

## Conference Biographies

### Speakers and Panelists

#### **David Balderston**

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David Balderston has been involved with community legal clinics since he spent a term in the Intensive Poverty Law Program at Parkdale Community Legal Services in 1985, while a student at Osgoode Hall Law School.

Called to the Bar in 1988, David made a brief detour into private practice, during which he was also a member of the Board of Directors of Neighbourhood Legal Services in Toronto. He became Staff Lawyer and, shortly thereafter, Director of Legal Services at Algoma Community Legal Clinic in Sault Ste. Marie in 1989. In that position David facilitated the creation of the Elliott Lake and Northshore Community Legal Clinic.

In 2001 David accepted a contract position from Legal Aid Ontario to conduct a needs assessment and establish a legal clinic in Grey and Bruce Counties as part of the initiative to make legal clinic services available to low-income persons in all parts of the province. He was subsequently hired as Executive Director by the Board of that clinic, which opened its doors in August 2002.

David was a member of the steering committee which established the Association of Community Legal Clinics of Ontario, and has also served on various regional and provincial inter-clinic committees over the years. From 2004 to 2008 David made 8 trips to China as the Legal Aid Expert for an international development project to improve legal aid services in that country.

David is currently the Executive Director of the Grey-Bruce Community Legal Clinic.

#### **Karen Cohl**

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Karen Cohl co-chaired (with George Thomson) the Linguistic and Rural Access to Justice Project for The Law Foundation of Ontario. She works as a private consultant helping governments and non-profit organizations develop and implement public policy in a range of justice and social policy areas. Karen began her career as legal counsel for the Ontario government and held policy and senior management positions at the Ministry of the Attorney General and the Ministry of Citizenship, including eight years as assistant deputy minister.

#### **Avvy Go**

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Avvy has worked exclusively in the legal clinic system, serving the needs of low income individuals, non-English speaking immigrants and refugees.

Avvy co-founded both: the STATUS Campaign aimed at regularization of status for non-status immigrants; and, the Colour of Poverty Campaign, to address the increasing racialization of poverty in Ontario.

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Avvy has served as Vice-Chair of the Court Challenges Program of Canada, President of the Chinese Canadian National Council (Toronto Chapter), board member of the Urban Alliance on Race Relations, member of the Access to Justice Committee and the Equity and Aboriginal Issues Committee.

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**Shin Imai**

Shin Imai is currently the Academic Director at Parkdale Community Legal Services. As a student, he represented Latin American refugees at the Centre for Spanish Speaking People and the Bloor Bathurst Information Centre. His first job in 1980, was as staff lawyer at Keewaytinok Community Legal Services in Moosonee, Ontario. He has had his own private practice and worked as the Aboriginal Issues Co-ordinator at the provincial Ministry of the Attorney General. In 1998, he was appointed to the faculty at Osgoode Hall Law School and directed the Intensive Program in Aboriginal Lands, Resources and Governments as well as being co-director of the Red latinoamericana para educación e investigación en derechos humanos. He is the author of the Aboriginal Law Handbook and the annual editions of the Annotated Indian Act and Aboriginal Constitutional Provisions.

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**Kathy Laird**

Kathy Laird is the Executive Director of Ontario's new Human Rights Legal Support Centre.

Kathy has been a lawyer at several Ontario community legal clinics: in Toronto, at Neighbourhood Legal Services and Metro Tenants Legal Services. In the 1980s, Kathy was part of a team that established Keewaytinok Native Legal Services, serving the James Bay First Nation communities of Moosonee, Moose Factory, Kashechewan, Fort Albany, Winisk and Attapatiskat. From 2001 to 2006, she was the Legal Director of the Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario.

Kathy served for a number of years as a Vice Chair at the previous Human Rights Board of Inquiry and at the Pay Equity Hearings Tribunal.

In 2007/08, and from 1990 to 1994, Kathy was Counsel to the Chair of Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario (formerly the Board of Inquiry). Kathy is a recipient of the medal of the Society of Ontario Adjudicators and Regulators for outstanding contribution to Ontario's administrative justice system.

