



## **Inaugural State of the Nova Scotia Courts Address**

**Tuesday, May 23, 2023**

Counsel, legal professionals, members of the public and media are invited to attend the inaugural State of the Nova Scotia Courts address on Friday, May 26, at the Law Courts, 1815 Upper Water St., Halifax.

This event, hosted by the Council of Nova Scotia Chiefs, will help teach the public about the role of the Judiciary and the Courts as the Third Branch of Government and the accompanying requirement for judicial independence. It also provides an opportunity for the Judiciary to highlight challenges facing the legal system in Nova Scotia, as well as access to justice initiatives, community engagement and other special projects each court is involved with.

Speakers at the event will include:

- The Hon. Michael J. Wood, Chief Justice of Nova Scotia
- The Hon. Deborah K. Smith, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia
- The Hon. Pamela S. Williams, Chief Judge of the Provincial Court of Nova Scotia

Please note that the Chief Justices and Chief Judge will not be available for media interviews. However, media may take photos, and record audio and video inside the courtroom during the event. The Chiefs' remarks will also be livestreamed on the Courts of Nova Scotia website at <https://www.courts.ns.ca/operations/webcasts>. Media are permitted to use portions of that audio and video in their news coverage.

Seating for this event is limited. Courtroom 301 will have public seating available in the gallery. Overflow seating will also be available in Courtroom 302. Anyone planning to attend in person is asked to arrive no later than 12:45 p.m. The event and livestream will begin at 1 p.m. AST, with a reception to follow.

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