



Council of Canadian Administrative Tribunals
Conseil des tribunaux administratifs canadiens

PRESENTER BIOS

Justice Heather MacNaughton earned her LLB and LLM from Osgoode Hall Law School at York University. She was called to the Ontario Bar in 1984 and to the British Columbia Bar in 2010.

Justice MacNaughton practiced at Lang Michener in Toronto from 1984-1995 when she left to join the Administrative Justice sector. She was Chair and Vice-Chair of Ontario Human Rights Tribunal and Chair and Vice-Chair of Ontario Pay Equity Hearings Tribunal from 1995-2000.

She left Ontario to take up an appointment as the Chair of British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal, a position she held from 2000-2010.

Justice MacNaughton was appointed as an Associate Judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in 2011, and a Justice in 2016. In 2024, she was appointed to the BC Court of Appeal.

Justice MacNaughton was recognized for her work in the Administrative Justice Sector as a recipient of the Society of Adjudicators and Regulators Medal in 2000, A BC Council of Administrative Tribunals Recognition Award in 2009 and a Canadian Council of Administrative Tribunals Medal in 2017. She served on the Boards of Directors of all three organizations and on the Board of the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice.

She has been committed to education throughout her career and currently served on the Canadian Judicial Council's Education Committee.

Michelle Alton, Ministry of the Attorney General

Michelle Alton is a Deputy Director in the Court Services Division of the Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG). Between October 2023 to June 2024, Michelle completed a secondment with the Office of the Chief Justice at the Ontario Court of Justice.

Michelle began her legal career in private practice at the labour and employment firm, Hicks Morley, and then served for several years as General Counsel at the Workplace Safety and Insurance Appeals Tribunal. Michelle first joined MAG in September 2022 as an Assistant Crown Attorney.

Michelle has appeared before numerous Ontario administrative tribunals and courts, as well as the Supreme Court of Canada. Michelle is a frequent speaker at conferences and has volunteered with several organizations, including the Advocates' Society and the Society for Ontario Adjudicators and Regulators (SOAR). Michelle has published several articles about access to justice and implicit bias in different publications, including the *Canadian Journal of Administrative Law and Practice*. Michelle is also an adjunct faculty member at Western's Law School, teaching about access to justice. In 2022, Michelle was one of the two recipients of the SOAR Medal.