

Chairperson
Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission
Ms. Sheila Block

Dear Madam Commissioner:

I write to you about some suggestions on judicial compensation and benefits. Today, courts are being asked to decide very complex legal, social, constitutional and economic issues. To ensure that high quality individuals want to participate and sit on the bench, one has to pay them for their expertise and years of training. Some specific suggestions include:

- * chief justice of Canada be paid the same benefit as the highest paid civil servant (DM-3) or about 341,000/yr
- * associate justices would receive about 15,000 dollars/yr less
- * provincial chief justices and associate chief justices would receive 10,000 dollars/yr less
- * trial and appellate judges would receive about 10,000 dollars a year less
- * pensions could be set at 75 per cent of the six best years, judges could be eligible for a full pension after 12 years on the bench
- * allowances would be set at up to 500/day for work away from their regular court. This includes transportation, food, lodging, computer services, telephone and transcription services
- * judges would be entitled to long-term disability insurance, group life insurance, medical-dental, language training and rehabilitation insurance
- * sabbaticals or extended leave could be granted to judges after serving say, ten years on the bench. This could include retraining, language skills enhancement and educational leave

judges would be eligible to attend conferences in Canada and around the world (2 per year)

There are many other ideas and suggestions for judicial compensation and others will provide more detailed analysis. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Ian Bailey

cc: 10 copies to be faxed to your office