Federal Court



Cour fédérale

NOTICE TO THE PARTIES AND THE PROFESSION Pilot Project: Chambers of the Court March 2, 2023

After consultation with members of the Bar practicing in the areas of intellectual property (IP), competition, maritime and admiralty, and class proceedings, the Court announced in June of last year that it would launch a pilot project involving the creation of three specialized Chambers of the Court.

For some years, the Chief Justice has endeavoured to assign IP, competition, and maritime and admiralty matters to members of the Court who have expertise in those areas. As the number of class proceedings filed in the Court has also increased in recent years, those matters have been assigned to a limited number of judges, with the aim of developing expertise within the Court. The current Notice is intended to increase transparency and provide greater certainty regarding the manner in which matters in these areas are ordinarily assigned.

Initial Chambers Listing

For the pilot project, Chambers are established in the following three practice groups:

- Intellectual Property and Competition Chambers
- Maritime and Admiralty Chambers
- Class Actions Chambers

Members of each Chamber are listed in the Annex to this Notice.

Additional practice Chambers may be established after considering the experience with this pilot project and following consultation with the Bar.

Assignment of Judges to Individual Cases

The Chambers will be used for assignment of judges to:

- motions to be heard on a special sitting
- case management of class actions
- hearings on the merits

The Registry categorizes and codes all proceedings. This and other case information is considered by the Judicial Administrator when assigning judges to a case. It is therefore not necessary for parties to make a formal request for a matter to be assigned to a judge from the relevant Chamber.

For assignments to the Intellectual Property and Competition Chambers, the Judicial Administrator will also consider sub-specialties related to practice areas particular to IP (e.g., copyright, trade-marks, patents and competition).

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Associate Judges

The Chief Justice will continue the longstanding practice of assigning an associate judge to case manage, or co-case manage, proceedings in the IP, maritime and admiralty and class proceedings areas.

Paul S. Crampton
Chief Justice

ANNEX – CHAMBERS OF THE COURT

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY and	MARITIME and	<u>CLASS</u>
<u>COMPETITION</u>	ADMIRALTY	PROCEEDINGS
 Chief Justice Crampton 	 Justice Heneghan 	 Chief Justice Crampton
 Associate Chief Justice 	 Justice Strickland 	 Associate Chief Justice
Gagné	 Justice Southcott 	Gagné
 Justice O'Reilly 	 Justice Pamel 	 Justice Zinn
 Justice Zinn 	 Justice Rochester 	 Justice Kane
 Justice Manson 		 Justice Manson
 Justice Roy 		 Justice Strickland
 Justice McVeigh 		 Justice McVeigh
 Justice St-Louis 		 Justice St-Louis
Justice Brown		 Justice Fothergill
 Justice Fothergill 		 Justice Gascon
 Justice Gascon 		 Justice Southcott
Justice Southcott		 Justice McDonald
 Justice McDonald 		 Justice Grammond
 Justice Lafrenière 		 Justice Favel
 Justice Pentney 		 Justice Pamel
 Justice Grammond 		 Justice Little
Justice Walker		 Justice Aylen
 Justice McHaffie 		
Justice Fuhrer		
Justice Pallotta		
Justice Little		
 Justice Furlanetto 		
Justice Aylen		
Justice Tsimberis		