JUDICIAL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS COMMISSION

SUPPLEMENTAL BOOK OF EXHIBITS AND DOCUMENTS

of the

CANADIAN SUPERIOR COURTS JUDGES ASSOCIATION

and the

CANADIAN JUDICIAL COUNCIL

January 24, 2025

Pierre Bienvenu, Ad. E. Jean-Michel Boudreau Étienne Morin-Lévesque IMK LLP / s.e.n.c.r.l.



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D. E. Hyatt Litigation Economics Inc.

116 Sherwood Avenue Toronto, ON M4P 2A7

January 24, 2025

Mr. Jean-Michel Boudreau and Mr. Étienne Morin-Lévesque IMK s.e.n.c.r.l./LLP Place Alexis Nihon, Tour 2 3500, boulevard De. Maisonneuve Ouest Montréal (Québec) H3Z 3C1

Dear Counsel,

Re: Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission

I enclose my reply to the Government's submissions to the Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission.

Yours truly,

Douglas E. Hyatt Professor Emeritus

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Reply to the Government's Submissions to the Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission

Prepared for Mr. Jean-Michel Boudreau and Mr. Étienne Morin-Lévesque of IMK s.e.n.c.r.l./LLP

by

D.E. Hyatt Litigation Economics Inc*

^{*} Professor Douglas E. Hyatt

I am a Professor Emeritus in the Joseph L. Rotman School of Management and the Centre for Industrial Relations, both of the University of Toronto. I was the Academic Director of Professional MBA Programs at the Rotman School of Management and was the Associate Chair of Economics for Management Studies in the Division of Management at the University of Toronto at Scarborough. I have a B.A. degree (economics), an M.A. degree (economics), and a Ph.D. (industrial relations), all from the University of Toronto.

I have been asked to comment and, as appropriate, reply to the *Submissions of the Government of Canada to the 2024 Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission* (December 20, 2024). In particular, I address the issues of (i) the Government's characterization of judicial salary adjustments based upon the IAI as "generous", (ii) the Government's proposed cap on cumulative IAI adjustments over the next quadrennial cycle, and (iii) the Government of Canada's perspective on its debt and budget deficits.

To address these issues, I have relied upon my general knowledge of economics and economic statistics.

Characterization of Annual Salary Adjustments Based Upon the IAI as "Generous"

- 1. At pages 11 and 12 of its submissions, the Government states as follows:
 - "29. The yearly indexing of the salary in line with IAI has consistently resulted in generous increases to judicial salary in the last 20 years. This is most apparent when comparing the trajectory of judicial salary since the advent of the IAI indexing to the trajectory of the salary increases that would have resulted from the use of another metric. For example, indexing with the CPI would have resulted in a judicial salary in 2024 of \$354,700, which is \$42,000 less than the current judicial salary in 2024 based on the IAI."
- 2. The Government's assessment of what constitutes "... generous increases to judicial salary ..." is annual wage increases equal to the average increase experienced across all working Canadians. The Government then demonstrates that if judicial salaries had been adjusted according to the annual percentage change in the CPI, which has traditionally increased at a rate slower than the IAI, judicial salaries would now be lower than they are.
 - 2.1 Annual changes in the IAI reflect changes in general price inflation and changes in productivity. Increases in productivity occur when workers produce more output, and/or output of higher value, per unit of time (for example, per hour). "Real" wage increases occur when the value of the output produced by workers, due to productivity improvements, increases

- at a rate faster than price inflation. In this way, real wage increases are a measure of improvements in the standard of living because they allow the purchases and savings of workers to more than simply keep pace with general price increases.
- 2.2 The Government identifies no economic principle, and I am aware of no economic principle, that would support a definition of real wage increases that mirror those experienced, on average, by all working Canadians, as "generous".
- 2.3 Further, it merits emphasis that the IAI does not, by definition, increase in every year, at a rate faster than the CPI. It is possible, as has been experienced in some previous years by the judiciary, that the percentage increase in the IAI is less than that of the CPI.

A Cap on Cumulative Salary Adjustments based on the IAI

- 3. At page 13 of its submissions, the Government advances the following arguments in support of an altered cap on judicial salary adjustments based on the IAI.
 - "33. The implementation of an indexation cap allows for predictable and stable increases to judicial salaries in line with the IAI as provided by the Judges Act while also ensuring that these increases do not inadvertently soar beyond what was envisioned at the time of the Commission's report. If the IAI is significantly higher than what is projected at the time of the Commission's report, then the resulting salary increases cannot be said to reflect what was deemed to be necessary to ensure judicial independence.
 - 34. The implementation of an indexation cap also guarantees that increases are reasonable in light of the critical factors mentioned above, notably Canada's uncertain fiscal conditions, the geopolitical volatility, and the struggles of Canadians with recent high inflation and elevated costs of living. For context, 14% of the judicial salary at the beginning of the quadrennial cycle was \$53,718, which is approximately 80% of the average yearly Canadian salary as of September 2024. In 2024, this same percentage equals approximately 83% of the average yearly Canadian salary."

- 4. Judicial salary adjustments based upon the IAI reflect the average wage increases of all working Canadians. Consequently, salary adjustments that are not fully reflective of changes in the IAI, as would be the case if the cumulative increase in the IAI exceeds the <u>arbitrary</u> cap suggested by the Government, serves only to disadvantage the judiciary relative to all working Canadians.
 - 4.1 I note, for perspective, that the Canadian personal income tax system is indexed to inflation. That is, if wages increase at a rate faster than general price inflation (i.e., the real wages increase), Government personal income tax receipts also increase at a rate faster than inflation. This means that when the IAI increases at a rate faster than inflation, this increase provides the source of funds to the Government to allow the judiciary to share in the improved standard of living enjoyed by the average working Canadian.
- 5. The Government asserts at paragraph 33 of its submissions that, "If the IAI is significantly higher than what is projected at the time of the Commission's report, then the resulting salary increases cannot be said to reflect what was deemed to be necessary to ensure judicial independence." Here, the Government suggests that the judiciary should be excluded from the same faster than anticipated real wage increases, due to unforeseen positive developments in the Canadian economy over the next four years, that are enjoyed by the average working Canadian.
- 6. The Government's assertion at paragraph 34 of its submissions that, "The implementation of an indexation cap also guarantees that increases are reasonable in light of the critical factors mentioned above, notably Canada's uncertain fiscal conditions, the geopolitical volatility, and the struggles of Canadians with recent high inflation and elevated costs of living," fails to acknowledge that unforeseen negative (and positive) developments that impact the broad economic landscape also impact the wages of average Canadians. Negative developments tend to depress real wage growth and positive developments tend to accelerate real wage growth. Alternatively stated, unforeseen developments in the broader economy will result in wage adjustments which, in turn, will impact the IAI Adjustment provided for in the Judges Act. The IAI is not independent of general economic conditions, unforeseen or otherwise.

The Government of Canada's Perspective on its Debt and Budget Deficits

- 7. At page 9 of its submissions, the Government states:
 - "22. In the 2024 Budget, the Government forecasted a budgetary deficit of \$40 billion in 2023-24. The forecast of the Government's budgetary balance was that this deficit would progressively improve to reach a deficit of \$20.0 billion by 2028–2029."
 - 7.1 The Government notes at footnote 26 that, "In the Fall Economic Statement, the Government revised the deficit forecast to \$23 billion by 2029."
- 8. The Government of Canada has provided its own perspectives on its debt and budget deficits in the 2024 Fall Economic Statement.
- 9. In the 2024 Fall Economic Statement, the Government of Canada reiterated that its fiscal anchor remains the debt-to-GDP ratio, and not debt or deficits alone. Under the section heading. "Canada's Responsible Economic Plan¹", the Government of Canada observes:

"An important fiscal sustainability metric—and the government's fiscal anchor—is to maintain a declining federal debt-to-GDP ratio. The 2024 Fall Economic Statement respects this anchor, with a debt-to-GDP ratio projected to decline in each and every year of the forecast horizon, from 41.9 per cent in 2024-25, down to 38.6 per cent in 2029-30."

- 10. The fiscal sustainability measure preferred by the Government of Canada highlights that debt <u>levels</u> alone do not define fiscal sustainability. Rather, the proper metric is the growth of debt <u>relative</u> to the growth of national income (GDP).
- 11. The Government of Canada emphasizes the general policies of continued spending and economic growth initiatives it is undertaking to support GDP growth and to reduce the debt-to-GDP ratio, as follows.²

"The 2024 Fall Economic Statement upholds the government's commitment to responsible fiscal management, through targeted investments that will provide short-term relief, while laying the groundwork for a more productive economy in the years to come. With new measures in the 2024 Fall Economic Statement, policy actions taken since Budget 2024, and

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¹ See 2024 Fall Economic Statement, at page 35.

² See 2024 Fall Economic Statement, at page 35.

incorporating the results of the September 2024 survey of private sector economists, a deficit of \$48.3 billion, or 1.6 per cent of GDP, is projected in 2024-25. In 2026-27, the deficit is expected to fall below 1 per cent of GDP, fulfilling the government's ongoing fiscal objective. By the end of the forecast horizon in 2029-30, a smaller deficit of \$23 billion, or 0.6 per cent of GDP, is projected."

12. The budget deficit for the fiscal year 2023-2024 which, as noted in my previous report, was anticipated by some private forecasters including PEAP, did not alter the debt-to-GDP ratio, "the most important metric", anticipated in the 2024 Budget. The Government offers the following assessment of the 2023-2024 budget deficit:

"In 2023-24, the government is projected to record significant unexpected expenses related to Indigenous contingent liabilities. Absent these expenses, and allowances for COVID-19 pandemic supports, the 2023-24 budgetary deficit would have been approximately \$40.8 billion, compared to the Budget 2024 projection of \$40 billion. However, the higher-than-anticipated provisions for these two categories add accounting charges of \$21.1 billion. The federal debt-to-GDP ratio in 2023-24—the most important metric—is 42.1 per cent, as forecast in Budget 2024."

Douglas E. Hyatt

Value of the Judicial Annuity – Review of Eckler Report

Prepared for the Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission

January 21, 2025



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Jean-Michel Boudreau Managing Partner IMK s.e.n.c.r.l/LLP 3500 Boul de Maisonneuve Ouest Montreal QC H3Z 3C1 January 21, 2025

Value of the Judicial Annuity

Dear Me Boudreau,

We have been engaged by IMK LLP ("IMK") in your capacity as counsel to the Canadian Superior Courts Judges Association and the Canadian Judicial Council (the "Judiciary") in connection with the inquiry of the seventh Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission (the "Commission"), which commenced on October 11, 2024.

As per your request, we have reviewed the report entitled "Judicial Compensation and Pension Review" dated December 17, 2024, prepared by Eckler Canada for the Department of Justice (the "Eckler Report"). Eckler estimated the value of the judicial annuity to be 44.1% (including the value of the disability benefit). The Eckler Report does not disclose the actuarial calculation method and assumption-setting approach at a level of detail that would permit us to provide a detailed response, or that would be typically found in an actuarial report. We requested additional information and obtained some clarification from Eckler in an email dated January 20, 2025. Nevertheless, based on the information provided, we have observed a number of important deviations from the approach used and accepted by the prior Commission. Our response below summarizes areas where we disagree with the determination of the value of the judicial annuity presented in the Eckler Report.

Yours sincerely,

Ernst & young LLP

Carol Wong Partner* Sze-King Fong Senior Manager

^{*} Carol Wong is a limited partner of Ernst & Young LP, which provides services to Ernst & Young LLP

Background

EY has been engaged by IMK to assist in their representation of the Judiciary during the inquiry of the Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission. This report has been prepared for IMK. The purpose of this report is to comment on the valuation of the judicial annuity set forth in the Eckler Report.

We understand that as an expert, we are to provide an opinion that is independent, objective and related to matters within our area of expertise. We are Fellows of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries and of the Society of Actuaries and have experience in pension actuarial calculations.

The intended users of this report are IMK, the Commission, and the various parties appearing before the Commission. The report should not be provided to any party who is not an intended user. The results and analysis within this report should not be relied upon by any party other than an intended user.

Eckler's Valuation of the Judicial Annuity

In our opinion, Eckler's actuarial calculation method, choice of data concerning the age of judges, and assumption-setting approach are inconsistent with the methodology adopted by the prior Commission. In our opinion, the approach adopted by Eckler in these areas is not suited to the purpose of valuing the judicial annuity.

Calculation Method

Actuarial Methodology

In their report, Eckler indicate that their results are based on the assumptions disclosed in the 2022 OCA Report¹. Upon further inquiry², Eckler confirms that they used the same *methodology* as that disclosed in the OCA Report - a modified Project Unit Credit methodology. In our opinion, that actuarial calculation methodology is inconsistent with the one adopted by the prior Commission (Turcotte).

In our initial report, we determined that the value of the judicial annuity is 28% of a judge's base salary. In making that determination, we used an actuarial methodology that is consistent with the one used and accepted by the prior Commission - the Entry Age Normal methodology. The details of this actuarial methodology are summarized on page 8 of our initial report. The advantage of this methodology for the purpose of estimating the value of the judicial annuity is that it provides for a consistent value of the judicial annuity over the entirety of a judge's career, which is useful in the context of the Commission's mandate.

Disability Benefits

The Eckler Report ascribes a total value of 44.1% of salary to the judicial annuity. To arrive at this number, Eckler add the value of the disability benefit (5.6%) to their estimation of the pension value (38.5%). However, it is our understanding that the sixth Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission (Turcotte) accepted a valuation that did *not* include the value of the disability benefit, as was done by prior Commissions. Mr. Newell, the Judiciary's expert at the time, had computed the value of the judicial annuity without the inclusion of the disability benefit. The methodology employed by Mr. Newell conforms with the view accepted by Mr. Sauvé, who served as expert for the Levitt Commission, and expressed by

¹ Eckler Report page 12 states: "The values [...] are based on the assumptions disclosed in the 13th Actuarial Report on the Pension Plan for Federally Appointed Judges as at March 31, 2022..."

² Provided in an email dated January 20, 2025 from Sarah-Dawn Norris, Senior Counsel of the Government of Canada

Mr. Fitzgerald, who was acting as expert for the Judiciary before the same Commission, that the valuation of the disability benefits is part of a much broader exercise.

In sum, we agree with the approach adopted by past Commissions of excluding the valuation of the disability benefit from the valuation of the judicial annuity.

Choice of Data on Age Distribution

The Eckler Report states that age distribution data as at March 31, 2024, provided by the Department of Justice Canada, was used to determine the net value of the judicial annuity at each age range. The full dataset includes personnel data of over 10,500 judges with judicial appointments since 1910. Eckler state that their overall analysis included all federal judges appointed before April 1, 2024, who are currently active, have a full workload and make contributions to their pension plan³. However, it remains unclear whether this subset of data was used for the purpose of determining the value of the judicial annuity.

Regardless of whether the full dataset or a subset of data was used, the reference to data on the age of all judges is inconsistent with the approach adopted in the prior Commission (Turcotte). In our analysis, as well as in prior Commission (Turcotte), the value of the judicial annuity was determined using a new judge's age at appointment, not the data on the age of all existing judges. This inconsistency impacts the value of the judicial annuity estimated by Eckler.

Our understanding is that the value of the judicial annuity estimated in the Eckler Report is based on the actual age of the existing judges in the data, rather than at each age at appointment. Hence, rather than presenting the value of the judicial annuity for a newly appointed judge, a relevant measure when looking to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary, these results tell us what the value of a judicial annuity may be to an existing judge who has already worked for a number of years.

For the purposes of assessing the value of the judicial annuity to potential new judges, it is most appropriate to perform calculations based on the age of appointment.

As noted, the use of data on existing judges is inconsistent with the approach accepted by prior Commission (Turcotte). As shown in Mr. Newell's letter at the last Commission, his results are presented based on age at appointment and used in his calculations of the value of the judicial annuity at each age. Our calculated value of 28% is also based on age at appointment, consistent with the approach taken in the prior Commission (Turcotte).

Assumption-Setting Approach

Eckler's valuation of the judicial annuity is said to be based upon the assumptions of the most recent actuarial valuation report issued by the Office of the Chief Actuary, as at March 31, 2022 (the "2022 OCA Report").

It is important to understand that the purpose of the OCA report is very different from the purpose of the Commission. OCA prepares this valuation report under the Public Sector Accounting Standards (PSAS) rules. PSAS rules are created to fairly and accurately present the costs of pension obligations to the government. This is a very different purpose than determining the value of the judicial annuity to an individual, as a component of that judge's compensation package.

³ Eckler Report page 9 states: "Analysis of current judicial compensation included all federally appointed judges appointed before April 1, 2024, who are currently active (i.e., full workload and making contributions to their pension plan)."

Because the purpose of the 2022 OCA Report is to determine the cost of the judges pension plan to the government, certain assumptions, especially the discount rate used for that purpose, may not be relevant when determining the value of the judicial annuity to a judge.

Discount Rate Assumption

A key assumption of any actuarial calculation is typically the discount rate. Eckler used a discount rate of 3.6%, which is the single-equivalent average discount rate disclosed in the 2022 OCA Report⁴. We note that this equivalent flat discount rate assumption was selected by the OCA to satisfy the PSAS requirements, which are meant to determine the cost of providing these benefits to the Government of Canada, to be disclosed in the Public Accounts (government's financial reporting). Under PSAS, the discount rate is set as the Government's expected cost of borrowing, which is based on Government bond yields (the Government can borrow monies by issuing bonds and the interest/yields on such bonds would constitute the Government's cost of borrowing). The rationale behind this discount rate setting methodology lies in the purpose of a PSAS valuation: to determine the cost to the government of providing this benefit. As the OCA's assumption setting approach is specific to the Government's financial reporting requirements (accounting purposes), the basis used by the OCA to determine the discount rate assumption is not relevant to determining the value of the judicial annuity for the purposes of the Commission.

