

## **HINTS AND TIPS FROM THE PROTHONOTARY - REGISTRAR**

CAROLINE McINNES  
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### **CHANGES AT THE PROTHONOTARY'S OFFICE**

I will be on maternity leave for one year starting in early October. A competition is underway for my replacement. Until the position is filled, Tim Morse, Prothonotary at the Law Courts, will be covering the Prothonotary's Office for the Supreme Court and the Registrar's Office for the Court of Appeal. His contact information is included above.

### **COURT DOCKETS for October, November and December**

**Please note: the Prothonotaries' Offices will be closed on the following holidays: Monday Oct. 9; Monday, Nov. 13; the afternoon of Friday, Dec. 22; Monday, Dec. 25; and Tuesday Dec. 26.**

#### **A) Court of Appeal:**

Court of Appeal regular chambers will be held on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. Court of Appeal telechambers are held on Wednesdays at pre-appointed times. Please call ahead to the Deputy Registrar, Cherri Brown, at 902-424-6937 to book a time. **The Court of Appeal chambers schedule for the week of Oct. 16 will remain as usual with telechambers on Wednesday, Oct. 18, and regular chambers on Thursday, Oct. 19, at 10:00 a.m.**

The Court of Appeal posts the docket for appeal hearings, including the date, time, location, and panel members, on its website: <http://courts.ns.ca/Appeal Court/NSCA dockets.htm>

In addition to posting the current appeal hearing term, the Court now posts a 'Rolling Docket', which means that once appeals are set down they are added to the online docket.

## **B) Supreme Court:**

Crownside in Halifax will be held on the following Thursdays at 9:00 am: Oct. 5, 12 and 26, Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, and Dec. 7, 14 and 21.

Appearance days will be held on Fridays at noon in Halifax with the following exceptions: **there will be no appearance day on Oct. 20 and 27, and Dec. 15 and 22.**

## **ESTATE & ESTATE RELATED MATTERS IN PROBATE & SUPREME COURTS**

The Registrars of Probate kindly ask counsel to adhere to the following protocol for filing documents on estate and estate-related matters, in particular:

- All documents on estate matters are to be filed with the Probate Court.
- For any proceedings started in Supreme Court – General Division OR Family Division affecting an ongoing estate file in Probate Court: please provide the Registrar of Probate with a copy of the originating document, any motions and/or applications filed, and any orders issued out of Supreme Court.
- Any questions about this protocol? Please contact your Registrar of Probate.

## **BOTH COURTS**

### **Free Legal Clinic at the Law Courts**

The Free Legal Clinic continues to operate on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Law Courts in Halifax. The Clinic is open most Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Private one-hour sessions with a volunteer practicing lawyer and a law student are available by appointment during the clinic's scheduled hours of operation.

The Clinic supports self-represented litigants with limited to no experience in the court system. This service is available for civil matters at the Supreme Court (General Division) and the Court of Appeal, including family law appeals but excluding child protection appeals. The Clinic does not deal with any criminal matters in either court. Assistant for family law appeals at the Court of Appeal will be provided approximately one Thursday a month.

If you have litigants who may benefit from this service, kindly refer them to Court Administration at the Law Courts. Litigants may apply in person or by telephone at 902-424-6900 for Supreme Court matters, and 902-424-6937 for Court of Appeal matters. For more info, go to [http://courts.ns.ca/self\\_reps/nsca-nssc\\_free\\_legal\\_clinic.htm](http://courts.ns.ca/self_reps/nsca-nssc_free_legal_clinic.htm)

## **Liaison Committees**

Both the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court have Liaison Committees that are composed of members of both the Bar and Bench. These Committees sit approximately twice a year. Counsel are reminded that they are invited to bring forward items they would like raised at Liaison Committee meetings to Bar members of the relevant committees. Current information on committee membership may be obtained from the Nova Scotia Barristers' Society.