

Faculty Biographies

The Honourable Justice Todd L. Archibald, *Superior Court of Justice*

Justice Archibald was called to the Ontario Bar in 1979 following a Clerkship at the Ontario Supreme Court. He practiced as a Crown Attorney and at a large Toronto-based firm until his appointment to the Bench in 1999. Justice Archibald is a strong supporter of The Advocates' Society and is actively engaged in a wide range of educational programs for young advocates. He recently received a teaching award at Osgoode Hall in recognition of his outstanding contribution to legal education. Justice Archibald is also very active in writing and editing a number of legal publications on a variety of topics. This is his fifth consecutive year participating in the Courthouse program, and we keep inviting him back because he consistently receives rave reviews from program participants.

The Honourable Justice Carolyn J. Horkins, *Superior Court of Justice*

Madam Justice Horkins was appointed a judge of the Ontario Superior Court in 2004. In 1977, she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Queen's University. In 1980 she graduated from the University of Windsor law school and was admitted to the Bar of Ontario in 1982. Before her appointment, Madam Justice Horkins was a partner in the law firm of Gowlings, where she was a member of the Advocacy group and an elected member of the firm's national executive committee. Her litigation practice focused on class actions, product liability, professional liability and municipal disputes. As a judge, she hears family, criminal and civil disputes. Madam Justice Horkins is a past director of the Advocates' Society. As well, she has lectured at the Ontario Bar Admission Course, the faculty of law at the University of Toronto and the L.L.M. program at York University. She is the author of numerous legal articles

The Honourable Justice Frank N. Marrocco, *Superior Court of Justice*

Justice Marrocco is a graduate of the University of Toronto Law School. He was appointed to the Superior Court of Justice on November 1, 2005. Prior to his appointment he was a partner in the firm of Gowling Lafleur Henderson. From 2003 to 2005 he was the Treasurer of The Law Society of Upper Canada.

The Honourable Justice Kevin W. Whitaker, *Superior Court of Justice*

Justice Kevin Whitaker was appointed to the Superior Court of Ontario in May of 2010. Justice Whitaker was appointed as Vice Chair of the Ontario Labour Relations Board (OLRB) in May 1995 and then served as Chair from September 2001 until his appointment to the Court. Justice Whitaker was appointed as Chair of the College Relations Commission and Education Relations Commission in June 2005. Justice Whitaker served as a Vice-Chair of the Ontario Crown Employees Grievance Settlement Board and from 1995 to 2010 has acted as a Labour Arbitrator and Mediator in all sectors. Prior to his judicial appointment Justice Whitaker acted as Special Advisor to the Minister of Government Services as the Facilitator of the Municipal and Land Planning Tribunal Cluster and as Special Advisor to the Minister of Training Colleges and Universities for a review of collective bargaining in the Colleges' sector and for the establishment of the Ontario College of Trades. He also acted as Reconsideration Trustee for the Ontario Human Rights Commission. Prior to his appointment to the OLRB, Justice Whitaker practised law with a large national law firm and then was a founding and managing partner with a Toronto law firm that specialized in labour relations and employment. He also served as Senior Counsel to the Workers' Compensation Appeals Tribunal. Justice Whitaker is a past Executive Member of the Ontario Labour Management Arbitrators' Association. He is a Director of the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice and a past Director of the Council of Canadian Administrative Tribunals (CCAT) where he chaired the Government and Judicial Relations Committee of CCAT. Called to the Bar of Ontario in 1986, Justice Whitaker has a Law degree from Osgoode Hall Law School and an Honours Degree in Physical and Health Education from Queens' University. Justice Whitaker was a 2010 recipient of the SOAR Medal. He is a member of the Ontario Chief Justice's Advisory Committee.

Master Linda S. Abrams, *Superior Court of Justice*

Master Abrams is a graduate of the University of Toronto and Sorbonne (BA, LLB) and of Osgoode Hall Law School (LLM in ADR). Her dispute resolution studies include certificate courses in arbitration and mediation at the University of Toronto and courses in conflict management at Pepperdine University School of Law. Until her appointment to the bench in 1999, Master Abrams worked as a civil litigator – first with the law firm of Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP and later with Torys (as they are now known). Concurrent with her practice, Master Abrams served as an adjudicator at the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (1994-1998) and at the Health Professions Appeal and Review Board (1998). From 1997-1998, she served as Vice Chair of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board and as a reviewer

Faculty Biographies

of research protocols for the Human Subjects Review Committee of the University of Toronto. Master Abrams has taught and coached a number of courses and workshops on negotiation and dispute resolution, including the "Lawyer as Negotiator" course at Osgoode Hall Law School. She is a co-author of *Canadian Civil Procedure Law*, 2nd ed., and *The Practitioner's Evidence Law Sourcebook* (LexisNexis).