In contrast, the discount rate used in our report is determined for the purpose of estimating the value of the judicial annuity to a judge, as a component of their total compensation package. The approach we have taken is consistent with that adopted by the prior Commission (Turcotte), and the level of the discount rate has been updated to reflect the relatively higher interest environment at the time of the current Commission. More specifically, as described in our initial report, we have estimated the discount rate as a reasonable expected rate of return on a balanced portfolio of assets that any prudent investor planning for their retirement may invest in. In other words, this approach estimates the value of an annuity by determining the amount of assets that, if provided to an individual, could be reasonably expected to generate a comparable stream of income through investment in a balanced portfolio. This is a common and accepted approach to estimate such value.

In contrast, Eckler's choice to set the discount rate assumption equal to that used in the 2022 OCA Report is inconsistent with what was done for the prior Commission (Turcotte).

Change From Prior Commission

The prior Commission (Turcotte) adopted a value of 34.1% for the judicial annuity, a number that was derived using a discount rate of 5.0%. That discount rate was supported by the market conditions at the time of the last Commission, when, for example and as noted in our initial report, long-term government bonds yielded 1.45% as of January 1, 2020. These yields are currently significantly higher, at 3.27% at the beginning of 2024 and 3.37% at the end of 2024. In a higher interest rate environment, investors typically also anticipate higher equity returns, as they seek greater compensation for holding riskier assets compared to the returns from government bonds. This additional return is commonly referred to as the "equity risk premium". As a result, we adopted a 6.0% discount rate in our report for the current Commission, reflecting the expectation that a balanced portfolio will yield higher returns in a higher interest rate environment. In reflecting the higher interest rate environment, the use of a higher discount rate results in a lower value of the judicial annuity.

Therefore, Eckler's position that the estimated value of the judicial annuity should *increase* (38.5%) relative to the value adopted by the prior Commission (34.1%), is inconsistent with the prevailing market

⁴ The 2022 OCA Report uses a graded discount rate assumption of 3.1% in 2024 increasing to a long-term ultimate rate of 4.0% in 2034 and thereafter. The 2022 OCA Report notes that for the purposes of calculating the pension plan's liability at 31 March 2022, the variable interest rates is equivalent to using a flat discount rate of 3.6%. Pension Plan for Federally Appointed Judges as at 31 March 2022

January 21, 2025

conditions. To the contrary, one would expect that given the current higher interest rate environment, the value of the judicial annuity should *decrease* from the 34.1% value determined at the prior Commission.

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Review of the Eckler Report

Prepared for the Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission

January 24, 2025



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Jean-Michel Boudreau Managing Partner IMK s.e.n.c.r.l/LLP 3500 Boul de Maisonneuve Ouest Montreal QC H3Z 3C1 January 24, 2025

Judicial Compensation Review

Dear Me Boudreau.

We have been engaged by IMK LLP ("IMK"), in your capacity as counsel to the Canadian Superior Courts Judges Association and the Canadian Judicial Council (the "Judiciary") in connection with the inquiry of the seventh Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission (the "Commission"), which commenced on October 11, 2024.

As per your request, we reviewed the report entitled "Judicial Compensation and Pension Review" dated December 17, 2024, prepared by Eckler Canada (the "Eckler Report") as well as the submissions to the Commission filed on December 20, 2024 by the Government of Canada (the "Government Submissions").

The Eckler Report and the Government Submissions raise three main areas of concern that significantly impact their analysis and conclusions. The first relates to Eckler's interpretation of the data, in particular data related to Professional Law Corporations ("PLCs"). The second relates to Eckler's exclusion of data related to incorporated lawyers from their main analysis and conclusions. Finally, we comment on the lack of consistency compared to prior Commissions in the application of data filters, as well as the issue of inconsistent compensation comparisons across various years and statistical data points.

Our comments below summarize the areas where we disagree with the approach, analysis and data used in the Eckler Report and the Government Submissions.

Yours sincerely

Uros Karadzic Partner*

Ernst + young LLP

Marvin Reyes Compensation Consulting

Leader

^{*} Uros Karadzic is a limited partner of Ernst & Young LP, which provides services to Ernst & Young LLP

Background

EY has been engaged by IMK in connection with their representation of the Judiciary in the inquiry of the Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission. This report has been prepared for IMK. The purpose of this report is to comment on the compensation review and analysis presented in the Eckler Report.

The intended users of this report are IMK, the Commission, and the various parties appearing before the Commission. The report should not be provided to any party who is not an intended user. The results and analysis within this report should not be relied upon by any party other than an intended user.

1. Eckler's Analysis of Income of Professional Law Corporations

In our opinion, Eckler's analysis of data on Professional Law Corporations contains several critical misinterpretations:

- Eckler's categorization of PLC data, which includes *unincorporated* individual partners, fails to accurately reflect the financial realities of incorporated lawyers. We also note that Eckler does not include the compensation data related to *incorporated* lawyers in their Self-Employed Lawyers category, which forms part of their main analysis and conclusions (pages 4-5 of Eckler Report).
- The "PLC Owners" data file used by Eckler contains information on the PLCs' net income, dividends, and retained earnings, rather than the financial details of individual shareholders, leading to inaccuracies in Eckler's conclusions.
- Eckler's method of estimating individual lawyer income by combining net income and dividends constitutes an improper method and results in an inaccurate determination of earnings.

a) Analysis of PLC data

In the analysis of the income earned by Professional Law Corporations, starting on page 34 of the Eckler Report, Eckler discusses two types of partners: type 1 partners being individuals, and type 2 partners being corporations.

However, Type 1 partners (i.e. *unincorporated* individual partners) are then included in the analysis and presented as part of PLC data. By definition, a PLC is a corporation, which is why it is erroneous to include *unincorporated* individual partners in the analysis of PLC data.

This distinction is crucial because the financial and operational characteristics of incorporated lawyers differ significantly from those who are unincorporated. Therefore, it is fundamentally incorrect for Eckler to examine the income of individual, unincorporated partners and present this information as representative of PLC data. Such a misinterpretation leads to erroneous conclusions because the data sets are not comparable and do not reflect the financial realities of *incorporated* legal professionals.

Incorporated lawyers benefit from the ability to retain earnings within the corporation, reinvest in the business, and manage their income through dividends and salaries. Unincorporated partners, however, receive their share of profits directly and are taxed on that income. Furthermore, it is generally the higher-earning partners who opt to incorporate. Capturing the data related to incorporated partners is an important additional component of the evidence made available to the current Commission. The goal of including this important set of data is to more accurately and fairly present the earnings of self-employed lawyers in the private sector. The Eckler Report, in its summary and key recommendations (at pages 4-5) does not, in fact, include the data for *incorporated* lawyers in the Self-Employed Lawyers category.

In addition, we note that the Eckler Report references an outdated StatsCan file in a number of tables. On October 10, 2024, StatsCan provided the parties with an updated dataset on partners. This new dataset contained revised, and significantly increased, count numbers for the income data provided on partners.

Pages 36 to 38 of the Eckler Report display median and 75th percentile income data for type 1 partners (*unincorporated* individuals), from 2018 through 2022, by CMA. Readers of the Eckler Report should be made aware that the Count column in these tables references an outdated file and presents numbers that are much lower than the actual counts. In other words, the sample size of the StatsCan data on partners is in reality much greater than reported by Eckler. For example, the individual (unincorporated) partner count for Montreal in 2018 is reported by Eckler as 80 (page 36), whereas the actual count is 1,250.

b) Reference to the PLC Owners Data File

The Eckler Report refers extensively to the "PLC Owners" data file (at pages 34, 35, 40, 41 and 48) and draws conclusions based on the assumption that this financial information pertains to *shareholders* of PLCs, as opposed to the PLC itself. This is incorrect and therefore produces inaccurate analysis and conclusions.

As explained in our initial report and in StatsCan's letter accompanying the data¹ (the "StatsCan Letter"), StatsCan has provided two datasets, one based on corporate T2 filings (PLC(T2)), and the other based on T5013 filings (Partnership(T5013)).

The "PLC Owners" file, which is part of the PLC(T2) dataset, contains detailed information on the net income, declared dividends and retained earnings of the PLC itself, rather than the individual shareholders. The reason that the data file is called "PLC Owners" is because the data is broken down based on the age of the shareholders. For instance, concerning net income, the StatsCan Letter specifies: "summary of PLCs' net income across the owners' three age groups (35-46, 47-54, 55-69)". Thus, the data provided is the <u>net income of the corporation</u>, not the net income of the owner (shareholder). Similarly, the declared dividends are those declared by the corporation. Finally, the retained earnings, which have no meaning for an individual taxpayer, are those retained by the corporation year after year².

The distinction between corporation and owner is significant because the financial metrics of a corporation can differ greatly from those of its shareholders, affecting the accuracy and relevance of any analysis conducted. The income received by a corporation (i.e. money coming into a PLC) from its business operations is not necessarily distributed in total to shareholders (i.e. money coming out of a PLC). First, the corporation needs to cover its operating, ancillary and tax expenses. Only then can we arrive at the net income for the corporation. A portion of that net income may be retained for reinvestment in the business. How much is retained depends on the governance strategy specific to that entity and its circumstances in any given year.

In order to accurately determine the earnings related to the practice of law of a shareholder of a PLC, more information including how many shareholders there are in a PLC, how each shareholder contributes to income from legal activities, and the policies by which these PLCs distribute profits to the shareholders would be needed.

When discussing the compensation of *incorporated* lawyers in its Submissions, the Government also references the PLC Owners data file (paras 108 and 109), presenting data on the median and 75th percentile incomes. Again, those figures were extracted from the StatsCan dataset that provides data on legal corporations (T2). As explained above and in our initial report, that dataset is not useful to determine the total compensation received by incorporated self-employed lawyers, for several reasons:

The dataset is overinclusive because it includes all corporations with NAICS code 541110; it is not limited to professional law corporations owned by only one lawyer, but also includes corporations that

¹ Letter of June 2024 titled "Tables for DoJ and Quadrennial Commission".

² The StatsCan Letter provides the following formula for retained earnings: retained earnings (re) = [retained earnings/deficit at start of fiscal period] + [Net income/loss after taxes and extraordinary items] - [dividends declared].

are held by multiple shareholders. StatsCan noted that "about 76% of PLCs have one owner, 20% have two owners, 2.2% have three owners, etc". The dataset does not allow one to isolate the numbers for the PLCs with only one owner.

- The dataset does not contain the key data point (*gross* income) that would allow for proper comparison. As noted above, the dataset only contains the *net* income of the corporation and therefore is not representative of the total revenue of an incorporated individual lawyer (the shareholder of the PLC) derived from the practice of law. For law firms with multiple owners operating as a corporation, the total net income of the entire firm does not provide insight into the compensation of individual lawyers.
- The dataset does not include information on expenses, in particular salaries, which might have allowed one to calculate the gross income and approximate the compensation of the owner of the corporation.

c) Use of the PLC's Declared Dividends to Approximate Lawyer Income

Eckler attempts to approximate individual lawyer income using the net income of the PLC plus the dividends distributed. In addition to the observation above that the net income of a PLC is not the same as the earnings of the shareholders of the PLC, this approach is fundamentally flawed for several additional reasons.

Net income is the profit a corporation makes after paying all its expenses, including salaries, rent, utilities, and taxes. Dividends, on the other hand, are payments made to shareholders from the corporation's net income (profits). These dividends are given out after the corporation has paid its taxes and other expenses.

When Eckler adds the net income and the dividends to estimate individual lawyer income, they are essentially double counting the same money, as net income already includes the money that could be paid out as dividends. Eckler's approach of estimating lawyer compensation by adding dividends to net profits does not align with the correct interpretation of the dataset and corporate accounting principles, leading to a flawed analysis and erroneous conclusions concerning the total compensation of incorporated lawyers.

Eckler's focus on a PLC's net income to assess lawyer compensation is also conceptually flawed and underestimates the lawyer's income because the *net income*, by definition, is *net* of salaries, other expenses and taxes. It is the gross amount of all these items that more accurately represents earnings from the practice of law. It is for this very reason that the parties had specified, in their letter to StatsCan, that the relevant figure was the *income flowing into the corporation* (gross income)⁴.

For example, let's consider a lawyer who incorporated a PLC and who has earned \$1,000,000 through the practice of law in a given year. She may choose to pay herself a salary of \$300,000, and must pay taxes of \$200,000 (illustrative amounts only). This means that the PLC has a net income of \$500,000. She may further choose to pay herself a dividend in the amount of \$150,000 out of that net income, with the remaining \$350,000 representing retained earnings. Following Eckler's approach, her income would be estimated as the net income of \$500,000 plus dividends of \$150,000 for a total of \$650,000 (see Table 1 below). But in reality, her income from practicing law is \$1,000,000, and it is the latter amount that has relevance as the private practice comparator.

³ StatsCan Email dated October 1, 2024.

⁴ StatsCan - Letter of Agreement between The Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, designated as the Minister for the purpose of the Statistics Act, IS Reference Code: 300296530.

Table 1: Example of Net Income Calculation of An Incorporated Lawyer

<u>Category</u>	Amount (\$)		
Corporate Finance (PLC)			
Gross PLC Income	1,000,000		
Expenses:			
Salary Paid	(300,000)		
 Corporate taxes and employer contributions 	(200,000)		
Total	(500,000)		
Net Income of PLC (Gross Income - Total Expenses)	500,000		
Treatment of Net Income			
Dividends	(150,000)		
Retained Earnings	350,000		
Lawyer Income			
Eckler Income Estimate (Net income + Dividends)	650,000		
Actual Income from Law Practice	1,000,000		

Therefore, to get a true picture of an incorporated lawyer's earnings, one must look at the total revenue (gross income) and profitability of the PLC.

d) Improper and Inaccurate Comparator Derived from StatsCan Data

The misinterpretation of the StatsCan data leads Eckler to present an inaccurate, and therefore, improper comparator in its executive summary and conclusions (pages 4 and 48). In both tables, the Eckler Report contains a "comparator" identified as "Professional Law Corporations (2023, Partner Type 1, P75)". The report explains this metric in the footnotes, according to which, the \$696,000 figure is the sum of:

- \$496,000: the net income of Partners Type 1 in 2022 (not 2023) at the 75th percentile, not filtered by age or low-income (these are <u>unincorporated individuals</u>, not PLCs)
- \$200,000: 75th percentile of dividends declared by PLCs, filtered for ages 47-54, in 2021 (these are PLCs, not individuals).

The Eckler Report presents the "total compensation" of unincorporated partners by adding their net income to the dividend of PLCs from a different year. It is illogical to add these two figures, which represent unrelated populations. In addition, as explained above, the result is not relevant to assess the income *going into* a PLC.

2. Difference Between Mean and Median in PLC Partner Data

Observing a difference between a mean and median, as noted in paragraphs 105 and 106 of the Government Submissions, is a common feature of all real-world compensation data. This pattern is also observed in the CRA data for *unincorporated* self-employed lawyers. In fact, the StatsCan PLC partner data is less impacted by higher earners than said CRA data. This is shown in the table 2 below, where the ratio of mean-to-median is lower for

the StatsCan PLC partner data (less than 1.6) than it is for the CRA data for unincorporated self-employed lawyers (greater than 1.7).

Table 2: Comparison of Mean and Median Between StatsCan (incorporated) and CRA data (unincorporated)

StatsCan PLC Partner Data ⁵			
Year	Mean Income	Median Income	Ratio 1
2019	\$560,000	\$382,000	1.47
2020	\$622,000	\$423,000	1.47
2021	\$732,000	\$468,000	1.56
2022	\$658,000	\$441,000	1.49

CRA Data for Self-Employed			
Lawyers ⁶			
Mean Income	Median Income	Ratio 2	
\$240,770	\$141,240	1.70	
\$261,570	\$147,490	1.77	
\$295,650	\$162,630	1.82	
\$282,200	\$160,145	1.76	

Note:

"Ratio 1" and "Ratio 2" are calculated by dividing the mean income with the median income for the respective data

In the context of attracting outstanding lawyers to the federally appointed judiciary, this differential is an important signal that outstanding lawyers are differentially rewarded. This underscores the need to consider compensation at the 75^{th} percentile, as has been the practice before prior Commissions. It is also worth noting that the use of 75^{th} percentile as a data comparator is less affected by high income values and provides a more stable measure of the upper quartile of the distribution.

3. Criticism Relative to the Use of Filters on Compensation Data

In its submissions, the Government claims that applying filters to the compensation data would be inadequate since it would be "statistically and logically inaccurate to base the Commission's analysis and recommendations on the net income of so few self-employed lawyers." Eckler also states that "the All-Canada data cut be used instead of looking at the specific salary exclusion cuts or the age range cuts" (page 5).

While including a broad range of data points in a data source is always ideal for making informed decisions on competitive pay, it is equally important to ensure that the data is relevant to the specific talent pool. Including irrelevant data points can significantly impact the overall outcome of the analysis, leading to inaccurate conclusions about competitive pay. For instance, data for lawyers of different experience, namely those too early in their career to be eligible for appointment, can skew the results, making it difficult to draw meaningful insights. Conversely, having fewer but highly relevant data points that accurately represent the market from which judicial talent is sourced provides a more precise and reliable basis for determining competitive salaries. This focused approach ensures that the analysis reflects the true compensation landscape for judges. Therefore, the exclusion of certain salaries may be warranted, but only for specific and appropriate reasons. By carefully filtering out irrelevant data points, the analysis can provide a more precise and meaningful assessment of the compensation of actual candidates for the judiciary.