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**The Honourable Frances Lankin, PC**

The Hon. Frances Lankin, PC, has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of United Way Toronto since 2001, guiding the organization through its strategic transformation to a leading community builder in the city.

Frances has spent a lifetime in service to the community and is a recognized leader in the non-profit sector. In 2006, she chaired a federal government commissioned Blue Ribbon Panel, which made recommendations for improving how Ottawa distributes grants and contributions to charities and other organizations. She has served on the Boards of several not-for-profit and charitable organizations including Equal Voice, The Canadian Club, The Canadian Foundation for Economic Education (CFEE), Altruvest Charitable Services and the Board of Governors of

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Seneca College. In 2002 and 2003, she co-chaired the Toronto City Summit. She serves on the Toronto City Summit Alliance Steering Committee, the University of Toronto's School of Public Policy Advisory Committee, and is an honorary board member of the Greater Toronto Marketing Alliance.

Frances has been widely recognized for her community work. In 2003, Frances was awarded the Queen's Jubilee Medal. In 2004, she was presented with United Way of Canada's Award of Excellence for her community building work in Toronto. In 2007, she was named the Canadian Public Relations Society (CPRS) CEO of the Year for Excellence in Public Relations and received the Toronto Star Laurel Award for Losing Ground, United Way's report on family poverty in Toronto. In 2008, she was named one of More Magazine's Top 40 over 40 in the Fighting-for-equality category. That same year, she received the Equal Voice EVE Award for her achievements in political life and her efforts to advance the cause of electing more women in Canada as well as the Consumers' Choice Woman of the Year Award. Most recently, Frances was honoured with the Italian Chamber of Commerce of Toronto's Community Builder Award.

Frances served as an MPP for 11 years until she joined United Way in 2001. In 1990, Frances was elected MPP for the Toronto riding of Beaches-East York and served in the Rae government as Minister of Government Services and Chair of the Management Board. She was Minister of Health from 1991 to 1993 and was appointed Minister of Economic Development and Trade, a position she held until 1995.

In 2009, Frances was sworn in to the Queen's Privy Council of Canada and appointed by the Prime Minister as a member of the Security Intelligence Review Committee, which provides an external review of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service.

### **Justice Sidney B. Linden**

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Justice Sidney B. Linden graduated from the University of Toronto Law School and was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1966. He was in private practice until 1980.

From 1980-1985, he was the first Police Complaints Commissioner for Metropolitan Toronto and Chairman of the Police Complaints Board. In 1985-1987, he was Executive director of the Canadian Auto Workers (C.A.W.) Prepaid Legal Services Plan, the first privately funded national prepaid legal service plan in Canada. In 1987, he was appointed as Ontario's first Information and Privacy Commissioner, and was responsible for starting up the Agency and serving as Commissioner until April 1990.

In April 1990, he was appointed Chief Justice of the newly reorganized Ontario Court of Justice (Provincial Division). In addition to presiding in court, he was responsible for the direction and supervision of the sittings of the court and the assignment of its judicial duties. He also served as Chair of the Justices of the Peace Review Council, Co-chair of the Ontario Judicial Council and was a member of the Board of Directors of the National Judicial Institute (1995-1999).

In 1997, Justice Linden was awarded the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice "Justice Award." The award is presented every second year as a mark of distinction and exceptional achievement to a person who, in the opinion of the panel of independent judges, has shown distinctive leadership in the administration of justice in Canada.

Since 1999, and until his appointment as Commissioner of the Ipperwash inquiry, Justice Linden served as Chair of the Board of Legal Aid Ontario while on leave from the Ontario Court. The

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Ipperwash Inquiry was established by the Government of Ontario on November 12, 2003, under the Public Inquiries Act. Its mandate was to inquire and report on events surrounding the death of Dudley George, who was shot in 1995 during a protest by First Nations representatives at Ipperwash Provincial Park and later died. The Inquiry was also asked to make recommendations that would avoid violence in similar circumstances in the future. The Commission delivered its final report containing its findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Attorney General of Ontario and the Report was made public on May 31, 2007.

