/OPD's Advanced Decision Writing Seminar in Toronto, and for SOAR's "Writing Crisply" course. In addition, she has conducted writing courses and given lectures for The Federal Court of Appeal, The BC Provincial Court Judges, The Advocates' Society, The Parole Board of Canada, The Ontario Workplace Safety and Insurance Tribunal, The Ontario Masters, The Immigration and Refugee Protection Board, The Privacy Commission, The Bermuda Human Rights Commission, and many other legal firms and government organizations.

### **Emily Crocco, Chair, Canada Agricultural Review Tribunal**



Emily Crocco is full-time Chairperson at the Canada Agricultural Review Tribunal. She has extensive experience in administrative law, having been legal counsel at the Security Intelligence Review Committee and RCMP Public Complaints Commission, and an adjudicator for Ontario's Landlord and Tenant Board and Criminal Injuries Compensation Board.

Emily recently authored an article on decision-writing called "[Banish Your Backlog: Concise Decision-Writing as a Teachable Skill That Improves Timely Justice](#)", published by the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice (CIAJ), about which the CIAJ also released four episodes of its podcast, "[In All Fairness](#)".

Emily has an LL.B. from McGill University and a B.A. in Politics and History from Brock University.