This approach is aligned with the principles of conducting effective market compensation reviews which relies on ensuring that the market data used for comparisons accurately reflects the sources from which talent is attracted and the destinations to which talent is lost. This involves carefully selecting relevant data that mirrors the specific talent pool, while excluding potential outliers that could impact the analysis.

⁵ Excel file "partners_cma_2018_2022_NEW- corporations_canada_all_ni" by Statistics Canada.

⁶ Excel files "net_prov_20tiles_5age_2019a to 2022a - All Age" by Canada Revenue Agency

Within the context of the Commission, the application of filters does more than guarantee alignment between market data used and the talent pool – it also ensures the consistent use of comparators over time. This consistency in the use of filters by successive Commissions enhances the credibility of the benchmarking process and facilitates the identification of trends.

a) Applying a Minimum salary Cut-Off

While applying a minimum salary cut-off filter to the data reduces the number of data points for self-employed lawyers, this type of filter is crucial to consider relevant data points when assessing the adequacy of judicial salaries. Taking into consideration the minimum 10 years of experience for judicial roles necessitates ensuring that the data source excludes data points reflecting talent with insufficient years of experience. This is because more years of experience typically translates to higher pay. This type of income filter is standard in compensation benchmarking when it is relevant to select data that mirrors the specific talent pool.

In fact, a higher income cut-off would better reflect the actual earnings and professional achievements of experienced lawyers. For example, the Robert Half Guide reports that the salary of first-year associates at the 75th percentile across Canada is \$120,250. Therefore, given the minimum of 10 years of experience for judicial appointment, a more meaningful low-income threshold could easily be set above \$120,000. However, considering the previous minimum income thresholds used by prior Commissions, in order to preserve consistency, we maintain our opinion that \$90,000 is justified based on economic trends and compensation rates, as detailed in our initial report.

By not applying a low-income cut-off or appropriate age ranges, the dataset becomes overinclusive, as it brings in lawyers who are too early in their legal careers and do not meet the minimum requirements to become a judge, or at the other end, lawyers past the age when lawyers are typically appointed (i.e. lawyers who are not part of the talent pool from which judges are sourced). This inclusion of non-comparable compensation values undermines the integrity of the analysis.

Overall, applying a filter on the lower income cut-off is essential to remove irrelevant data points that could skew the analysis. By focusing on compensation data that accurately represents individuals with at least 10 years of experience, the analysis will provide a more accurate and meaningful assessment of the private sector comparator for judicial salaries, ensuring that the results are reflective of the appropriate talent pool.

b) Applying an Age Parameter to the Compensation Data

In certain circumstances, such as the present case, filtering on age is not only relevant but critical, for a couple of reasons. Firstly, it ensures that the analysis takes into consideration the minimum years required in the legal profession before one can become a judge, typically reflecting a substantial period of professional experience. Secondly, it aligns with the historical data showing that the majority of judicial appointees fall within a certain age range, usually between 44-56 years old. The focus on this age group helps capture the most relevant segment of the talent pool. Therefore, the proportion of lawyers outside this age bracket is irrelevant to the objective of identifying the appropriate talent pool for judicial positions.

By focusing on the age range of 44 to 56 (which represents 70.4% of judicial appointments from 2011 to 2020), one eliminates potential outliers at the bottom and top of the judicial candidate pool and focuses on the age range where most candidates are typically appointed.

The CRA dataset provides information concerning the net income of unincorporated self-employed lawyers above \$90,000⁷. Key data includes the "count" and "75th percentile" for the age groups 35-69 and 44-56. The count indicates that for ages 44 to 56, there are approximately 2,980 to 5,560 remaining data points from 2019 to 2023, even when filters for both age and income are applied. This number of data points is more than sufficient to draw appropriate compensation conclusions. Typically, when performing benchmarking, having a robust number of observations is crucial to ensure the reliability of the analysis. In certain instances, such as

⁷ Excel files "net90k_cma_10tiles_5age" series (2019-2023) by Canada Revenue Agency.

when performing custom compensation surveys, having 15 or 20 data points is typically considered sufficient. The number of data points available in this dataset (which are in the thousands) provides a meaningful and reliable basis for drawing accurate compensation benchmarking conclusions.

c) Market Positioning and Percentile

The Government submits that the 50th percentile should be used rather than the long-established 75th percentile when assessing the data. However, the 75th percentile tends to be the minimum target where the objective is to focus on outstanding candidates. In fact, a higher percentile would have been justified, but our report to the current Commission relied on this measure since it has been accepted and used by prior Commissions.

We observed that the Government refers to the median, mean, and 75th percentile in an inconsistent manner throughout its Submissions. For instance, at paragraph 56, the Government uses the median, likely because it shows a much lower value compared to the mean or the 75th percentile. Similarly, the Eckler Report refers to the "average income including dividends for PLC owners in the 47-54 age group," as opposed to the 75th percentile generally used in its analysis (page 41). This selective use of statistical measures can lead to distorted interpretations and does not provide a consistent view of the data. Consistency in the use of statistical measures is crucial for accurate and fair compensation comparisons. Each measure — mean, median, and 75th percentile — provides different insights into the data distribution. The mean represents the average value and is more sensitive to extreme values, the median represents the middle value and is more robust to outliers, and the 75th percentile represents the upper quartile and is less affected by extreme values compared to the mean.

4. Other Inaccurate Compensation Comparisons

a) Inaccurate Comparators

In its executive summary and conclusion, the Eckler Report presents seven "comparators," which it intends to measure against the salary of puisne judges. These seven comparators are:

- 1. Self-Employed Lawyers
- 2. DM-3 Total Average Compensation
- 3. DM-3 Block Comparator
- 4. Government Agency Appointees
- 5. Professional Law Corporations
- 6. Deans of Law Schools
- 7. Top Legal Jobs in Corporations

The presentation of seven comparators, rather than the two traditional comparators examined by past Commissions, raises concerns regarding consistency over time. As mentioned, the consistent use of comparators by successive Commissions enhances the credibility of the benchmarking process and facilitates the identification of trends.

It is important to make certain clarifications about some of the comparators presented by Eckler:

- **Comparator #1 ("Self-Employed Lawyers"):** This comparator exclusively presents data on *unincorporated* self-employed lawyers (without filters on age and low income). In our opinion, to accurately represent the income of self-employed lawyers, it is crucial to integrate data on both *unincorporated* and *incorporated* self-employed lawyers into a single comparator.
- **Comparators** #2 and #3: These relate to the public sector comparator examined by past Commissions.
- Comparators #4 (Government Agency Appointees), #6 (Deans of Law Schools) and #7 (Top Legal Jobs in Corporations): These are unrelated to the two traditional comparators examined by past Commissions.
- **Comparator #5 (Professional Law Corporations):** Contrary to its name, this comparator primarily relies on data on the net income of <u>unincorporated</u> partners. In addition, the income of <u>unincorporated</u>

partners is already reported in the traditional dataset from the CRA on unincorporated self-employed lawyers. Finally, as explained in the sections above, this comparator does not reflect the actual income of lawyers practicing through a PLC.

Eckler then gives equal weight to the seven comparators, to the exclusion of the Block Comparator, to calculate the median, the average and the 75th percentile (at pages 5 and 50):

If all comparator salaries excluding the Block Comparator are given an equal weighting, the median salary amongst the comparators is \$357,138, the 75th percentile is \$410,175, and the average is \$370,563. The median total compensation is \$460,920, the 75th percentile is \$634,311, and the average is \$486,068. We note that the salary for puisne judges is above the median and average of the comparator data and that the total compensation of puisne judges is close to the 75th percentile of the aggregate comparator data.

In our view, this approach is inappropriate and contrary to the practice of past Commissions, which examined two traditional comparators, not seven. In addition, to give equal weight to two "comparators" such as self-employed lawyers and law school deans introduces further variability and dilutes the focus on the most pertinent benchmarks.

b) Comparing Relevant Data Across Various Years

It is important to highlight that the Eckler Report (at pages 3 and 4) compares judicial salaries for 2024 with comparators from previous years, specifically 2023 and 2022. The principles applied when conducting effective market compensation reviews emphasize the importance of comparing data from the same point in time, such as the same year, to ensure accuracy and relevance. Comparing compensation data from different points in time can lead to inaccurate conclusions, as compensation typically increases over time due to factors like inflation, market demand, and cost of living adjustments. When data from different years is compared, the numbers do not align, and the analysis fails to provide a true reflection of competitive pay.

c) Errors in the Year of Reference

We noted that the Eckler Report sometimes presents a comparator as being from a given year but then references data from a different year. For example:

- At page 4 of its report, Eckler presents data on "Professional Law Corporations" in 2023. However, the data sourced is from both 2021 and 2022 (see page 40).
- At page 32 of its report, Eckler presents data on DM-3 total average compensation in 2023-2024. However, the figures in the report are from the years 2022-2023.
- A page 35 of its report, Eckler presents a table with data for 2018 to 2022, but the table only contains data up to 2021.
- At page 41 of its report, Eckler "adjusts" judicial compensation to 2020, for a total compensation of "\$570,511." However, this figure is likely from another year. In 2020, the salary of puisne judges was \$338,800. Even when it is grossed up to account for Eckler's valuation of the judicial annuity, the result is \$488,210, not \$570,511.

5. Appendix: References

- 1. "Judicial Compensation and Pension Review" by Eckler Ltd., December 17, 2024.
- 2. "Tables for DoJ and Quadrennial Commission" from Statistics Canada, June 2024.
- 3. Email from Statistics Canada, October 1, 2024.
- 4. Letter of Agreement with Statistics Canada, with effective date June 19, 2024.
- 5. Reports requested from the CRA by one or both parties.
- 6. Reports requested from the Statistics Canada on Professional Legal Corporations.

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2007 JUDICIAL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS COMMISSION

SUBMISSION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

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PART I - INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

- 1. The importance of an impartial and independent judiciary in securing the rule of law is universally recognized as essential to maintaining a free and democratic society. Canada enjoys an international reputation as having a judiciary whose quality and commitment is unparalleled, and whose independence is secured constitutionally and statutorily.
- 2. The Government of Canada recognizes the importance of ensuring an adequate level of compensation, not only to ensure the financial security of the superior court judiciary but, as importantly, to maintain its high level of excellence.
- 3. The Government of Canada is committed to the Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission process (the "Quadrennial Commission" process), mandated by the Supreme Court of Canada and established under the *Judges Act*, the underlying purpose of which is to maintain the public confidence in the impartiality of the judiciary by ensuring that the courts are protected from perceived political interference through economic manipulation.
- 4. It is well understood by the Government and the judiciary that the Quadrennial Commission process is unique in that its fundamental purpose is to serve the public interest by upholding judicial independence. Both the Government and the judiciary (the "principal parties") have recognized and accepted their shared responsibility to

ensure that the Commission is able to fulfill its mandate in the most effective manner.

This commitment is reflected in the collaborative manner in which preparations for this Commission have been undertaken by the principal parties.

- 5. The 1999 and 2003 Commissions and the principal parties have had to grapple with the inadequacies and inconsistencies in the evidence available. In particular, concern had been repeatedly expressed about the lack of a common reliable set of data in relation to the incomes of self-employed lawyers, who constitute an important source of appointments to the superior court Bench.
- 6. As discussed more fully below, in preparation for this Commission, the Government shared with the judiciary a wide range of information related to compensation of its most senior cadre. The principal parties agreed to work together to develop a common set of data generated by the Canada Revenue Agency (the "CRA") upon which to base their respective submissions. It is the parties' hope that the resulting data will help to avoid the controversy and considerable frustration experienced in earlier Commission processes.
- 7. The Government is confident that the constructive approach taken by the parties, particularly in the development of improved evidence, will assist the Commission in the fulfillment of its mandate.

- 8. However, as important as the efforts are to improve the quality and reliability of the evidence before it, and as previous Commissions have observed, the assessment of the adequacy of judicial compensation is not and cannot be a formulaic exercise of mathematical analysis. It is in the end an exercise of informed judgment in relation to all of the statutory criteria established by Parliament in subsection 26(1.1) of the *Judges Act*.
- 9. The Government's submission is premised on three main arguments. First, adequacy of judicial compensation must be considered in light of the range of demands on the public purse. Second, it should be roughly proportional to overall compensation trends required to attract and retain other professionals of the highest capacity and caliber who choose to work in the public sector and contribute to the public interest. Third, tangible remuneration, including salaries, annuity, and other benefits are not the sole, or indeed the predominant, reason why outstanding candidates seek judicial office. The intangible benefits of judicial office can be as important in the decision to go to the bench. These include the desire to make a contribution to public life, the challenge and inherent interest of the work, including the opportunity to directly influence the development of the law, not to mention the recognition, status and quality of life associated with service on the Bench. These considerations underpin the Government's key submission that judicial compensation and in particular salary trends should track those of the most senior cadres of federal public officials whose compensation is based on the same broad considerations.

PART II - COMMISSION MANDATE

- 10. Section 26 of the Judges Act¹ establishes the "Quadrennial" Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission. The Commission's task is to inquire into the adequacy of judicial salaries and benefits for superior court judges and report its recommendations.
- 11. Superior court judges are those judges appointed and paid by the federal Government. They sit on the Supreme Court of Canada, Federal Court of Appeal, Federal Court, Tax Court of Canada, and the superior trial and appellate courts in every province/territory. There are approximately 1,047 superior court judges², of whom 1,003 are *puisne* judges.³
- 12. The *Judges Act* provides statutory criteria to guide the Commission in making its inquiry. Subsection 26(1.1) directs the Commission to consider the following factors in its inquiry:
 - (a) the prevailing economic conditions in Canada, including the cost of living, and the overall economic and current financial position of the federal government;
 - (b) the role of financial security of the judiciary in ensuring judicial independence;

¹ R.S.C. 1985, c. J-1, as amended (<u>http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/index.html?noCookie</u>). See Appendix 1.

² Number of judges on the Bench as of December 1, 2007, based on information provided by the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs.

³ A *puisne* judge is a judge not designated a Chief Justice, an Associate Chief Justice, or a judge of the Supreme Court of Canada.

- (c) the need to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary; and
- (d) any other objective criteria that the Commission considers relevant.
- 13. These statutory criteria provide the analytical framework within which the adequacy of judicial salaries and benefits are to be assessed. The constitutional principles identified in *Reference re Remuneration of Judges of the Provincial Court of Prince Edward Island*, [1997] 3 S.C.R. 3 ("P.E.I. Judges Reference")⁴ inform the interpretation and application of the statutory criteria.

⁴ http://scc.lexum.umontreal.ca/en/1997/1997rcs3-3/1997rcs3-3.html

PART III - CURRENT ENTITLEMENTS

- 14. As of April 1, 2007, *puisne* judges receive a salary \$252,000.⁵ All judicial salaries are indexed automatically pursuant to section 25 of the *Judges Act*. Based on the Industrial Aggregate (IA), which is a measure of average weekly earnings (AWE), an indexation increase is applied on April 1 of each year.⁶
- 15. All judges are also entitled to a broad array of benefits including an incidental allowance, health and dental benefits, life insurance, and considerable retirement benefits and options.⁷

- Incidental allowance of \$5000 per year (s. 27(1)) (Federal Court and Tax Court judges receive an additional \$2000 per year, s. 27(3));
- Insurance comparable to that available under the Public Service Management Insurance to executives, including life insurance, supplementary life insurance, post-retirement life insurance, dependants' insurance; and accidental death and dismemberment insurance (s. 41.2);
- Coverage under the Public Service Health Care Plan, the Public Service Dental Care Plan and after retirement coverage under Public Service Health Care Plan and the Pensioners' Dental Services Plan (s. 41.3);
- An annuity at two thirds salary (s. 42(1)):
 - o after fifteen years in office when combined age and number of years in judicial office is not less than eighty
 - o if afflicted with a permanent infirmity
 - o at age of retirement after ten years in judicial office (pro-rated if less than 10 years)
- Early retirement option at fifty-five and 10 years in office (s. 43.1)
- Survivor's annuity equal to one-third of a judicial salary (s. 44) with option to elect for enhanced annuity (s. 44.01); dependent's annuity (s. 47); option to elect an optional survivor annuity (s. 44.2) if relationship commences after the judges' retirement.
- Option to elect supernumerary status (s. 28, s. 29)

⁵ Chief Justices/Associate Chief Justices/Senior Judges, Supreme Court of Canada judges, and the Chief Justice of Canada receive salaries of \$276,200, \$299,800 and \$323,800, respectively (a proportionate increase at each level of 9.6%, 8.5%, and 8.0%, respectively).

⁶ Judicial salaries are increased by the percentage change in the IA from one year to the next year. For example, the AWE reported for 2005 was \$725.41 and for 2006 was \$747.08. The percentage change between the two figures, 3.0%, is the IA. Applying this 3.0% on April 1, 2007 raised the salary of a puisne judge from \$244,700 to \$252,000.

⁷ Under the *Judges Act*, superior court judges' benefits include:

16. The task for this Commission is to assess the adequacy of the judicial salary and benefits in light of the statutory criteria set out in subsection 26(1.1). The Government will address each criterion in turn.