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**The Honourable R. Roy McMurtry, OC, O.Ont., QC**

The Honourable R. Roy McMurtry, O.Ont, QC, is a member of Gowlings' advocacy department where he serves as counsel to the Firm. The former Chief Justice of Ontario, High Commissioner to Great Britain and Attorney General for Ontario provides strategic counsel to Gowlings' clients in both the public and private sectors. Mr. McMurtry, who works out of the Firm's Toronto office, also provides a full range of dispute resolution and mediation services and will continue his long standing tradition of public and community service.

Prior to joining Gowlings, Mr. McMurtry practised law as a trial counsel for 17 years before being elected to the Ontario Legislature in 1975. Upon election, he was appointed to the Cabinet of Premier William G. Davis as the Attorney General for Ontario, a position he held until 1985. As Attorney General, he oversaw an unparalleled era of law reform in Ontario including bilingualism in the courts, multiculturalism and family law reform. He was deeply involved in the patriation of the Canadian Constitution and the creation of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. During that period he also served for four years as the Solicitor General for Ontario.

In 1985, Mr. McMurtry was appointed Canada's High Commissioner (Ambassador) to Great Britain, a post which he held until late 1988. In 1991 he was appointed Associate Chief Justice of the Superior Court and then Chief Justice of that Court in 1994. In February 1996 he was appointed Chief Justice of Ontario, a capacity in which he served for over 11 years until May 30, 2007.

More recently, Mr. McMurtry was appointed Chancellor of York University. On July 1<sup>st</sup> 2009 Mr. McMurtry was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada.

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**Professor Mary Jane Mossman**

Professor Mary Jane Mossman has taught at Osgoode Hall Law School since 1977, after several years as a member of the Faculty of Law at the University of New South Wales, and has served as Associate Dean, Assistant Dean, Chair of Faculty Council, and now Director of the Institute for Feminist Legal Studies. Her research interests include women and the law/legal professions; family law, social assistance, and economic dependency; property law, including trusts and pensions; access to justice and legal aid. She has been awarded an honorary doctorate of the Law Society of Upper Canada, the Medal of the Law Society of Upper Canada, the Award of Excellence of the Canadian Association of Law Teachers, a Canadian Bar Association (Ontario) Distinguished Service Award, and the annual award of the Advocacy Resource Centre for the Handicapped. In 1995, she held the Gordon F. Henderson Chair in Human Rights at the University of Ottawa, and was awarded the Walter L. Gordon Fellowship at York University in

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2004. In 2007, she received the Bora Laskin Fellowship in Human Rights as well as the Ontario Government's Leadership in Faculty Teaching award, and she was also appointed University Professor at York. She has also been a Visiting Professor at a number of other law schools. Professor Mossman has been involved, both in her legal scholarship and her community activities, in a variety of issues relating to legal aid and access to justice. She was the first Clinic Funding Manager of the Ontario Legal Aid Plan, with responsibility for community legal clinics from 1979 to 1982, and currently serves as Chair of the Administrative Committee of the CAW Legal Services Plan. She is the author of numerous scholarly articles, as well as reports for government and other organizations. In 2004, she published *Families and the Law in Canada: Cases and Commentary* (Toronto: Emond-Montgomery, 2004); and co-authored a second edition of *Property Law: Cases and Commentary* (Toronto: Emond-Montgomery, 2004). Her most recent book is *The First Women Lawyers: A Comparative Study of Gender, Law and the Legal Professions* (Oxford: Hart Publishing, 2006). Her areas of interest: Family Law, Feminist Legal Studies, Property Law, Women and the Law and Access to Justice.

