

June 24, 2004

Retirement of Chief Justice Constance R. Glube

Twenty-First Chief Justice of Nova Scotia

Comments from fellow judges

Chief Justice Glube has been a strong and committed leader of the judiciary, both within the province and nationally. She is universally recognized for her fairness, diligence and sound judgment. A strong supporter of judicial education, she has played a central role in the growth and development of the National Judicial Institute. She is accessible and unpretentious, mixing as easily with law students and young lawyers as with her fellow chief justices. After 27 years of faithful service, she has more than earned her retirement, but her dedicated leadership will be very much missed.

Justice Thomas Cromwell - Nova Scotia Court of Appeal

As a former litigator I often appeared before Chief Justice Glube in criminal or civil cases throughout Nova Scotia in the 1970's and 80's. In 1990 when I was appointed to the Supreme Court it was my privilege to serve on the court over which she presided with such distinction. That close association continued when I was named to the Court of Appeal in 2000. Her superb qualities and experience as a judge were universally recognized. Always respectful of others, open to new ideas, thoroughly prepared, articulate and so genuinely interested in the lives of people around her. She has been especially active in issues related to court-administrative efficiency, access to justice, and judicial independence. Her compassion, grace, dignity, cool-headedness under pressure, and ability to get to the heart of the matter quickly are special qualities I will remember. She was a leader who led by example, in her own quiet way, invariably putting the interests of the court and her colleagues ahead of her own. As a chief justice many of her responsibilities and achievements will be unheralded or unknown. She is not one to speak of herself or the tasks that fill her days. Chief Justice Glube has extraordinary energy and managed to keep up with a truly daunting schedule of duties at both the provincial and national levels for the 27 years she has served as a member of Canada's judiciary. She has had a profound influence on the law in this country. I know that we will all miss her greatly and we wish her many years of good health and happiness in retirement, at a well deserved less hectic pace.

Justice Jamie Saunders - Nova Scotia Court of Appeal

It is going to be very very strange to come to the courthouse and not see Chief Justice Glube, because she has been the central figure in this courthouse for the last 25 years. We will be the beneficiary of her legacy for the rest of our careers.

Justice Joseph Kennedy - Chief Justice, Nova Scotia Supreme Court

Chief Justice Glube's contribution to the administration of justice in this province, in fact in this country, has been enormous. For over 25 years, she has led by example. Her leadership, vision, dedication, and hard work has carved a lasting legacy. For years to come, Nova Scotians, in fact Canadians, will be the beneficiaries.

Justice Michael MacDonald - Associate Chief Justice, Nova Scotia Supreme Court

Chief Justice Glube has contributed much to the Justice system in Nova Scotia as a Trial Judge, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and Chief Justice of Nova Scotia. She has presided over the establishment of the Executive Office of the Nova Scotia Judiciary which is guided by the Chief Judges and Justices of Nova Scotia. This Office will help to carry on her work towards the many issues that affect the public's access to Justice. Her decision to retire at the end of this year is a sad day for the judicial system in Nova Scotia. I will always cherish the times I have worked with her on Chief Judge and Justices issues. On behalf of myself and the judges of the Family Court of Nova Scotia, I wish her all the best in her future retirement.

Judge John D. Comeau - Chief Judge, Family Court of Nova Scotia

I have had the opportunity to observe, and benefit from, Chief Justice Glube's contribution to the Administration of Justice on a Provincial and National level. Her strength, dedication and determination was most obvious during times of adversity.

Justice Robert F. Ferguson - Associate Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Nova Scotia (Family Division)

Much can and will be said of Chief Justice Glube's devotion, talents and hard work as a Judge and Chief Judge, both at the trial and appellate levels: she has led, setting the highest example of integrity, throughout her full, successful, creative and pioneering career.

It was my privilege to observe these qualities at work when, among the many different issues we handled regularly, under her leadership, the Chief Justices and Judges created, to enhance the Administration of Justice, the Executive Office of the Nova Scotia Judiciary, a unique and progressive step, a first in Canada, emphasizing the proper role of Courts within our Province.

Chief Justice Glube will be sorely missed, for her counsel, skills and humanity; yet I am certain she will have prepared for her well-earned retirement with the same energy and enthusiasm she has brought to the service of our Courts and the Administration of Justice in our Province, in our Country. May your retirement be long, healthy and rewarding.

Judge Jean-Louis Batiot - Judge of the Provincial Court (Chief Judge, 1997-2002)

Chief Justice Glube has always, during her tenure as Chief Justice of Nova Scotia, demonstrated a genuine interest and concern regarding issues affecting all Courts in this Province. That concern and interest has always been expressed and demonstrated in a manner that ultimately is intended to meet the objective of better serving the

public interest.

The most recent and perhaps most tangible demonstration of this interest and concern is found in the leadership that Chief Justice Glube provided regarding the creation of and guidance given to the Nova Scotia Office of the Judiciary. This Office, which serves all Courts in Nova Scotia, is unique in Canada and is beginning to attract attention in other Canadian jurisdictions as well as in this province. It seems most appropriate and consistent with Chief Justice Glube's professional career, involving so many "firsts" and so much broken ground, that she would be the individual once again providing leadership to another unique initiative.

It has been a great privilege for me as Associate Chief Judge of the Provincial Court to have had the opportunity to regularly meet with Chief Justice Glube and the other Chief Judges and Justices to advance the forgoing initiative and to observe her leadership on that as well as many other issues of concern to all Courts. I think it can be fairly said that Chief Justice Glube has provided not only steady stewardship to the Judiciary as a whole during her tenure as Chief Justice of Nova Scotia, but will retire with the institution of all the Courts in this Province collectively better than they were at the beginning of her tenure. That is a true measure of success and accomplishment.

Judge Brian Gibson - Associate Chief Judge, Nova Scotia Provincial Court

Chief Justice Glube has served Nova Scotia with honour and distinction. She has been a leader in the reorganizing and restructuring of our Courts. Being a person of compassion and understanding, she has succeeded in making the judicial system better understood and appreciated.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Chief Justice Glube for her untiring efforts at both our local and national levels.

The Honourable Lorne O. Clarke

[further comments will be added as they are received]