PART IV - ANALYSIS

- (a) Prevailing economic conditions in Canada, including the cost of living, and the overall economic and current financial position of the federal government
- 17. Canada's economic position as well as the Government's financial position are important contextual elements in the determination of the "adequacy" of judicial compensation. The Government accepts that the nature of the judicial office and function imposes unique considerations in terms of claims on public resources.
 However, the first criterion is premised on the recognition that judges are paid from the public purse which is subject to many competing and legitimate demands outlined below.
- 18. The 2003 Commission suggested that this criterion required it to ask "...whether the state of economic affairs in Canada would or should inhibit or restrain us from making the recommendations we would otherwise consider appropriate." The Government does not agree with this approach. Rather, in the Government's view, the Commission must undertake its analysis in light of Canada's economic position and the overall state of the Government's finances and economic and social priorities of its mandate. Secondly, any increases in judicial compensation must be reasonable and justifiable in light of the expenditure priority that the Government has accorded to attracting and retaining professionals of similarly high, indeed outstanding, qualities and capacity within the federal public sector.

⁸ Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission Report (Report), May 31, 2004, p. 9. (http://www.quadcom.gc.ca/rpt/report.20040531.html). See Appendix 2.

- 19. On October 30, 2007 the Minister of Finance tabled the Government's Economic Statement⁹ in the House of Commons setting out the Government of Canada's assessment of the current state of the Canadian economy and the current and future position of the Government of Canada, and includes economic forecasts based on the average of private sector forecasts surveyed by the Department of Finance in October 2007.
- 20. The Economic Statement demonstrates the continued robustness of the Canadian economy, but also notes that recent turbulence in global financial markets, stemming largely from developments in the U.S. housing sector and mortgage markets, and the rapid appreciation of the Canadian dollar have led to increased uncertainty regarding the near-term growth in Canada and abroad.
- 21. Reflecting these developments private sector forecasters expect real economic (GDP) growth to moderate from 2.8% in 2006 to 2.5 % in 2007 and 2.4% in 2008. In the longer-term growth is forecast at 2.7%, 2.9% and 3.1% for 2009 to 2012 respectively. Inflation (based on the Consumer Price Index) increased by 2.0 % in 2006 and is projected to increase by 2.3 % in 2007 and 2.2 % in 2008. However, the GST reduction effective January 1, 2008 is likely to result in a downward revision of this projection. Inflation for 2009 to 2012 is forecast at 2.0%. ¹⁰

⁹ Economic Statement, tabled in the House of Commons by the Honourable Jim Flaherty, October 30, 2007 (http://www.fin.gc.ca/budtoce/2007/ec07_e.html). See Appendix 3.

¹⁰ Letter from Mr. Paul Rochon, Assistant Deputy Minister, Economic and Fiscal Policy Branch, Department of Finance, dated December 11, 2007. See Appendix 4.

- 22. To off-set the potential downside risks to the economy described in paragraph 20 above, the Government is taking measures which include improving Canada's business tax advantage to bolster confidence and encourage investment, and reducing personal taxes. The Government also remains committed to reducing the federal debt by \$10 billion in 2007-08, and \$3 billion in 2008-09 and each year thereafter. These tax and debt reductions illustrate the range of demands on the fiscal framework.
- 23. After taking into account the tax and debt reductions that the Government sees as strategically important to secure Canada's continuing prosperity, the Government's planning surplus is forecast at \$1.6 billion, \$1.4 billion, \$1.3 billion and \$4.5 billion for 2007-08 to 2010–11 respectively. This is the amount available to fund any and all new government priorities and unexpected liabilities, based on current information. From the planning surplus, the Government must determine its priorities from among many competing demands, including increases to judicial compensation.
- 24. In addition to debt reduction the key priorities of the Government are outlined in the March 2007 Budget, and include: strengthening the federation by restoring the fiscal balance to permit provinces and territories to better provide services and infrastructure, providing tax relief for working families, preserving the environment, improving health care, supporting Canadian troops and supporting Canadian farmers. These priorities demonstrate the breadth of demands on the planning surplus.

¹¹ Economic Statement, *supra*, at page 47.

25. In sum, while Canada's economic fundamentals are strong, there are potential downside risks to which the Government must remain attentive. To this end, the Government continues its unflinching commitment to overall fiscal responsibility in order to ensure our future economic health and prosperity. Within this context, the adequacy of the judicial salary must be analyzed.

(b) The role of financial security of the judiciary in ensuring judicial independence

- 26. In assessing the "adequacy" of the judicial compensation, it is necessary to consider if the compensation is adequate to secure the financial security of the judiciary.
- 27. The P.E.I. Judges Reference identifies three components of financial security:
 - (1) the requirement of an independent, objective and effective commission;
 - (2) the avoidance of negotiations between the judiciary and the executive; and,
 - (3) the requirement that judicial salaries not fall below a minimum level. 12
- 28. While the first two components of financial security relate to process, the third component of financial security is substantive. Judicial salaries must not fall below a minimum level in order to protect the judiciary from interference through economic manipulation. Public confidence in the administration of justice is preserved when judicial salaries are adequate, because the public remains confident that the judiciary

¹² [1997] 3 S.C.R. 3 at paras. 131-135. See Appendix 5.

is not adjudicating cases in a particular way in order to secure a higher salary from the executive or legislature or to receive benefits from one of the litigants.¹³

- 29. A *puisne* judge salary rose 41% between March 31, 2000 and April 1, 2007, rising from \$178,100 to its current level of \$252,000.¹⁴ There can be no serious suggestion that judicial salaries have fallen below an acceptable minimum.
- 30. Indeed annual statutory indexing, which has provided a cumulative increase of 10.4%¹⁵ since 2003, and the statutory requirement for a quadrennial review of compensation, operate to ensure that such a possibility is avoided.

(c) The need to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary

- 31. The Government recognizes the important public interest in continuing to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary. The pool of potential candidates from which the judiciary is drawn consists of a specialized group of professionals who typically enjoy a much higher income than the average Canadian.
- 32. The demographic information obtained from the Commissioner for Federal

¹⁴ Salary Increases between March 31, 2000 and April 1, 2007, prepared by the Department of Justice. See Appendix 6.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* The increase of 7.25% in 2004 was inclusive of indexing. The 10.4% figure assumes that 1.3% of the 2004 increase was attributable to the IA.

¹³ P.E.I. Judges Reference, [1997] 3 S.C.R. 3 at para. 193. See Appendix 5.

Judicial Affairs¹⁶ demonstrates that an appointment to the Bench is highly attractive to the full range of outstanding candidates, that is, those who have been recommended by Judicial Appointments Advisory Committees for appointment to judicial office. By way of illustration, of the 141 appointments between April 1 2004 and March 31 2007, 78% of new judges came from private practice, representing a wide range in terms of area of practice and size of firm. Among the 22% coming from outside private practice, 32% of new judges were in some form of government service, ¹⁷ 32% were provincial court judges or superior court masters, and 16% of new judges were from academia. These new judges came from all regions in Canada, rural and urban, ranged in age from 41 to 65, and 34% were female. ¹⁸

- 33. There is no difficulty in attracting private practice self-employed lawyers to the Bench at the current salary levels. A significant number of appointees had been private practice self-employed lawyers prior to their appointments (78%), signalling the high desirability of a judicial appointment for this segment of the legal profession.
- 34. In light of the demographic information demonstrating the range of practice settings, age at appointment, and regional distribution of the appointees to the Bench, the Government does not agree that the comparator for the judges should be defined

¹⁶ Tables for period of April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2007 concerning appointees' age at appointment; gender; size of firm; place of practice/employment by city, province, territory; private practice in main cities; predominate area of practice; private practice predominate area of practice; non-private practice predominate area of practice; information linked by judge. Prepared by the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs. See Appendix 7.

¹⁷ This includes prosecutors and legal aid lawyers, as well as a member of a tribunal and a complaints resolution manager.

¹⁸ See Appendix 7.

as the highest earning self-employed lawyers, located in the major cities, between the ages of 44 to 56. The issue of the comparators will be addressed separately below.

(i) Attraction and Retention

- 35. The statistical information from the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs¹⁹ demonstrates that there is no deficit of qualified candidates for the Bench.
- 36. From June 2003 to October 31, 2007, of the 2,491 applications were received, 983 candidates were recommended by the Judicial Appointments Advisory Committees (JAAC). Provincial/territorial judges who apply are deemed qualified without assessment by the JAAC. There have been 203 applications from provincial/territorial judges.²⁰
- 37. Since 2003, 229 judges have been appointed from a pool of 1,186 recommended candidates, ²¹ a ratio of five to one. This qualified pool of applicants/appointees demonstrates that outstanding candidates are attracted to the superior courts at the current compensation levels.
- 38. Similarly, there can be no suggestion that the current levels of judicial

¹⁹ Advisory Committees on Judicial Appointments, January 1, 2003 to October 31, 2007, prepared by the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs. See Appendix 8.

²⁰ *Ibid.* Under the Federal Judicial Appointments Process, provincial and territorial court judges who apply for appointment to the superior court are deemed qualified and not assessed by Judicial Advisory Appointments Committees (JAACs). The number of such applicants is determined by subtracting from the total number of applications received, those assessed by the JAACs (2491– (983 + 1305) = 203).

²¹ 983 recommended candidates + 203 provincial/territorial court judges = pool of 1,186.

compensation are causing a retention problem. Between 1997 and November 23, 2007, a mere eight judges elected to retire from judicial office before they were eligible to receive an annuity benefit. Even assuming some judges decide to take early retirement because of dissatisfaction with compensation (and there are many other possible reasons for electing early retirement), during this period only 12 judges opted for the pro-rated, early retirement annuity. The high retention of superior court judges further supports the attractiveness of the current judicial salary and other benefits.

(ii) Benefits other than Salary

- 39. It is indisputable that the judicial annuity is a significant incentive to those considering applying for judicial appointment. The judicial annuity is equal to two-thirds of the judge's salary for life. A judicial annuity equal to two-thirds of \$252,000 would be \$168,000.
- 40. Most judges retire under the rule provided in paragraph 42(1)(a) of the *Judges*Act, which states that a judge may retire with a full annuity when, with a minimum of 15 years in judicial office, the judge's age and years of service total at least eighty.

 For example, a judge appointed at age 50 could retire with a full annuity at age 65.²³

²² Retirements from 1997 through November 23, 2007, prepared by the Department of Justice based on information provided by the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs. See Appendix 9. ²³ s. 42, *Judges Act*. See Appendix 1.

- 41. Most of the judicial annuity is government-funded, with judges contributing 7% of their salary to the annuity benefit.²⁴
- 42. The average value of the government-paid portion of the judicial annuity (not including disability benefits) is 24.6% of salary.²⁵ Accordingly, if the value of the annuity is taken into account, the current judicial salary for a *puisne* judge of \$252,000 would equate to \$313.992. This value of the judicial annuity is in addition to the other significant elements of the compensation and benefits which accompany judicial office, noted earlier at paragraph 15.
- 43. The value of the security that is provided by the annuity entitlement should not be under-estimated. A judge who becomes disabled at any time, even the day after appointment, is immediately entitled to an annuity of two thirds the judicial salary, for life. The partner of a judge who dies at any time, even the day after appointment, is entitled to half of that pension, for life.
- 44. A further incentive that is unique to judicial office is the ability of a superior court judge to elect supernumerary status upon attaining eligibility for retirement. A judge who elects this status continues to receive a full salary but carries a reduced workload, generally understood to be half that of a regular judge. The attractiveness that the flexibility this arrangement permits a judge at the latter part of his or her

²⁴ s. 50, *Judges Act*. See Appendix 1.

²⁵ Report on the Earnings of Self-employed Lawyers for the Department of Justice Canada in Preparation for the 2007 Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission, Haripaul Pannu, (Pannu Report) at p. 11. See Appendix 10.

career to continue at full salary but to "ramp down", is demonstrated by the fact that the historical rate of supernumerary election is 85% for those judges reaching eligibility, and 93% of those who do elect, do it within a year of becoming eligible.²⁶

(iii) <u>Compensation Comparators</u>

- 45. The evidence clearly indicates that there is currently no difficulty in either attracting or retaining judges at the current compensation level. At the same time, the Government recognizes that it is appropriate to have regard to compensation trends in other relevant comparator groups. Successive judicial compensation commissions have grappled with the challenge of finding appropriate "comparator" positions against which the judicial salary can be assessed, given the *sui generis* nature of judicial office, with its unique functions and constitutional status.
- 46. Because of the lack of direct comparators, Commissions have historically been required to consider the relevance and weight to be accorded to a broad array of information, particularly in relation to the remuneration of senior officials and lawyers in the federal public service, as well as private-sector lawyers. These comparator groups will be considered in sequence. The Government is of the view that public sector comparators are more relevant than the private sector comparators.

²⁶ Based on an examination of the full historical record up until December 2002. The eligibility requirements for supernumerary status were modified (to allow for election on attaining "modified rule of 80" for a maximum period of 10 years) by An Act to amend the Judges Act and certain other Acts in relations to courts, (Royal Assent December 14, 2006). There is insufficient data as of yet to determine whether the election rates would be affected by the new eligibility rules.

This is because increases to judicial compensation should be roughly proportional to overall compensation trends required to attract and retain senior professionals of the highest capacity and caliber who choose to work in the public sector and contribute to the public interest.

A. Public Sector Compensation Trends

- 47. In the Government's view, the most relevant public sector comparator group is that of the most senior federal public servants (EX 1-5; DM 1-4; Senior LA [lawyer cadre]). While the 1999 Drouin Commission and earlier Triennial Commissions had historically relied on the DM-3 salary midpoint as a comparator, the 2003 Commission noted that many officials in this broad spectrum of senior government officials, and not just those at the DM-3 level, potentially have a level of experience and capacity comparable to that of candidates for appointment to the Bench.²⁷
- 48. The Government agrees that comparability to this broader spectrum of senior officials is merited because these executives share capacity, skills and abilities comparable to judges, as well as a commitment to making a contribution to public life. Of equal force, reference to the senior executive cadre is merited because the financial position of the Government is reflected in part in the salaries it is prepared to pay its most senior employees.

²⁷ Report, pp. 28-29. See Appendix 2.

- 49. With respect to salary increases, senior officials within the EX/DM community have received annual increases over the past four years of 2.5% (2004-05), 3.0% (2005-06), 2.5% (2006-07) and 2.1% (2007-08).²⁸ These percentage increases are important, because they provide an indication of the financial capacity of the Government to compensate and the priority the Government accords to compensate senior professionals of high ability who have chosen service in the public interest over the private sector.
- 50. It is clear that the current judicial salary of \$252,000 compares very favourably to salaries earned by EXs²⁹ and DMs³⁰. As of April 1, 2007, the weighted mid-point salary of EX-1 to EX-5 is \$115,129. The weighted salary mid-point for DM-1 to DM-4 is \$212,186; for DM-2 to DM-4 is \$225,348; and, for DM-3 to DM-4 is \$248,150.³¹
- 51. The EX/DM salary increases relied on do not include an at-risk pay component.³²
 Past Quadrennial Commissions appear to have taken average at-risk pay into account

²⁸ Executive Group Rates of Pay and Population Count, April 2004 to April 2007, prepared by Executive Management Policies Directorate, Canada Public Service Agency, July 19, 2007. See Appendix 11. Regarding negotiated annual increases in the federal public service, see Appendix 12.

³¹ 2007-08 Executive and Deputy Minister Salary Ranges, prepared by the Department of Justice. See Appendix 14.

For EX salary ranges, see Appendix 11.

Income Information Regarding Deputy Ministers, At-risk Pay for DMs, Deputy Ministers (DM-3)

Summary of Benefits, prepared by Senior Personnel and Special Projects, Privy Council Office, October 2007. See Appendix 13.

³² 2007 – 2008 Performance Management Program Guidelines, Senior Personnel and Special Projects Secretariat, Privy Council Office, November 2007. Page 6 of the Guidelines defines "at-risk pay" and "bonus", the lump-sum awards which are dependent upon performance. See Appendix 15.

in calculating the DM-3 salary mid-point. The Government takes issue with this approach as there are clear distinctions between deputy ministers and superior court judges which make it inappropriate to include at-risk pay in the public sector salary comparator:

- First, deputy ministers are appointed at pleasure; they do not have security of tenure. By contrast, superior court judges have the highest guarantee of security of tenure. Under the Constitution, a superior court judge holds office during good behaviour and may only be removed by the Governor General upon the advice of the Senate and House of Commons.³³ This unequalled security of tenure is one of the undisputed benefits of judicial office, and must be accorded significant weight in making comparisons between judicial and deputy minister compensation.
- Second, while judges' salaries receive automatic indexation on their salaries,
 deputy ministers do not. The annual Industrial Aggregate adjustment delivers
 a generous salary increase, and its value in according a real salary increase
 every year should not be overlooked.
- Third, the at-risk portion of a deputy minister's salary is dependant upon the achievement of specific organization commitments. This amount is a lump sum which is assessed and re-earned annually, and is at-risk. By comparison, superior court judges receive a guaranteed salary which is not dependant upon the attainment of performance objectives.

³³ Constitution Act, 1867, 30 & 31 Victoria, c. 3 (U.K.), s. 99. See Appendix 16.