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**Roger Smith**

Roger Smith is director of JUSTICE, the all-party law reform organization dedicated to advancing access to justice, human rights and the rule of law. He is a solicitor. He has worked for various non-government organizations including the Legal Action Group, the Child Poverty Action Group and the Law Society. He is an honorary professor of Kent University and a visiting professor at London South Bank University.

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**Professor Michael J. Trebilcock**

Michael J. Trebilcock, LL.B. (New Zealand) 1961, LL.M. (Adelaide) 1962, called to the Bar of New Zealand in 1964 and the Bar of Ontario in 1975 is University Professor and Professor of Law at the University of Toronto. Professor Trebilcock taught at the University of Adelaide, South Australia until 1969 when he came to Canada as a Visiting Associate Professor of Law at McGill Law School. He was appointed Associate Professor of Law at McGill in 1970 and joined the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto as a Professor of Law in 1972. He has served as National Vice-President of the Consumers' Association of Canada, Chair of the Consumer Research Council and Research Director of the Professional Organizations Committee for the Government of Ontario. He was a Fellow in Law and Economics at the University of Chicago Law School in 1976, a Visiting Professor of Law at Yale Law School in 1985, and a Global Law Professor at New York University Law School in 1997 and 1999. From 1982 to 1986 he was a member of the Research Council of the Canadian Institute of Advanced Research. In 1987 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and was appointed a University Professor in 1990. He was honoured with a University of Toronto Teaching Award in 1986, and was awarded the Owen Prize in 1989 by the Foundation for Legal Research for his book, *The Common Law of Restraint of Trade*, which was chosen as the best law book in English published in Canada in the past two years. He has since authored *The Limits of Freedom of Contract* and co-authored *The Regulation of International Trade; Exploring the Domain of Accident Law: Taking the Facts Seriously*; and *The Making of the Mosaic: A History of Canadian Immigration Policy*. Professor Trebilcock specializes in law and economics, international trade and contract and commercial law. He serves as Co-Director of the Law and Economics Program. In 1999, Professor Trebilcock received an Honorary Doctorate in Laws from McGill University and was awarded the Canada Council Molson Prize in the Humanities and Social Sciences. In the same year he was elected an Honorary Foreign Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

## **Moderators**

### **Raj Anand**

Mr. Raj Anand is a partner with WeirFoulds LLP where he practises in the areas of human rights, constitutional and administrative law, labour relations, civil litigation, professional negligence and discipline. He is a former Chief Commissioner of the Ontario Human Rights Commission and presently acts for complainants and respondents in internal investigations and Ontario and federal applications. He has acted as a Board of Inquiry under the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Police Services Act, as Co-Chair of the University of Toronto Tribunal and as counsel to a number of administrative tribunals. Mr. Anand has spoken and written on diverse subjects including trial, appellate and administrative advocacy and human rights. He graduated with the Dean's Key in 1978 from the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. He served in 1986-1987 as a Task Force to the Ontario Government on the Law Concerning Trespass to Publicly-used Property as it Affects Youth and Minorities. In 1997, he was the first recipient of the Advocates' Society Award of Justice. His experience as an adjunct professor includes "The New Administrative Law" in the LL.M. programme at Osgoode Hall Law School and "Diversity and the Legal Profession" at U of T's Faculty of Law. Mr. Anand has acted for a variety of parties in public interest litigation and commissions of inquiry. For seven years he was the Advocates' Society representative on the Equity Advisory Group of the Law Society. He also served on the Board of Trustees of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, the Boards of Directors of two community clinics and Legal Aid Ontario, the Advocates' Society and Pro Bono Law Ontario, and as President of the latter organization and the University of Toronto Law Alumni Council. He is presently a member of the Equality Rights Panel of the Federal Court Challenges Programme. In 2003, he received the Law Society Medal, the highest honour awarded by the governing body of the legal profession in Ontario, and in 2007 he was elected by the profession to a four year term as a bencher of the Law Society. In June 2007, he was awarded Professional Man of the Year by the Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce. In April 2008, he was appointed by the Province of Ontario as the first Chair of its Human Rights Legal Support Centre.

