



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 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 Donald J. Rennie, Federal Court of Appeal

Prior to being appointed a Judge of the Federal Court in September 2010, Mr. Justice Rennie was Assistant Deputy Attorney General with the Department of Justice Canada in Ottawa.

Mr. Justice Rennie received a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) from the University of Guelph in 1975 and a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) from Dalhousie University in 1978.

Mr. Justice Rennie was Assistant Deputy Attorney General (Litigation) with the Department of Justice (2006-2010). He was Chair of the Department's National Litigation Committee and co-chair of the Supreme Court of Canada Committee. He was a law clerk at the Ontario Court of Appeal (1980-1981) and to the Supreme Court of the Yukon Territory (1978).

Over the course of his 29 years of practice he appeared as counsel for the Attorney General of Canada in many complex cases involving the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, administrative, tort and constitutional law. He was counsel to Canada at the Commission of Inquiry on the Blood System in Canada (Krever Inquiry), in arbitrations under the NAFTA and for the Minister of Justice in matters arising under the *Judges Act*. He has appeared at all levels of court in most provinces and in over twenty appeals before the Supreme Court of Canada.

He has been co-author of the *Federal Court Practice* since 1988 and also co-author of *The 1995 Annotated Crown Liability and Proceedings Act*. He was a frequent panelist at legal conferences and is the author of numerous legal articles, most recently “The Extra-territorial Application of the *Charter of Rights*” in the 2009 Supreme Court Law Review.

Justice Rennie was appointed judicial member of the Competition Tribunal on May 3, 2012, and Chairman on June 10, 2012.

Justice Rennie was appointed to the Federal Court of Appeal on February 26, 2015.

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 Crispily” 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, Canadian 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.