- 52. In the Government's view, pay dependent upon annual assessed performance should not enter into the comparison. An annual performance pay award is a concept foreign to judicial salaries, since it would be at odds with the principle of judicial independence.
- 53. Evidence respecting public sector lawyers, 34 salaries is also relevant as these lawyers form a significant component of appointments to the Bench. Concerning appointment of federal Government lawyers to the superior courts since 2004, the pre-appointment salary of these judges ranged from between \$92,255 \$117,620 (Senior Counsel salary range) to \$137,600 \$167,800 (Chief Legal Counsel salary range). To the extent that provincial/territorial Crown lawyers have also been appointed to the Bench, there is significant diversity in these pre-appointment salary ranges. For example, the CC-3 lawyer level in Ontario carries a salary range of \$106,253 to \$174,000, while the Legal Officer 4 level in Alberta carries a salary range of \$139,512 to \$153,444.36

B. Private Sector Compensation Trends

54. As indicated in the Introduction, the 2003 Commission expressed frustration with the lack of reliable data in relation to private sector legal income. In response to these

³⁴ Public sector lawyers refer to those lawyers' in government service. It includes prosecutors, legal aid lawyers, a member of a tribunal, and a complaints resolution manager. It does not include provincial court judges. (See Table 8, Appointees Not in Private Practice, Predominate Area of Practice, April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2007 at Appendix 7.)

³⁵ LA Law Group Salary Ranges, prepared by the Department of Justice based on information on Treasury Board Secretariat website (http://www.tbs-

sct.gc.ca/pubs_pol/hrpubs/RatesofPay/rapaceexunem2_e.asp#_Toc476385565). See Appendix 17.

Provincial and Territorial Lawyer Salary Ranges, prepared by the Department of Justice. See Appendix 18.

concerns, significant efforts by the principal parties have been made to improve the quality of the data and information upon which the Commission will be asked to make its recommendations.

- 55. The Government is confident that this data will provide the Commission with a resource upon which to rely in undertaking its analysis and making its recommendations. A description of the Master File Database created by CRA officials to provide a broad and reliable data set is attached at Appendix 19³⁷.
- 56. Past Quadrennial Commissions adopted a methodology to analyze income tax data of private practice lawyers that identified as the comparison point the 75th percentile income of self-employed lawyers in major cities between the ages of 44 and 56, after excluding lawyers earning below a specified amount. (The "income threshold" used by Drouin Commission excluded lawyers earning less than \$50,000, while the McLennan Commission excluded lawyers earning less than \$60,000).
- 57. The Government does not agree with this approach because the resulting comparator does not reflect the true pool from which appointments are made. It has the effect of distorting the true picture of judicial appointments by ignoring two out of three appointees who tend to have considerably lower incomes. As Annex A to this submission illustrates, after all the "filters" (selection criteria) are applied, the

³⁷ Masterfile on Incomes of Self-employed Lawyers, Terms, Definitions, Methodology and Documentation, Canada Revenue Agency. See Appendix 19.

methodology in effect isolates as the comparator group the top one-twelfth of lawyers in the pool (one-quarter of the top one-third of the true pool).

- 58. A critical issue for the Government is the choice of methodology for assessing the relevant comparative information.
- Pannu, who supported the Government in its 2003 submission. Mr. Pannu reviewed the data CRA produced on the incomes of self-employed lawyers for 2002 through 2005 and satisfied himself of the internal consistency and reliability of the data for use in the context of judicial salaries. His report is attached as Appendix 10.³⁸
- 60. Mr. Pannu sets out a methodology to analyze the lawyer income data in relation to the true pool from which judges are drawn. This methodology is to be preferred because it reflects the diversity of all self-employed legal professionals who are appointed to the Bench. It avoids distorting the true picture of appointments because it does not assume that all appointees are high income earners between the ages of 44 to 56 practicing law in Canada's largest cities.
- 61. Mr. Pannu analyzes the whole range of incomes. By contrast, the 2003

 Commission did not look at lawyers earning \$60,000 or less. In the Government's view, incomes of lawyers earning less than \$60,000 should not be excluded from the

³⁸ Report on the Earnings of Self-employed Lawyers for the Department of Justice Canada in Preparation for the 2007 Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission, Haripaul Pannu, (Pannu Report).

analysis because there is no evidence to support the assumption that a lawyer earning at this level could not be appointed to the Bench.

- 62. Mr. Pannu also considers the full age range of appointees to the Bench, consistent with the demographic information which demonstrated that appointees have ranged in age from 41 to 65 years. Mr. Pannu assigns lawyers' incomes in a given age bracket (e.g. 44 to 48) a weight in the analysis that corresponds to the proportion of lawyers appointed from that age bracket to the Bench (an age-weighted analysis).
- 63. Mr. Pannu states that income at the 65th and 75th percentiles are commonly relied on by compensation professionals as a benchmark for an attractive compensation level.
- 64. Following this methodology, Mr. Pannu has determined that the age-weighted income of self-employed lawyers in 2005 (most recent tax data year) is \$181,278 at the 65th percentile and \$248,916 at the 75th percentile. The judicial salary, as it stood in 2005, of \$237,400 compares favourably to these benchmarks.
- As stated earlier, the judicial annuity has a value of 24.6% of salary. Thus the 2005 judicial salary of \$237,400 would correspond to a self-employed income of \$295,777. In sum, Government submits that the current judicial salary and benefits is clearly attractive in relation to compensation trends in the private sector for self-employed lawyers.

(d) Any other objective criteria that the Commission considers relevant

- 66. As previously mentioned, it is important to recognize that judicial candidates should not be regarded as being exclusively, or even primarily, motivated by considerations of salary. In assessing the "adequacy" of the judicial salary, the Government submits that the Commission must weigh in the balance both the tangible and intangible benefits of judicial office.
- other than salary in the decision to seek judicial office. The survey, entitled "Survey of Pre-appointment Earnings of Recently Appointed Judges and Earnings of Experienced Barristers", canvassed the factors which influenced acceptance of judicial appointment.³⁹ The three most common reasons judges listed as to why they had accepted a judicial appointment were: the challenge/to achieve ambitions; interesting work/greater job satisfaction; and to contribute to society and the development of the law.
- 68. There is little question that Canadian judges, like their British counterparts are equally motivated by non-compensatory incentives, including a desire to make a contribution to the public life of the nation, a wish to attain what many see as the natural culmination of a career in law and to shape its development, an unparalleled

³⁹ Office of Manpower Economics, Survey of Pre-appointment Earnings of Recently Appointed Judges and Earnings of Experienced Barristers, Report by Ipsos Public Affairs, June 2005. (http://www.ome.uk.com/review.cfm?body=4&page=2&all#documents). See Appendix 20.

security of tenure, and the recognition, status and quality of life associated with service on the Bench.

PART V - GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL

- 69. After considering all the factors under subsection 26(1.1) of the *Judges Act*, the existing level of salaries and benefits, coupled with automatic annual adjustments, are more than adequate. That said, it is reasonable for judges to expect that salaries should increase at a level generally consistent with overall compensation trends that is roughly proportional to overall compensation trends in the federal public sector. As explained, these increases reflect the priority that the Government accords to the public interest in attracting and retaining professionals of the highest capacity and caliber who choose to work in the public sector and contribute to the public interest.
- 70. Over the past four years, the annual salary increases to the EX/DM community, exclusive of performance pay, have ranged between 2.1% to 3.0%, for an average annual increase of 2.5%. Accordingly, the Government proposes an increase of 4.9% in the first year (2008-09), inclusive of indexation under the Industrial Aggregate (projected to be 2.4% on April 1, 2008).
- 71. An increase of 4.9% will raise a *puisne* judge salary to \$264,300. This will result in a 48% increase since the first Quadrennial Commission cycle began. The Government further proposes the continuation of annual indexing in the following three years (2009-10 to 2011-12). The Industrial Aggregate annual adjustments are projected to be 2.6% in 2009-10, 2.8% in 2010-11 and 3.0% in 2011-12.⁴⁰ The

⁴⁰ Industrial Aggregate projections provided by the Office of the Chief Actuary, Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions.

overall cost of the Government proposal from the years 2008-09 to 2011-12 is approximately \$29.6 million.

PART VI

ALL OF WHICH is respectfully submitted.

DATED at Ottawa, this 14th day of December, 2007.

Donald J. Rennie

Michael Morris

Counsel for the Attorney General of Canada

Michael Monis

ANNEX A

Critique of Use of the 75th Percentile Incomes of Private Practice Lawyers Aged 44-56 from Major Cities with a \$60K Low-Income Threshold as a Reference Point for Establishing Judicial Salaries

Past Quadrennial Commissions have considered a methodology which uses as a reference point the 75th percentile income among private practice lawyers between the ages of 44 and 56 in major cities, after having applied a low-income threshold (most recently \$60,000). While the rationale behind this approach may appear reasonable at first glance, it has the net effect of ignoring the circumstances of almost 70% of appointees. And the one-third who remain in the reference group have considerably higher incomes than those who have been filtered out by this procedure.

According to statistics provided by the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs⁴¹, 78% of judges appointed between April 2004 and the end of March 2007 came from private practice, 67% were in the 44-56 age category, and 64% lived in one of Canada's ten largest Census Metropolitan Areas. However, only 33% satisfied all three criteria; 67% fell outside this focus. Furthermore, as each successive criterion is applied, the income distribution of the remaining group shifts up.

The data generated by CRA⁴² on the incomes of self-employed lawyers clearly demonstrate that those between the ages of 44 and 56 have higher incomes than those outside that range. Lawyers in large cities also tend to have much higher incomes.

In sum, the methodology that focuses on the incomes of self-employed lawyers between 44 and 56 from large cities shrinks the comparator group to the 33% of lawyers who have the highest incomes and ignores the 67% of appointments that are made outside that ambit. This methodology obviously distorts the true picture of judicial appointments by ignoring two out of three appointees who tend to have considerably lower incomes. Finally, by taking the 75th percentile of the rarified one-third of lawyers remaining after all the selection criteria are applied, the methodology in effect refers to the top one-twelfth of lawyers of the pool (one-quarter of the top one-third of the true pool).

⁴¹ See Appendix 7.

⁴² CRA Data Tables, prepared by the Canada Revenue Agency. See Appendix 21.

IN THE MATTER OF THE JUDGES ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. J-1, as amended

2011 JUDICIAL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS COMMISSION

SUBMISSION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

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PART I - INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

A. Overview of the Government's Salary Proposal

- 1. The constitutional role of this Quadrennial Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission is to ensure that Canada's federally-appointed judiciary are, and are reasonably perceived by the public to be, independent.¹ The purpose of its recommendations is to ensure "public confidence in the justice system."
- 2. The statutory role of this Commission is to make recommendations regarding the "adequacy of the salaries" and benefits of judges, when considered in light of the following statutory criteria:³
- (a) the prevailing economic conditions in Canada, including the cost of living, and the overall economic and current financial position of the federal government;
 - (b) the role of financial security of the judiciary in ensuring judicial independence;
 - (c) the need to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary; and
 - (d) any other objective criteria that the Commission considers relevant.
- 3. The genesis of this Commission was the 1997 decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in the *PEI Judges Reference*.⁴ That case arose in the context of several provincial governments reducing salaries of provincially-appointed judges due to fiscal restraints that resulted in public sector wage freezes and reductions. The Supreme Court held that "as a general constitutional principle, the salaries of provincial court judges can be reduced, increased, or frozen, either as part of an overall economic measure which affects the salaries of all or some persons who are

¹ Reference re Remuneration of Judges of the Provincial Court of Prince Edward Island; Reference re Independence and Impartiality of Judges of the Provincial Court of Prince Edward Island, [1997] 3 S.C.R. 3 (the "PEI Judges Reference"), at para. 112. The PEI Judges Reference was included in the index of background documents previously provided to the Commission.

In light of the Block Commission's recommendation that the documentation provided to the Commission be less voluminous, the parties also intend to file a Joint Book of Documents shortly after their opening submissions are filed, to avoid duplication. However, the Government would be pleased to provide any data or documents cited herein that would be of assistance to counsel for the judiciary or the Commission prior to filing of the Joint Book of Documents.

² *Ibid*.

³ Judges Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. J-1, s. 26.

⁴ Supra.

remunerated from public funds, or as part of a measure which is directed at provincial court judges as a class."⁵ However, a freeze or change to judicial remuneration requires "prior recourse to a special process, which is independent, effective, and objective, for determining judicial remuneration, to avoid the possibility of, or the appearance of, political interference through economic manipulation," which is the role of this Commission.⁶

4. An appearance of political interference through economic manipulation may be created either by judges being treated less well than others paid from the public purse, or by judges appearing to receive preferential treatment as compared to others paid from the public purse. Given that the *PEI Judges Reference* arose at a time of general expenditure restraints due to difficult fiscal circumstances, the Supreme Court specifically addressed the potential risks to public perception of judicial independence in such circumstances. The Court held:⁷

In my opinion, the risk of political interference through economic manipulation is clearly greater when judges are treated differently from other persons paid from the public purse. This is why we focussed on discriminatory measures in Beauregard. As Professor Renke, supra, has stated in the context of current appeals (at p. 19):

. . . if judges were spared compensation decreases affecting other public sector groups, a reasonable person might well conclude that the judges had engaged in some behind-the-scenes lobbying. The judges' exemption could be thought to be the result of secret deals, or secret commitments to favour the government. An exemption of judges from across-the-board pay cuts is as likely to generate suspicions concerning judicial independence as the reduction of judicial compensation in the context of general public sector reductions. [emphasis added]

5. Measures that are "designed to effectuate the government's overall fiscal priorities" and thus "aimed at furthering some sort of larger public interest" can be applied to the judiciary. 8 Indeed, the Supreme Court has held that exemption from such measures risks undermining public confidence in the independence of the judiciary. Chief Justice Lamer warned: "Nothing would be more damaging to the reputation of the judiciary and the administration of justice than

⁷ *Ibid.* at para. 158.

⁵ *Ibid.* at para. 133; see also para. 147.

⁶ Ibid.

⁸ *Ibid.* at para. 184.

a perception that judges were not shouldering their share of the burden in difficult economic times."

- 6. The global economy has recently experienced the deepest and most synchronized recession since the Great Depression. That recession has had a seriously detrimental effect on Canada's finances. Global recovery from the recession has been slow. Recently, the global economic situation has deteriorated, particularly as a result of the sovereign debt and banking crisis in Europe and concerns over the sustainability of the U.S. fiscal situation.
- 7. In 2009, the Government exempted judges from wage restraint measures that were applied generally to the public sector due to the recession. However, the effects of the recession have been deeper and more protracted than expected at that time. The Government is of the view that continued exemption of the judiciary from the fiscal measures applying to others who are paid from the public purse is not sustainable or fair, and would be inconsistent with the guidance provided in the *PEI Judges Reference*.
- 8. Accordingly, to maintain public confidence in the judiciary and ensure that increases in judicial salaries reflect the constraint on public sector spending, the Government proposes that salary increases as a result of statutory indexation in s. 25 of the *Judges Act* be capped at a maximum of 1.5% annually for the quadrennial period. The Government notes that the adequacy of the resulting salary will be reviewed again by the 2015 Quadrennial Commission.

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⁹ *Ibid.* at para. 196.

¹⁰ Indexation under the *Judges Act* is based on the "Industrial Aggregate" index ("IAI") published by Statistics Canada: *Judges Act*, s. 25. The IAI is the percentage change in average weekly earnings ("AWE") across all industries, including overtime, as calculated by Statistics Canada on the basis of monthly labour income surveys of employers. IAI is applied to judicial salaries on a fiscal-year basis, so it is the change in AWE over the most recently available 12-month period, which is the previous calendar year. That is, the IAI increase applied on April 1, 2012 will be the increase in the AWE over the course of 2011.

The IAI projections of Canada's Chief Actuary that would be applied to judicial salaries for 2012-16 are 2.2%; 2.6%; 2.8% and 2.9% respectively: Letter from M. Mercier, Office of the Chief Actuary, Office of the Superintendant of Financial Institutions, dated December 8, 2011 (to be included in the Joint Book of Documents to be submitted by the parties).

The most recent projections of IAI by the Department of Finance are 2.4% for 2011 (applied to judges in 2012) and 1.3% for 2012 (applied to judges in 2013): Letter from B. Robidoux, Assistant Deputy Minister, Economic and Fiscal Policy Branch, Department of Finance, dated December 16, 2011 ("Department of Finance Letter"), Annex D to this submission.

- 9. The Government submits that this annual increase of up to 1.5% (a net increase of up to 6.1%) is adequate to meet the requirements of s. 26 of the *Judges Act*. With respect to the mandatory criteria:
- 10. The prevailing economic conditions in Canada, including the cost of living, and the overall economic and current financial position of the federal government (s. 26(1.1)(a)): The global economy has slowed recently and uncertainty over the outlook has risen considerably. The key near-term risks are the sovereign debt and banking crisis in Europe, as well as the possibility of a further slowdown in the U.S. economy. The Canadian economy has performed relatively better but is not immune from these developments, and like other countries has been impacted through stock market declines and reduced business and consumer confidence. Private sector economists have revised down their outlook for Canadian economic growth since the 2011 budget, particularly for 2011 and 2012. The deterioration of the global economic situation has also begun to be felt in Canadian employment, which by November 2011 had dipped to its lowest level since May 2011. Weakness in our trading partners has also meant that Canada's exports remain below pre-recession levels. Budgetary deficits are projected throughout the quadrennial period. The Government has undertaken a comprehensive review of government spending to identify spending reductions of at least \$4 billion by 2014-15, the results of which will be announced in Budget 2012. Constraints on the Government's ability to spend necessarily inform its approach to public sector wage increases. The Government submits that it would be inconsistent with the guidance provided by the Supreme Court of Canada in the PEI Judges Reference for judges to be exempt from any constraint on wage increases as compared to others paid with public funds.¹¹
- 11. The role of financial security of the judiciary in ensuring judicial independence (s. 26(1.1)(b)): Judicial salaries are already well above the level at which the public could reasonably be concerned that judges are vulnerable to economic pressure due to lack of financial security.