### **The Honourable David R. Peterson, P.C., Q.C., O. Ont., C. St. J., L. d'H., D.U., L.L.D.**

Mr. Peterson is a senior partner and Chairman of the Toronto law firm of Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, where he practices corporate/commercial law.

Mr. Peterson is Chancellor of the University of Toronto, Chairman of the Toronto Bid for 2015 Pan Am Games, a director of St. Michael's Hospital, the Shaw Festival and the Toronto Community Foundation.

He is a director of a number of public and private companies including Rogers Communications Inc., Ivanhoe Cambridge Inc., Industrielle-Alliance Life Assurance Company, Franco-Nevada Corporation and Shoppers Drug Mart and was the Founding Chairman of the Toronto Raptors Basketball Club Inc. and Chapters Inc.

Mr. Peterson is or was director or active with a number of charitable, educational and environmental organizations including the Honorary Chairman of the Ontario March of Dimes, the Ontario Canada Day Committee, the Toronto Olympic Bid Committee, Canadian Club, Cercle Canadien, Council for Canadian Unity, Young President's Organization, World President's Organization, the Society for Educational Visits & Exchanges in Canada, Frontier College, Peter Lougheed Medical Research Foundation, Canadian

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Medical Hall of Fame, Magnetic True North Theatre, West Park Health Centre and Toronto Abuse Centre as well as being on the Advisory Board of the Coady International Institute.

He was chairman of the Commonwealth Team observing the 1992 elections in Guyana. He was chief federal negotiator for the devolution of the Northwest Territories. He was an adjunct professor at York University, a fellow of McLaughlin College and Executive-in-Residence at Rotman School of Management. He speaks often on national and international issues, as well as being a frequent commentator on television.

Mr. Peterson holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Western Ontario and a Bachelor of Law Degree from the University of Toronto and studied at the University of Caen, France.

He was called to the Bar in Ontario in 1969 and appointed a Queen's Counsel in 1980 and was summoned by Her Majesty to the Privy Council in 1992. Mr. Peterson has received honorary doctorates from the University of Toronto, the University of Western Ontario, the University of Ottawa, the University of Tel Aviv and the American University of the Caribbean.

In 1994 the government of France appointed him a Knight of the Order of the Legion of Honour of France. In 1995 the International Assembly of French-Speaking Parliamentarians presented him with the Ordre de la Pléiade. He was awarded the Order of Ontario in 2009.

In 1975 he was elected as a Member of the Ontario Legislature, and became the leader of the Ontario Liberal party in 1982. He served as Premier of the Province between 1985 and 1990, overseeing a very active period of reform and playing a major role in the country's constitutional discussions.

He resides in Toronto and Caledon with his actress/author wife Shelley. They have three children - Benjamin, Chloë and Adam. Mr. Peterson's interests include theatre, riding, jogging, golf, skiing, tennis, reading and gardening.

### **Professor Lorne Sossin**

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Lorne Sossin is a Professor with the Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto, where he teaches courses in administrative and constitutional law, the regulation of professions, civil litigation, public policy and the judicial process. He is a former Associate Dean of the Faculty (2004-2007) and is the inaugural Director of the Centre for the Legal Profession at the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto.

He has published numerous books, journal articles, reviews and essays. Professor Sossin's recent publications include *Parliamentary Democracy in Crisis* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2009) (co-edited with Peter Russell); and *Administrative Law in Context* (Toronto: Emond Montgomery, 2008) (co-edited with Colleen Flood).

Professor Sossin has written papers for the Gomery Inquiry, the Ipperwash Inquiry and the Goudge Inquiry. He also serves on the Boards of the Law Foundation of Ontario, Pro Bono Law Ontario, the National Judicial Institute and is a Vice Chair of the Ontario Health Professions Appeal and Review Board and Member of the Health Services Appeal and Review Board. Professor Sossin served as Interim Integrity Commissioner for the City of Toronto in 2008-2009, and is the Closed Meeting Investigator for the City of Toronto.