Master Ronna M. Brott, *Superior Court of Justice*

Master Brott completed her B.C.L. and LL.B. degrees at McGill University in 1983, was called to the Bar in 1985 and practiced at Benson Percival from 1983 – 1996. The firm specialized in personal injury and insurance litigation. In 1996, she became a certified commercial mediator with the Canadian Dispute Resolution Corporation and conducted mediations for CDRC and the Education Relations Commission until 2001. In 1997, she left private practice to join the litigation department at Zurich Insurance Company, managing the department and continuing her insurance litigation practice. Master Brott taught the Civil Litigation and Negotiation courses at the Bar Admission course of the Law Society of Upper Canada since 1994 and also served as a guest lecturer in Civil Procedure at a few law schools. She was appointed as a Case Management Master in March 2001 and served as President of the Masters' Association of Ontario from 2006 - 2008.

Master Thomas R. Hawkins, *Superior Court of Justice*

Born Ottawa, Ontario. Graduated from Glebe Collegiate Institute, Ottawa (1960), Queen's University at Kingston (B.A. History and Political Science 1963), University of Toronto (LL.B. 1966, reissued as J.D. 2001). Called to Ontario Bar 1968. Appointed Case Management Master 2001. For most his years in private practice from 1968 to 2001, Master Hawkins practiced with Smith Lyons (now merged with Gowlings) in civil litigation with emphasis on commercial disputes, legal and accounting malpractice, employment law, unfair trade practices, commercial general liability and manuscript property insurance policy disputes and product liability litigation. He appeared as counsel in trials and appeals in all levels of courts in Ontario including the Court of Appeal for Ontario and the Supreme Court of Canada. He is counsel in 48 reported decisions. He has also appeared before the Ontario Municipal Board and as counsel in arbitrations and mediations. Since his appointment as a Case Management Master, Master Hawkins has presided in motions court, at pre-trials, settlement conferences and case conferences. Master Hawkins is married to Nancy L. Candow Hawkins. They have three children and three grandchildren. From 1992 until his appointment as a case management Master, he served as a volunteer director and then board chair and president of St Paul's L'Amoreaux Seniors' Centre in Scarborough.

Caroline E. Abela, *WeirFoulds LLP*

Caroline is a partner whose litigation practice is focused on corporate and commercial litigation and estates and trusts litigation. Caroline has been successful in obtaining anti-suit injunctions and an injunction which restrained a foreign plaintiff from interfering in foreign proceedings. She has appeared as counsel before all levels of courts in Ontario, including the Court of Appeal and the Divisional Court, as well as the Federal Court of Canada. Caroline is also a previous adjunct professor at the University of Western Ontario. Caroline is a contributing author to a looseleaf book regarding electronic documents and e-discovery.

Robert Centa, *Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP*

In 1999, Mr. Centa graduated as gold medallist from the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto. The Faculty also awarded him the Dean Cecil A. Wright Key presented to the graduating student who exhibited the greatest interest in extracurricular work of an academic nature. Prior to his call to the Ontario Bar in 2001, Mr. Centa clerked for the Justices of the Court of Appeal for Ontario. Since 2001, Mr. Centa has been a partner at Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein LLP. Mr. Centa acts in all areas of advocacy, with an emphasis on public law and business litigation. He has acted for clients in partnership and shareholder rights disputes, major insolvencies, and commercial arbitrations. Mr. Centa frequently assists family law lawyers with civil or business litigation advice. In 2007, Mr. Centa was appointed Assistant Commission Counsel to the Goudge Inquiry into Pediatric Forensic Pathology in Ontario. He is Assistant Discipline Counsel for the University of Toronto, and acted for the City of Toronto at the Toronto Computer Leasing Inquiry. He appeared on behalf of Human Rights Watch and the International Human Rights Law Clinic (University of Toronto) before the Supreme Court of Canada. Mr. Centa remains actively involved with the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. He is a past Council Member of the Law Alumni Association and has acted as a group leader in the Trial Advocacy course since 1999. In 2008 the University of Toronto awarded Mr. Centa the Arbor

Faculty Biographies

Award for outstanding voluntary service to the University of Toronto. Mr. Centa has appeared as a speaker at a number of conferences and authored many articles and conference papers.

Daniel Schwartz, *Lax O'Sullivan Scott Lisus LLP*

Daniel has broad-based complex commercial and civil litigation practice that includes experience dealing with complex technology and engineering disputes, software licensing disputes, partnership disputes, shareholder disputes, administrative law matters, banking disputes, commercial fraud proceedings and employment litigation. Prior to becoming a lawyer, Daniel had significant work experience in the IT and healthcare industries. Daniel's experience and his technology skills make him well placed to advise his clients on all matters related to science and technology. Daniel has appeared in the Superior Court of Justice, the Divisional Court, the Ontario Court of Appeal, the Federal Court of Canada and before several public and private tribunals.