Under the Government's proposal, if IAI turns out to be 1.5% or less in a particular year (as the Department of Finance predicts for 2013), that IAI amount would apply under s. 25 of the *Judges Act*, as usual. If IAI is more than 1.5%, the salary increase would be capped at 1.5%.

¹¹ PEI Judges Reference, supra at para. 156.

12. The need to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary (s. 26(1.1)(c)): There is no difficulty attracting outstanding candidates to the judiciary at current salary levels.

13. The Government submits that where:

- the country faces difficult economic and fiscal conditions; (a)
- wage increases of up to 1.5% annually were applied to individuals paid from the (b) public purse other than judges in 2008-11, pursuant to the Expenditure Restraint Act, 12
- (c) economic increases of 1.5% annually are being provided to executives and deputy ministers for 2011-13;¹³
- (d) economic increases of 1.5% annually have been negotiated with the largest public sector unions for 2011-14;14 and
- judicial salaries are already at a level that preserves financial security and (e) successful recruitment:

the current judicial salary plus an annual increase of up to 1.5% for the next four years, until the commencement of the next Quadrennial Commission, is adequate.

14. If this Commission recommends a 1.5% cap on indexation in such circumstances, a reasonable and informed person would not conclude that the Government is exerting political pressure through economic manipulation of the judiciary. ¹⁵ Rather, a reasonable and informed

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¹² Expenditure Restraint Act, S.C. 2009, c. 2, s. 393 ("ERA"), online: http://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/E-15.5/page-

^{14.}html#h-9.
Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, "Information Notice: Changes to Executive Level Total Compensation" online: http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/hrh/110729in-bi-eng.asp; an additional .25% was provided for 2011-12 as a result of savings resulting from elimination of accumulation of severance pay for resignation or retirement.

¹⁴ As a result of elimination of accumulation of severance pay for resignation or retirement, a top-up of .25% in 2011-12 and .5% in 2013-14 was also included in the overall wage increases in these settlements (that is, the total wage increases are 1.75% for 2011-12; 1.5% for 2012-13 and 2.0% for 2013-14, of which 1.5% annually is the economic increase): *Ibid.*; Public Service Alliance of Canada, "Treasury Board bargaining" (6 April 2011), online: http://www.psac-afpc.com/news/2011/bargaining/20110406-e.shtml; Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada, "Understanding Severance Pay"

http://www.pipsc.ca/portal/page/portal/website/news/magazine/spring2011/4.

¹⁵ Compare *PEI Judges Reference*, *supra* at para. 170.

person¹⁶ would conclude that judicial salaries are subject to the same constraints on spending that apply throughout the public sector, and that the temporary measures being proposed by the Government do not threaten judicial independence.¹⁷

B. The Commission's December 8, 2011 Notice

15. The Government acknowledges the Commission's Notice of December 8, 2011, which is attached hereto as Annex A. In that Notice, the Commission has declared its intention to adopt the mid-point of the DM-3 salary range, plus one-half of maximum performance pay "as a comparator that meets the section 26(1.1) criteria," unless "there has been a change in facts or circumstance which justify a rehearing of the question." Second, the Commission has indicated that it also intends to adopt recommendations 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 10 and 11 of the 2007 Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission (the "Block Commission") and the portion of recommendation 4 which relates to salary differentials, in the absence of a change of facts or circumstance. Third, in relation to former recommendations 1, 4 and 9, the Commission requests submissions "as to what those amounts should be currently based on the reasoning enunciated in those Recommendations." Finally, the Commission asks for submissions on whether it is "necessary or advisable" for it to "turn its mind to the timeliness and substance" of the Government's 2009 response to the Block Commission Report.

16. By letter dated December 13, 2011, the Government responded to the Notice. A copy of that letter is attached hereto as Annex B. For the reasons set out in its letter, the Government respectfully submits that the approach set out in the Notice is not open to the Commission. Rather, the Commission is constitutionally and statutorily required to conduct an inquiry in which submissions on all the criteria set out in s. 26 of the *Judges Act* are made and heard publicly and are considered independently and objectively by this Commission. This Commission must make its own assessment of the evidence and submissions received during its inquiry, and cannot simply follow the recommendations of a prior Commission without making

¹⁶ For the reasonable and informed person test, see *ibid*., at para. 113.

¹⁷ Compare *ibid.*, at para. 156.

¹⁸ Report of the Third Quadrennial Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission, dated May 30, 2008 ("Block Commission Report").

that assessment.¹⁹ In light of this duty, these representations set out evidence and submissions regarding all the issues raised by s. 26 of the *Judges Act*, rather than being limited to submissions on changes of fact or circumstance since the Block Commission.

PART II - BACKGROUND

A. Current Compensation

17. At the request of the Commission, the Government and the judiciary have jointly prepared a background note on the current compensation of judges and the evolution of their salaries since the commencement of the first Quadrennial Commission. A copy of that note is attached hereto as Annex C.

B. The Mandate of the Commission

- 18. This Commission has both a constitutional and a statutory mandate.
- 19. The constitutional purpose of this Commission is to preserve the independence of the federally-appointed judiciary. Judicial independence is a fundamental tenet of the Constitution of Canada and was described by Chief Justice Dickson as the "lifeblood of constitutionalism in democratic societies." Its protection is important not only to preserve impartiality in deciding individual cases but also to maintain the integrity of the judiciary in its role as guardian of the Constitution and to uphold public confidence in the administration of justice.
- 20. There are three essential conditions of judicial independence: security of tenure, administrative independence and financial security. The achievement of judicial independence is assessed by considering whether a "reasonable and informed person" would perceive that the court enjoys these three objective conditions of independence.²¹

56.html; see also: *Ell v. Alberta*, [2003] 1 S.C.R. 857 at para. 21, online:

http://scc.lexum.org/en/2003/2003scc35/2003scc35.html; PEI Judges Reference, supra at paras. 112 & 138; Block Commission Report, at paras. 2-5.

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¹⁹ Indeed, both the Block and McLennan Commissions specifically found that they were not bound by the conclusions of previous Commissions: Block Commission Report, at para. 21; Report of the Second Quadrennial Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission, dated May 31, 2004 ("McLennan Commission Report"), at p. 8.
²⁰ Beauregard v. Canada, [1986] 2 S.C.R. 56 at 70, online: <a href="http://scc.lexum.org/en/1986/1986scr2-5

²¹ PEI Judges Reference, supra at paras. 112-115; see also Block Commission Report, at paras. 6-9.

- 21. Financial security prevents "political interference through economic manipulation" of the judiciary.²² In the *PEI Judges Reference*, the Supreme Court held that financial security has three components: ²³
- (a) <u>First</u>, governments can increase, freeze or reduce judicial salaries and/or benefits, "either as part of an overall economic measure which affects the salaries of all or some persons who are remunerated from public funds, or as part of a measure directed at [judges] as a class." However, such changes or freezes to judicial remuneration require prior recourse to an independent, objective, effective judicial remuneration commission.
- (b) <u>Second</u>, negotiations between members of the judiciary or their representative organizations and members of the executive or legislature regarding remuneration are prohibited.
- (c) <u>Third</u>, the salaries paid to members of the judiciary must not be so low that judges could reasonably be perceived to be susceptible to political pressure through economic manipulation.
- 22. The Supreme Court described the "constitutional function performed by" this Commission and its provincial counterparts as being to "serve as an institutional sieve, to prevent the setting or freezing of judicial remuneration from being used as a means to exert political pressure through the economic manipulation of the judiciary." This Commission will have achieved its constitutional mandate if a reasonable and informed person would perceive that the setting of judicial compensation has been depoliticized. The Supreme Court has held that a

²³ *Ibid.* at paras. 131-37; see also *Mackin v. New Brunswick (Minister of Finance); Rice v. New Brunswick*, [2002] 1 S.C.R. 405 at paras. 54-60 (*Mackin* was included in the index of background documents previously provided to the Commission) and *Valente v. The Queen*, [1985] 2 S.C.R. 673 at 704, online: http://scc.lexum.org/en/1985/1985scr2-673/1985scr2-673.html; Block Commission Report, at para. 10.

²² PEI Judges Reference, supra. at para. 131.

²⁴ PEI Judges Reference, supra. at para. 170; see also Block Commission Report, at para. 12.

²⁵ See e.g. *Mackin, supra* at para. 69: "In short, I consider that the opinion stated by this Court in the *Provincial Court Judges Reference, supra*, requires that any change made to the remuneration conditions of judges at any given time must necessarily pass through the <u>institutional filter</u> of an independent, effective and objective body so that the relationship between the judiciary, on the one hand, and the executive and legislative branches, on the other, remain depoliticized as far as possible. That is a structural requirement of the Canadian Constitution resulting from the separation of powers and the rule of law" [emphasis added].

See also Provincial Court Judges' Assn. of New Brunswick v. New Brunswick (Minister of Justice); Ontario Judges' Assn. v. Ontario (Management Board); Bodner v. Alberta; Conférence des juges du Québec v. Quebec (Attorney General); Minc v. Quebec (Attorney General), 2005 SCC 44, [2005] 2 S.C.R. 286 ("Bodner") at para. 67:

judicial compensation commission will have had a "meaningful effect" as required by the Constitution if it is a "public and open process of recommendation and response."²⁶

- 23. This Commission's recommendations are not binding. However, the Government can only vary or decline to follow them for legitimate reasons that are supported by a reasonable factual foundation, and in a manner that shows respect for this Commission's process and achieves its purposes of "preserving judicial independence and depoliticizing the setting of judicial remuneration."²⁷
- 24. Accordingly, this Commission plays a crucial constitutional role in safeguarding the independence of Canada's federally-appointed judges.
- 25. The Supreme Court provided the following guidelines for compensation commissions in its 2005 decision in *Bodner*:²⁸

The *Reference* laid the groundwork to ensure that provincial court judges are independent from governments by precluding salary negotiations between them and avoiding any arbitrary interference with judges' remuneration. The commission process is an "institutional sieve" (*Reference*, at paras. 170, 185 and 189) — a structural separation between the government and the judiciary. The process is neither adjudicative interest arbitration nor judicial decision making. Its focus is on identifying the appropriate level of remuneration for the judicial office in question. All relevant issues may be addressed. The process is flexible and its purpose is not simply to "update" the previous commission's report. However, in the absence of reasons to the contrary, the starting point should be the date of the previous commission's report.

Each commission must make its assessment in its own context. However, this rule does not mean that each new compensation commission operates in a void, disregarding the work and recommendations of its predecessors. The reports of previous commissions and their outcomes form part of the background and context that a new compensation committee should consider. A new commission may very well decide that, in the circumstances, its predecessors conducted a

[&]quot;the Commission's purpose is to depoliticize the remuneration process and to avoid direct confrontation between the Government and the judiciary." *Bodner* was included in the index of background documents previously provided to the Commission.

²⁶ Bodner, ibid. at para. 19; see also para. 63 ("The objective of an open and transparent public process").

²⁷ *Ibid.* at para. 31.

²⁸ *Ibid.* at paras. 14-15, 17; see also Block Commission Report, at paras. 14 and 21; McLennan Commission Report, at p. 3 (Commission to be guided by its perception of the public interest).

thorough review of judicial compensation and that, in the absence of demonstrated change, only minor adjustments are necessary. If on the other hand, it considers that previous reports failed to set compensation and benefits at the appropriate level due to particular circumstances, the new commission may legitimately go beyond the findings of the previous commission, and after a careful review, make its own recommendations on that basis.

...

The commission must objectively consider the submissions of all parties and any relevant factors identified in the enabling statute and regulations. Its recommendations must result from a fair and objective hearing. Its report must explain and justify its position.

- 26. To satisfy the requirements of the *PEI Judges Reference* with respect to an independent, objective and effective Commission, the Government enacted s. 26 of the *Judges Act* to establish the Quadrennial Commission. The *Judges Act* requires this Commission "to inquire into the adequacy of the salaries and other amounts payable under this Act and into the adequacy of judges' benefits generally," which are to be assessed pursuant to the considerations set out in s. 26(1.1) of the Act.²⁹ As the McLennan Commission observed, "Section 26 calls on us to make recommendations as to what compensation would be 'adequate' to fulfill the goals established by the legislation." Accordingly, this Commission will have satisfied both its constitutional and statutory mandates if it recommends salaries that are adequate in light of the s. 26(1.1) criteria, through an independent, objective and effective process.³¹
- 27. The Government further relies upon its December 13, 2011 letter (Annex B) with respect to the mandate of this Commission.

²⁹ Block Commission Report, at paras. 17-20.

³⁰ McLennan Commission Report, at p. 9.

³¹ Block Commission Report, at para. 15.

PART III - JUDGES ACT MANDATORY CRITERIA

A. The prevailing economic conditions in Canada, including the cost of living, and the overall economic and current financial position of the federal government

1. Background: The Global Recession and Recent Judicial Compensation

- 28. For the reasons set out in the Government's December 13, 2011 letter, this Commission has no jurisdiction to review the Government's response to the Block Commission Report. However, that report and response do form part of the background for this Commission. As set out below, there was a dramatic change in economic facts and circumstances after the Block Commission Report was delivered.
- 29. The parties' submissions to the Block Commission with respect to economic conditions were based upon the Economic Statement tabled by the Minister of Finance on October 30, 2007.³² At that time, the Canadian economy appeared to be robust. On May 30, 2008, the Block Commission recommended a salary increase of 4.9% for *puisne* judges for 2008-2009 (inclusive of annual indexing), and an additional 2% plus statutory indexing for each of the following three years of its mandate.
- 30. The global economy and Canada's financial position deteriorated rapidly after the Block Commission Report was received. In Canada, growth declined in the latter half of 2008, resulting in an overall growth rate of 0.5 per cent for the year, the weakest annual growth rate in 17 years.³³
- 31. On November 27, 2008, (three days before the Minister of Justice's response to the Block Commission Report was due) the Minister of Finance announced that the Government intended to take steps to protect Canada's fiscal position by introducing legislation to limit public sector wage increases.
- 32. Given the announcement of the public sector wage legislation, the Minister of Justice determined that he would not be able to meet the deadline of December 1, 2008 to respond to the

³² *Ibid.* at paras. 51 and 54.

³³ Affidavit of Benoit Robidoux sworn May 13, 2009, filed in the *Aalto* case ("Robidoux Affidavit"), at para. 26 (to be included in the Joint Book of Documents).

Block Commission Report. He decided that it would be appropriate to delay his response, to consider the Block Commission Report in light of the significant changes that had occurred in the prevailing economic conditions and the financial position of the federal government.³⁴

- 33. The 2009 Budget, which was tabled on January 27, 2009, announced \$40 billion in federal tax and spending measures to stimulate the economy.³⁵ These significant fiscal stimulus measures, combined with weaker government revenues, had a large negative impact on the federal government's financial position. The 2009 Budget projected significant deficits for the first time since 1996-1997, including \$1.1 billion in 2008-9, \$33.7 billion in 2009-10, \$29.8 billion in 2010-11, \$13.0 billion in 2011-12, and \$7.3 billion in 2012-13.³⁶
- 34. On February 6, 2009, the Government introduced the legislation implementing the public sector wage controls, the *Expenditure Restraint Act* (the "ERA").³⁷ The ERA did not apply to judges.³⁸
- 35. Five days later, the Minister of Justice delivered the Response to the Block Commission Report (the "2009 Response"). In light of the changed economic circumstances, the Government declined to implement the Commission's recommendations. With reference to the ERA, the Government stated:

In the Government's view, the public would reasonably expect that judges should be subject to similar restraint measures. The Supreme Court of Canada has established that it is to ensure continued public confidence in the judiciary that judicial remuneration should be subject to measures affecting the salaries of all others paid from the public purse. In *Reference re Remuneration of Judges of the Provincial Court (P.E.I.)*, Chief Justice Lamer observed that equality of treatment "helps to sustain the perception of judicial independence precisely because judges are not being singled out for preferential treatment". ³⁹ He explained: ⁴⁰

³⁸ *Ibid.*, s. 13(4).

³⁴ Response of the Government of Canada to the Report of the 2007 Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission, February 11, 2009, at p. 1, online:

http://www.quadcom.gc.ca/archives/2007/Media/Pdf/2009/GovernmentResponseFull.pdf. The Response was included in the index of background documents previously provided to the Commission.

³⁵ Block Commission Report, at para. 32.

³⁶ Robidoux Affidavit., at para. 33.

³⁷ Supra.

³⁹ PEI Judges Reference, supra at para. 156 [footnote in original].

In my opinion, the risk of political interference through economic manipulation is clearly greater when judges are treated differently from other persons paid from the public purse. This is why we focussed on discriminatory measures in Beauregard. As Professor Renke, supra, has stated in the context of current appeals (at p. 19):

... if judges were spared compensation decreases affecting other public sector groups, a reasonable person might well conclude that the judges had engaged in some behind-the-scenes lobbying. The judges' exemption could be thought to be the result of secret deals, or secret commitments to favour the government. An exemption of judges from across-the-board pay cuts is as likely to generate suspicions concerning judicial independence as the reduction of judicial compensation in the context of general public sector reductions.

