

**OTTAWA, June 19, 2009** – The Honourable Rob Nicholson, P.C., Q.C., M.P. for Niagara Falls, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, announced the following appointments:

**The Honourable Robert Mainville**, a partner with Gowling Lafleur Henderson in Montreal, Quebec, is appointed a Judge of the Federal Court.

Mr. Justice Mainville received a LL.L from the University of Montreal in 1975 and a Masters of Law Degree from McGill University in 2000 and was admitted to the Quebec Bar in 1976. Mr. Justice Mainville was a partner at O'Reilly, Mainville from 1989 to 1992, at Mainville and Associates from 1992 to 2002, and at Gowling, Lafleur, Henderson from 2002 to 2009. Mr. Justice Mainville has developed an expertise in Aboriginal Law, Industrial Relations, Commercial Law, Civil Law, Constitutional Law and Administrative Law.

**The Honourable David G. Near**, a senior counsel for the Department of Justice, Legal Services at Environment Canada, is appointed a Judge of the Federal Court.

Mr. Justice Near received a Bachelor of Arts from Mount Allison University in 1976, a Master of Arts in Canadian Constitutional History from Queen's University in 1978 and a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Windsor in 1981. He was called to the Ontario Bar in 1983. Mr. Justice Near was Associate Counsel for Crawford, Farr, Lewis, Worling and Booth in Orillia from 1983 to 1986 and then a sole practitioner in Barrie and Orillia from 1985 to 1986. Mr. Justice Near was then counsel for the Department of Justice, Legal Services at Environment Canada from 1990 to 2002 and senior counsel from 2002 to 2007. Mr. Justice Near was seconded as judicial affairs advisor to the Office of the Minister of Justice from September 2007 to January 2009 and then senior counsel for the Department of Justice, Legal services at Environment Canada.

**The Honourable Richard Boivin**, associate senior general counsel for the Department of Justice, Legal Services Unit, Administration Section, is appointed a Judge of the Federal Court.

Mr. Justice Boivin received a LL.L. from the University of Ottawa in 1988, a Masters of Law Degree from the University of London, King's College, in 1991 and a Masters of Law Degree from the University of Ottawa in 1995. He was called to the Quebec Bar in 1989. Mr. Justice Boivin was a clerk to the Honourable Robert Décary at the Federal Court of Appeal in 1990, counsel for the Department of Justice from 1993 to 1997, senior lawyer at Ernest & Young Paris from 2001 to 2004 and general counsel for the Department of Justice from 2004 to 2009. Mr. Justice Boivin has developed an expertise in Criminal Law, Constitutional Law and Arbitration.

These appointments are effective immediately.

[http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/news-nouv/ja-nj/2009/doc\\_32391.html](http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/news-nouv/ja-nj/2009/doc_32391.html)

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