Advisor on Federal Court Prothonotaries' Compensation. The Report of the Special Advisor had been released the same day as the Block Commission Report (May 30, 2008). The Government responded to both reports on the same day (February 11, 2009). In litigation brought by the Federal Court Prothonotaries challenging the Government's response to the Special Advisor's Report, the Federal Court found that there were "significant changes in economic conditions generally and in the adverse effects on public finances of the Government of Canada which became apparent after the Report of the Special Advisor was submitted to the Minister on May 30, 2008."

The Government's response was ultimately upheld by the Federal Court of Appeal as being constitutional in light of "the deteriorating state of the global economic situation and its impact on the finances of the Government of Canada."

Leave to appeal that decision to the Supreme Court of Canada was denied.

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⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, at para. 158 [footnote in original].

⁴¹ "Response of the Minister of Justice to the Report of the Special Advisor on Federal Court Prothonotaries' Compensation," February 11, 2009, online: http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/dept-min/pub/res-rep/

⁴² Aalto v. Canada (Attorney General), 2009 FC 861, [2010] 3 FCR 312 at para. 2 (online: http://decisions.fct-cf.gc.ca/en/2009/2009fc861/2009fc861.html), aff'd 2010 FCA 195 (online: http://decisions.fca-caf.gc.ca/en/2010/2010fca195/2010fca195.html); leave to appeal to S.C.C. denied March 17, 2011 (online: http://www.scc-csc.gc.ca/case-dossier/cms-sgd/dock-regi-eng.aspx?cas=33868).

⁴³ *Ibid.* (F.C.A.), at paras. 11-12.

37. The effect of the Government's 2009 Response maintaining judges' IAI increases was that judges' annual salary increases exceeded the public sector wage increases in the ERA. From 2006 to 2011, judges' salaries increased by 50% more than others paid from the public purse (a net increase of 14.5% as compared to 9.6%):⁴⁴

Year	Public Servants	Judges	Puisne Judges'
			Salaries
2006-07	2.5%	3.1%	\$244,700
2007-08	2.3%	3.0%	\$252,000
2008-09	1.5%	3.2%	\$260,000
2009-10	1.5%	2.8%	\$267,200
2010-11	1.5%	1.6%	\$271,400

- 38. In the first year following the ERA (2011-12), public sector wage increases of 1.75% applied as a result of agreements reached with some of the largest public sector unions⁴⁵ (.25% of which is with respect to elimination of severance pay accumulation for resignation or retirement).⁴⁶ The same 1.75% increase was also applied to public sector executives and deputy ministers (whose salaries are not negotiated, and for whom severance pay accumulation was also eliminated.)⁴⁷ In contrast, the IAI applied to judicial salaries was 3.6%, resulting in the current *puisne* judge salary of \$281,100. ⁴⁸
- 39. During this period of restraint, the global economy experienced the deepest and most synchronized recession since the Great Depression.⁴⁹ It was even more severe and protracted than the Government expected at the time of its 2009 Response. As demonstrated in the

⁴⁴ Compare ERA, s. 16 to the description of judges' compensation and benefits at Annex C.

⁴⁵ Data provided by Treasury Board, to be included in Joint Book of Documents.

⁴⁶ Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, "Information Notice: Changes to Executive Level Total Compensation" online: http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/hrh/110729in-bi-eng.asp; Public Service Alliance of Canada, "Treasury Board bargaining" (6 April 2011), online: http://www.psac-afpc.com/news/2011/bargaining/20110406-e.shtml; Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada, "Understanding Severance Pay" http://www.pipsc.ca/portal/page/portal/website/news/magazine/spring2011/4.

⁴⁷ Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, "Information Notice: Changes to Executive Level Total Compensation" online: http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/hrh/110729in-bi-eng.asp.

⁴⁸ See the description of judges' compensation and benefits at Annex C.

⁴⁹ Robidoux Affidavit, at para. 7.

following chart, deficits in 2010-13 were or are expected to be a cumulative \$41.7 billion more than was anticipated at the time of the 2009 Response: 50

Year	Deficit Projected in 2009	Actual or Currently Projected Deficit	Difference
2010-11	\$29.8 billion	\$33.4 billion	\$3.6 billion
2011-12	\$13 billion	\$31 billion	\$18 billion
2012-13	\$7.3 billion	\$27.4 billion	\$20.1 billion
Total			\$41.7 billion

2. **Current Economic and Fiscal Conditions**

40. The Canadian economy remains very fragile. As a trading nation, Canada is inevitably detrimentally affected by the current global economic turmoil, particularly the challenges faced by the U.S. and Europe. The global economic situation and outlook have deteriorated recently, and uncertainty over the outlook has risen, largely reflecting the negative impacts of the sovereign debt and banking crisis in Europe, and concerns over the health of the U.S. recovery and the country's fiscal sustainability. 51

41. In its September 2011 World Economic Outlook, the International Monetary Fund ("IMF") found: "The global economy is in a dangerous new phase. Global activity has weakened and become more uneven, confidence has fallen sharply recently, and downside risks are growing."⁵² Assuming that "European policymakers contain the crisis in the euro area periphery, that U.S. policymakers strike a judicious balance between support for the economy and medium-term fiscal consolidation, and that volatility in global financial markets does not escalate," the IMF would still project "anemic" growth of real GDP in advanced economies of

⁵⁰ Compare Robidoux Affidavit., at para. 33, with the Department of Finance Letter (Annex D).

⁵¹ Department of Finance Letter (Annex D).

⁵² International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook, September 2011: Slowing Growth, Rising Risks at p. xv online: http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2011/02/pdf/text.pdf.

about 1.5% for 2011 and 2% for 2012. Its projections for Canada are 2.1% for 2011 and 1.9% for $2012.^{53}$

- 42. Uncertainty regarding the global economy has shaken consumer and business confidence and resulted in sharp declines in equity values worldwide. As a result of ongoing weak external demand and a relatively high Canadian dollar, Canadian exports remain well below pre-recession levels. ⁵⁴ The deterioration of the global economic situation has also begun to be felt in Canadian employment, which by November 2011 had dipped to its lowest level since May 2011. ⁵⁵
- 43. On November 8, 2011, the Minister of Finance released an Update of Economic and Fiscal Projections ("Fall Update").⁵⁶ Due to slowing of the global economy and increasing uncertainty about the short-term outlook, reflecting the negative impacts of the European debt crisis and concerns over the United States' fiscal situation, private sector economists have revised their outlook for Canadian economic growth significantly downward. Real gross domestic product growth is now expected to be a modest 2.2% in 2011 and 2.1% in 2012, compared to projections of 2.9% for 2011 and 2.8% for 2012 made 6 months earlier for purposes of the 2011 Budget.⁵⁷ The global economic situation continues to evolve, creating a period of great uncertainty for the Canadian economy.
- 44. The Fall Update projected budgetary deficits of \$33.4 billion for 2010-11, \$31 billion for 2011-12, \$27.4 billion for 2012-13, \$17 billion in 2013-14, \$7.5 billion in 2014-15, and \$3.4 billion in 2015-16. To restrain public sector spending, the Government has frozen the operating budgets of departments at their 2010-11 levels for two additional years. The Government has further targeted reductions in expenses through a strategic and operating review of direct program spending of at least \$1 billion in 2012-13, \$2 billion in 2013-14 and \$4 billion

⁵³ *Ibid.* at pp. xv and 75.

⁵⁴ Department of Finance Letter (Annex D).

⁵⁵ Statistics Canada, CANSIM, V2062811: "Employment in Canada (seasonally adjusted)" (2 December 2011).

⁵⁶ Department of Finance Canada, Update of Economic and Fiscal Projections (November 8, 2011) online: http://www.fin.gc.ca/efp-pef/2011/index-eng.asp ("Fall Economic Update").

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* and Department of Finance Letter (Annex D).

⁵⁸ Ibid.

⁵⁹ Budget 2011, tabled in the House of Commons by the Honourable James M. Flaherty, P.C., M.P. Minister of Finance on June 6, 2011, at p. 179, online: http://www.budget.gc.ca/2011/home-accueil-eng.html.

annually starting in 2014-16.⁶⁰ If these savings targets are met, the projections become deficits of \$26.4 billion in 2012-13, \$15 billion in 2013-14, \$3.5 billion in 2014-15 and a surplus of \$0.6 billion in 2015-16.

- 45. Wage increases negotiated with some of the largest public sector unions have seen annual economic increases of 1.5% from 2011-12 to 2013-14, and an additional 0.25% in 2011-12 and 0.50% in 2013-14 in respect of the elimination of the accrual of severance benefits for resignation and retirement (that is, a total wage increase of 1.75% for 2011-12; 1.5% for 2012-13 and 2.0% for 2013-14).⁶¹ The same 1.75% and 1.5% increases for 2011-12 and 2012-13 have also been provided to public sector executives and deputy ministers, whose wages are not negotiated by the unions and who were also subject to elimination of severance pay accumulation. Because departmental operating budgets are frozen, these increases to base pay must be absorbed within current budgets for 2011-12 and 2012-13.⁶²
- 46. The salaries and allowances of the Prime Minister, Ministers, Members of Parliament and Senators have been frozen for 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13.⁶³
- 47. The Supreme Court of Canada has held, in the foundational *PEI Judges Reference* decision that established this Commission: "Nothing could be more damaging to the reputation of the judiciary and the administration of justice than a perception that judges were not shouldering their share of the burden in difficult economic times." Accordingly, adequacy of salaries pursuant to s. 26 of the *Judges Act* must be assessed in light of the fact that others paid from the public purse have faced wage restraints not imposed on judges for the last five years, and continue to expect similar annual wage increases during this period of economic and fiscal vulnerability.

⁶⁰ Fall Economic Update, *supra* and Department of Finance Letter (Annex D).

⁶³ ERA, s. 55(2).

Data provided by Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (to be included in Joint Book of Documents); see also Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, "Information Notice: Changes to Executive Level Total Compensation" online: http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/hrh/110729in-bi-eng.asp; Public Service Alliance of Canada, "Treasury Board bargaining" (6 April 2011), online: http://www.psac-afpc.com/news/2011/bargaining/20110406-e.shtml; Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada, "Understanding Severance Pay"

http://www.pipsc.ca/portal/page/portal/website/news/magazine/spring2011/4.

⁶² *Ibid*.

⁶⁴ PEI Judges Reference, supra at para. 196; see also Aalto, supra at paras. 11-13.

48. For the reasons set out in Annex B to this submission, this Commission cannot limit its inquiry to whether there has been a change in facts or circumstances since the Block Commission Report. In any event, there clearly was a significant deterioration in the Canadian economy after the release of that report, and the current uncertain economic outlook, the deficit situation of the Government, and the resulting tight constraints on expenditures from the public purse constitute markedly changed circumstances for this Commission's inquiry as compared to the circumstances prevailing at the time of the Block Commission. This Commission is constitutionally and statutorily bound to consider the adequacy of judicial remuneration in light of current economic and fiscal conditions. ⁶⁵

B. The role of financial security of the judiciary in ensuring judicial independence

- 49. As discussed above, financial security is a core characteristic of judicial independence.⁶⁶ It has two dimensions: individual and collective.⁶⁷ Financial security of individual judges is guaranteed by the constitutional requirement that their salaries be established by law.⁶⁸ The Supreme Court has held that the collective or institutional financial security of the judiciary has three components:
- (a) As a general constitutional principle, judicial salaries can be reduced, increased, or frozen, either as part of an overall economic measure which affects the salaries of all or some persons who are remunerated from public funds, or as part of a measure which is directed at judges as a class. However, any changes to or freezes in judicial remuneration require prior recourse to this Commission, which must be independent, effective, and objective, to avoid the possibility of, or the appearance of, political interference through economic manipulation.⁶⁹

⁶⁸ *Ibid.* at para. 116; *Valente*, *supra* at p. 706; *Constitution Act*, 1867, s. 100, online: http://lawslois.justice.gc.ca/eng/Const/PRINT_E.PDF.

⁶⁵ See McLennan Commission Report, at p. 9: "The consideration to be applied is whether economic conditions dictate restraint from expenditures out of the public purse." See also *Bodner*, *supra* at paras. 96 and 98 (fiscal restraint and reductions in other expenditures are reasonable considerations in setting judicial compensation).

⁶⁶ PEI Judges Reference, supra at para. 115.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.* at para. 121.

⁶⁹ PEI Judges Reference, supra at para. 133.

- Negotiations between the judiciary and executive or representatives of Parliament (b) about compensation are prohibited.⁷⁰
- (c) Judges cannot be paid so little as to cause a reasonable and informed person to perceive that Canada's judiciary is not independent. The Supreme Court provided the following guidance on this component of financial security in the *PEI Judges Reference*:⁷¹

any reductions to judicial remuneration, including de facto reductions through the erosion of judicial salaries by inflation, cannot take those salaries below a basic minimum level of remuneration which is required for the office of a judge. Public confidence in the independence of the judiciary would be undermined if judges were paid at such a low rate that they could be perceived as susceptible to political pressure through economic manipulation, as is witnessed in many countries. [emphasis added]

- 50. All of these components of collective financial security are currently satisfied, and the Government's compensation proposal is consistent with them.
- 51. First, this Commission has been appointed to consider and provide independent and objective recommendations regarding the Government's proposal to increase judges' salaries by up to 6.1% over the next four years. The parties have respected the Commission's independence and have endeavoured to provide relevant data, working jointly where possible.
- 52. Second, the Government and judiciary have not engaged in any negotiations regarding judicial salary or benefits.
- 53. Third, the lowest salary of federally-appointed judges is currently \$281,100. Given that the average salary of an employed Canadian is less than \$46,000,⁷² judges are clearly not being paid "at such a low rate that they could be perceived as susceptible to political pressure through economic manipulation."⁷³ In light of the fact that the judicial salary is currently well above the level at which the public would reasonably fear that the judiciary is institutionally vulnerable to economic manipulation, there is no reasonable prospect of inflation taking judicial salaries

⁷⁰ *Ibid.* at para. 134.

⁷¹ *Ibid.* at para. 135.

⁷² Statistics Canada "Earnings, average weekly, by industry, monthly," AWE for August 2011, online: http://www40.statcan.gc.ca/l01/cst01/labor93a-eng.htm. ⁷³ *PEI Judges Reference*, *supra* at para. 135.

"below a basic minimum level of remuneration which is required for the office of a judge."⁷⁴ Current projections of CPI are modest.⁷⁵ They are only slightly above the 1.5% cap on indexation proposed by the Government. Indeed, it appears that IAI may be less than CPI in some years, regardless of the cap.⁷⁶

C. The need to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary

54. Canada has an outstanding judiciary. The Government, and all Canadians, have an interest in ensuring that there is a sufficient pool of lawyers who meet the high standards set by the current Bench and who are willing to accept judicial appointment. If there were persuasive evidence of a problem recruiting exemplary judges, that would be of grave concern to the Government. For the reasons set out below, there is no evidence that Canada currently faces such difficulties.

1. The Judicial Salary is Adequate to Attract Outstanding Candidates from Multiple Sources

- 55. The pre-appointment background of Canada's exemplary, federally-appointed judges includes private and public sector law practices, academia and the provincially-appointed judiciary. These sources of outstanding candidates represent a broad spectrum of salaries.
- 56. While it may be appropriate in many industries to assume that the brightest, most capable individuals are also the most highly-paid, such an assumption does not hold true for the legal profession. Many of the best lawyers and most outstanding potential judges choose to work in the public sector. For example, 4 of the 9 current Supreme Court of Canada judges were in the public sector (including academia) at the time of their initial appointment to the Bench.⁷⁷ There can be no doubt that former public sector lawyers and law professors who are appointed to the

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⁷⁴ *Ibid*.

⁷⁵ For 2012-16, current projections of CPI are 2% annually: See "Department of Finance Letter" (Annex D). CPI measures the percentage change in the cost of a fixed basket of commodities of unchanging or equivalent quantity and quality, averaged across Canada. The eight major components of the CPI basket are: food, shelter, household operations and furnishings, clothing and footwear, transportation, health and personal care, recreation, education and reading, and alcoholic beverages and tobacco products.

⁷⁶ See "Department of Finance Letter" (Annex D) (IAI projection for 2012, applied to judges in 2013, is 1.3%).

⁷⁷ Profiles available online: http://www.scc-csc.gc.ca/court-cour/index-eng.asp. Statistics regarding the percentage of judges from the private and public sectors are discussed at paras. 94-97 below.

Bench are as outstanding as their private sector colleagues, and are equally capable of rising to the top of the judiciary.

- 57. Moreover, to ensure that the Canadian judiciary is diverse and is experienced in the areas of law that most frequently result in litigation, the Government appoints a significant number of lawyers who practice in less remunerative fields, including Crown attorneys, criminal defence lawyers and family lawyers. A highly-paid "rainmaker" who develops a great deal of business for a national law firm, but no longer has a significant substantive legal practice, may be poorly suited to the Bench, particularly when compared with a lower-salaried Crown attorney or defence lawyer who is in court on a regular basis. Accordingly, pre-appointment income does not accurately reflect whether a lawyer is an outstanding candidate for judicial appointment. As the Block Commission noted: "The issue is not how to attract the highest earners; the issue is how to attract outstanding candidates. It is important that there be a mix of appointees from private and public practice, from large and small firms and from large and small centres."
- 58. The lowest judicial salary of \$281,100 is significantly higher than federal public sector lawyers' salaries. The salary for Chief Legal Counsel/Assistant Deputy Attorney General, the highest Law Cadre Group rank in the public service, is a maximum of \$195,700, with maximum performance pay of 20%.⁷⁹
- 59. The current *puisne* judge salary also exceeds that of any professor at the Osgoode Hall Law School or the University of Toronto Law School, two of the largest law schools in Canada, in the 2011 list published pursuant to the Ontario *Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act*.⁸⁰
- 60. The 2010 *puisne* judge salary was also higher than the 2010 income of approximately 73% of self-employed private sector lawyers aged 35-69, even without the value of the judicial

⁷⁹ Please see "Senior Law Group and Law Cadre Group Salary Ranges" for additional information regarding salaries of federal lawyers (to be included in the Joint Book of Documents).

⁷⁸ Block Commission Report, at para. 116.

⁸⁰Online at: http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/en/publications/salarydisclosure/2011/univer11b.html The salary of the Vice-President Academic & Provost of York University, who is currently a member of Osgoode Hall Law School's faculty, is higher than the *puisne* judge salary.

annuity being taken into account.⁸¹ As discussed below, the judicial annuity is a significant component of judicial remuneration that should be considered by this Commission in any comparison with private sector salaries. The 2010 *puisne* judge salary plus the value of the judicial annuity was higher than the 2010 income of approximately 82% of self-employed private sector lawyers aged 35-69.

61. Accordingly, the judicial salary is already more than adequate to attract outstanding judicial appointees from all of the sources of candidates.

2. The Judicial Salary is Adequate to Attract Private Sector Lawyers

- 62. In particular, the judicial salary compares favourably to that of self-employed lawyers (equity partners or sole practitioners) in the private sector.
- 63. Previous Quadrennial Commissions have had difficulty assessing private sector salaries, due either to concerns about the reliability of the data filed, or disagreement among the parties regarding whether survey or income tax data should be used. For this Commission, the parties have worked jointly with the Canada Revenue Agency ("CRA"), in an open and transparent manner, to set agreed parameters for creation of a database of self-employed lawyers' incomes in 2006-2010. Income tax forms now require different codes for lawyers than for notaries and other legal professionals, and CRA has limited its database of self-employed lawyers to tax filers who used the code for lawyers, or whom CRA has identified as a member of a law society. Here
- 64. To the extent that a change of facts or circumstance is relevant, the Government submits that the availability of jointly-prepared, reliable private sector lawyers' income data is such a

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⁸¹ Haripaul Pannu, Report on the Earnings of Self-Employed Lawyers for the Department of Justice Canada in Preparation for the 2011 Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission, dated December 13, 2011 ("Pannu Report"), at p. 15 (Annex E).

⁸² See e.g. Block Commission Report, at para. 112; McLennan Commission Report, at pp. 32-33.

⁸³ The reports prepared by the CRA for the parties will be included in the Joint Book of Documents.

⁸⁴ Canada Revenue Agency, Individual Statistics and Modelling Sector, "2011 Quadrennial Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission Self-Employed Lawyers Master File Methodology," September 2011; "2011 Quadrennial Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission Self-Employed Lawyers Master File Methodology, 2010 Update" (November 2011); and Reponses to Questions on the CRA Master File Methodology, December 12, 2011 (collectively, "CRA Methodology") (to be included in the Joint Book of Documents).

change. The Block Commission did not engage in a thorough review of potential private sector comparators, as the parties disagreed on the data relevant to such an inquiry.

65. Now that there is a jointly-produced set of raw data, this Commission must consider which of the data points are relevant to its inquiry. In particular, three variables significantly affect potential private sector comparators: the percentile examined, age range, and residence. Further, given that self-employed lawyers must provide for their retirements with after-tax income, whereas the judicial annuity is primarily government-funded, a fair comparison of salaries must take the government-funded portion of the annuity into account.

a) Relevant Percentile of Private Sector Lawyers' Incomes, Age-Weighting and Location

- 66. Compensation benchmarking is commonly done based on median incomes (the 50th percentile). However, depending on supply/demand factors, economic conditions and an employer's ability to attract candidates, the 65th percentile is used to attract exceptional individuals. Depending on the same factors, the 75th percentile may be used to attract truly exceptional individuals to a position.⁸⁵
- 67. The committee that recommends salaries for public sector executives benchmarks the lowest executive level (EX-1) at the median of what an executive with equivalent responsibilities would be earning in the Canadian labour market (the private and broader public sector). Salary ranges for all higher levels, including all deputy ministers, are set according to internal differentials, not comparisons to the market. For example, as of December 2010, a DM-2 earned less than half of the median of what his or her counterparts in an equivalent job would make in the Canadian labour market. For example, as of December 2010, a DM-2 earned less than half of the median of what his or her counterparts in an equivalent job would make in the Canadian labour market.
- 68. The Government submits that the 65th percentile of self-employed lawyers' incomes is the appropriate private sector comparator for judges, particularly in light of current economic conditions, the fact that there is an ample supply of outstanding lawyers who apply for judicial

⁸⁶ See e.g. Seventh Report of the Advisory Committee on Senior Level Retention and Compensation (December 2004), at p. 4, online: http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/hrh/adcm-eng.asp.

⁸⁵ Pannu Report, at pp. 3, 5 (Annex E).

Fourteenth Report of the Advisory Committee on Senior Level Retention and Compensation (December 2004), at p. 4, online: http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/hrh/adcm-eng.asp.

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appointment, and the fact that self-employed lawyers are already the highest-earning subset of outstanding candidates for judicial appointment.

- The Government notes that while the McLennan Commission looked at the 75th 69. percentile of private sector income, it appears to have done so in part because it considered the income data before it to be "probably conservative," as it included the net income of notaries and paralegals, thereby reducing the averages (which is no longer the case), excluded lawyers who had established personal corporations and were thus reporting business rather than professional income (which is no longer the case), and included only net professional income from the practice of law (which is no longer the case). 88 Now that the data has been refined to report total net incomes of lawyers, the Government submits that the standard compensation benchmark for outstanding candidates — the 65th percentile —is the appropriate comparator.
- The 65th percentile self-employed lawyer's income in 2010 was \$204,159; whereas the 70. judicial salary in that year was \$271,400.89
- 71. However, the Government acknowledges that in the private sector incomes vary with the lawyer's age. Accordingly, its expert has age-weighted private sector incomes according to judges' ages of appointment from January 1, 1997 to March 31, 2011. This gives a single point of income comparison for a private sector lawyer who is hypothetically considering accepting a judicial appointment. Age-weighting raises the 65th percentile income to \$218,500, still well below the judicial salary.⁹⁰
- 72. Indeed, another important change of facts or circumstance in analyzing the private sector comparator is that ages of appointment have changed. In the past, the judiciary's submissions focused on the incomes of private sector lawyers aged 44-56; however, that age bracket has become much less significant, as shown in the following chart of ages of appointment:⁹¹

⁸⁸ McLennan Commission Report, at pp. 42-43.

⁸⁹ Pannu Report, at p. 5 (Annex E).

⁹¹ Data provided by the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs ("CFJA") (to be included in the Joint Book of Documents).

	<44	44-56	>56
1Jan97-31Mar04	5%	83%	11%
1Apr04-31Mar07	7%	67%	26%
1Apr07-31Mar11	4%	65%	31%

- 73. Accordingly, the incomes of all private sector lawyers who are eligible for appointment should be considered, with appropriate weighting, rather than completely excluding the incomes of 35% of recent appointees by looking only at the 44-56 cadre.
- 74. Finally, there is no objective basis for excluding all lawyers with incomes of less than \$60,000 from the data analyzed. This is not an accepted approach in compensation benchmarking, and it distorts the compensation analysis. 92 The whole purpose of choosing a percentile above the median is to give less weight to lower-earning individuals within the data source. Applying a \$60,000 income exclusion and benchmarking to the 65th percentile of selfemployed lawyers' incomes is really applying approximately the 73rd to 74th percentile.⁹³ Applying a \$60,000 income exclusion and benchmarking to the 75th percentile of self-employed lawyers' incomes is really applying approximately the 81st percentile.⁹⁴ The 81st percentile is higher than the benchmark used for even truly exceptional recruitment situations. 95 Government encourages the Commission to consult with its expert on these matters.
- 75. The Government has also considered the fact that lawyers' salaries tend to be higher in certain urban centres than in other parts of Canada. However, as the Drouin Commission noted, it would not be "responsible to suggest that the salary level of the Judiciary should be set so as to match the income of the highest income earning lawyers in the largest urban centres in Canada." In 2010, the judicial salary exceeded the total net income of 73% of self-employed lawyers across Canada. It also exceeded at least the 70th percentile salary in all major urban centers in Canada except Calgary and Toronto.⁹⁷

⁹² Pannu Report, at p. 7 (Annex E).

⁹³ *Ibid.*, at p. 7.

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*, at p. 8.

⁹⁵ *Ibid.*, at pp. 3, 5.

⁹⁶ First Report of the Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission, May 31, 2000 ("Drouin Commission Report"), at p. 46; see also p. 9. The Drouin Commission was included in the index of background documents previously provided to the Commission.

⁷ Pannu Report, at p. 15 (Annex E).

b) Annuity

- 76. In addition to a salary that competes with or exceeds the vast majority of private sector lawyers' salaries, a major compensation-related incentive for judicial appointment is the judicial annuity. A retired judge receives two-thirds of salary, based on his or her last year serving as a judge, for life (currently \$187,400 for a *puisne* judge). Judges can retire with a full annuity when, with a minimum of 15 years in judicial office, the judge's age and years of service total at least 80. For example, a judge appointed at the average appointment age of 52 can retire with a full annuity at 67. 99
- 77. The annuity includes a generous long-term disability benefit. A judge who becomes disabled is entitled to the full annuity for life, with no minimum service requirement (that is, the benefit is payable even if a judge becomes disabled on his or her first day on the Bench).
- 78. Moreover, the surviving spouse of a judge who passes away receives half of the annuity, for life, also with no minimum service requirement.
- 79. Most of the judicial annuity is paid for by the Government. Judges contribute 7% of their salary until they are eligible for retirement, and 1% thereafter. In contrast, private sector lawyers must provide for their retirements and disability insurance with after-tax income.
- 80. The Government's expert has estimated the value of the government-paid portion of the retirement benefit of the judicial annuity to judges, by determining what a private sector firm would need to spend to fund an equivalent benefit. This is the same method that he used to value the judicial annuity for both the Block and McLennan Commissions, both of which were accepted.¹⁰¹

¹⁰⁰ Judges Act, s. 50. See the description of "Judges Contributions" in Annex C for further detail.

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⁹⁸ The last year's salary upon which the annuity is based can be the full salary a judge receives while working fewer hours as a supernumerary judge, as discussed in paras. 86-90, *infra*.

⁹⁹ The average age of appointment is derived from data provided by the CFJA.

¹⁰¹ McLennan Commission Report, at pp. 57-58 (the McLennan Commission's expert found Mr. Pannu's methods and assumptions to be "appropriate for compensation benchmarking purposes," but used a somewhat different range of appointment ages in its own evaluation, resulting in a slightly lower value.

- 81. Pension value varies considerably based on age of appointment; for example, it is worth 19.6% of salary to a judge appointed under the age of 44, but worth 41.3% to a judge appointed between the ages of 60 and 64. The weighted average based on age of appointment is 27.2%. ¹⁰²
- 82. As noted above, the judicial annuity is also a valuable disability benefit. The Government's expert valued the Government-paid portion of this benefit, using the same method applied to the retirement benefit. The disability value of the judicial annuity, based on a weighted average of ages of appointments, is 9.7% of a judges' salary. This is important evidence that was not before the Block Commission.
- 83. The total value of the judicial annuity is thus 36.9%.¹⁰⁴ When the Government-paid portion of the judicial annuity is taken into account, the 2010 *puisne* judge salary was effectively \$371,547.¹⁰⁵ The 2010 judicial salary plus the value of the Government-paid portion of the judicial annuity in that year was more than the 2010 income of 82% of self-employed lawyers, who would need to save for retirement and pay for disability insurance out of that income.¹⁰⁶
- 84. In addition, a self-employed lawyer who accepts a judicial appointment also gains an extensive group benefits plan, including life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment insurance, health care and dental service, with 100% of the premium paid by the Government. That individual is likely to have been paying personally for such insurance or services while in private practice. ¹⁰⁸

¹⁰² Pannu Report, at p. 13 (Annex E).

¹⁰³ *Ibid.*, at p. 14.

The Office of the Chief Actuary of the Office of the Superintendant of Financial Institutions estimates the cost to Government of the judicial annuity (retirement and disability benefit) to be 1/3 of annual salary costs. That is, if pension costs were funded through the judges' years on the bench, the Government would be paying approximately \$33 for each \$100 of salary paid. This cost is projected to increase to 35% of payroll by 2015: Actuarial Plan Pension Plan for Federally Appointed Judges as at March 31, 2010, dated October 29, 2010, at p. 10, online: http://www.osfi-bsif.gc.ca/app/DocRepository/1/eng/reports/oca/judges2010_e.pdf.

¹⁰⁵ Pannu Report, at p. 15 (Annex E).

¹⁰⁶ *Ibid*.

¹⁰⁷ See the description of judges' compensation and benefits at Annex C.

¹⁰⁸ Pannu Report, at p. 16 (Annex E).

85. Given all of these benefits, judicial compensation is already more than adequate to ensure that a reasonable, informed, outstanding private sector lawyer who wants to provide the valuable public service of serving as a judge would not be discouraged from doing so. ¹⁰⁹

c) Supernumerary Status

- 86. It is also significant when considering attraction of lawyers to the Bench that large private sector law firms frequently require retirement as equity partners at age 65 (although lawyers may continue as counsel or partners *emeritus*, generally for lower salaries, after reaching 65). In contrast, the mandatory retirement age for a judge is 75, and 47% of judges have retired at that age. The average age of retirement is 72. Moreover, a judge can elect to become a supernumerary judge if: a) he or she is eligible to retire with a full annuity (when he or she has served for at least 15 years and his or her age plus years of service equal at least 80); or b) has served 10 years and attained the age of 70. Supernumerary judges receive full salary, but are not expected to work full hours (typically, the expectation is 50% of a normal workload).
- 87. The supernumerary complement provides greater flexibility to the courts in assigning cases. The availability of the supernumerary election is also advantageous for the public purse, as supernumerary judges work approximately half-time for only 33% more than they would be paid if they retired.
- 88. However, in addition to these public benefits, the existence of supernumerary status is also an important benefit for individual judges. Unlike most private sector law firm partners, judges can work at full salary to age 75 and can "semi-retire" at full salary upon supernumerary eligibility. The Supreme Court of Canada has described the system of supernumerary judges as an "undeniable economic benefit" to the judiciary and to "eventual candidates for the position of judge in the court. In other words, this type of benefit was certainly taken into consideration

¹⁰⁹ Compare McLennan Commission Report, at p. 13.

¹¹⁰ See, e.g. Kevin Marron, "Just saying 'no' to retirement" (April 2011) *Canadian Lawyer*, online: http://www.canadianlawyermag.com/just-saying-no-to-retirement.html; Sandra Rubin, "Faskens Case Prompts Boomer Turf Wars", *Lexpert*, online: http://www.lexpert.ca/globe/article.php?id=2016.

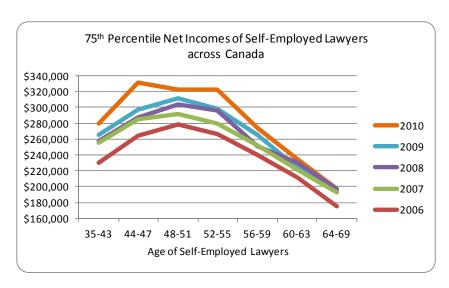
¹¹¹ Retirements since 1997. Retirement data provided by the CFJA.

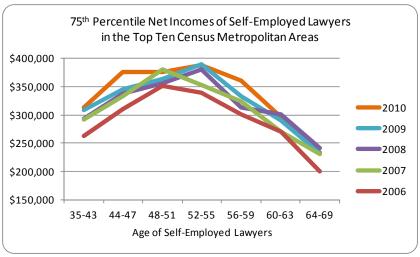
¹¹² Retirement data provided by the CFJA. The average retirement age since 1997 is 71.9, excluding deaths and retirements due to disability.

¹¹³ See the description of judges' compensation and benefits at Annex C.

both by sitting judges and <u>by candidates for the office of judge in planning their economic and</u> financial affairs."¹¹⁴

89. The availability of a high salary to age 75 is a significant inducement for outstanding candidates for appointment, particularly in light of the fact that private sector salaries, on average, decrease precipitously in a lawyer's early to mid-50s, as demonstrated in the following charts derived from the CRA self-employed lawyer data; whereas a judge's salary increases every year:¹¹⁵





¹¹⁴ *Mackin*, *supra* at para. 67, online: http://scc.lexum.org/en/2002/2002scc13/2002scc13.html.

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The 75th percentile is used in these charts as it is the closest percentile to judges' salaries; that is, as noted above, the judicial salary in 2010 (without the judicial annuity) was equivalent to approximately the 73rd percentile of private sector lawyers' incomes.

90. These graphs actually understate the decrease in income at older ages in the private sector, as CRA has excluded all lawyers who receive more in CPP/QPP benefits than in income from the data provided for this Commission. 116 As a result, only higher-earning, older lawyers were included in the data and in the charts above.

d) **Private Sector Compensation Trends**

- 91. The Block Commission warned: "there is no certainty that if the income spread between lawyers in private practice and judges were to increase markedly that the Government would continue to be successful in attracting outstanding candidates to the Bench from amongst the senior members of the Bar in Canada."117
- 92. Such a divergence in lawyers' and judges' income trends has not occurred. The current judicial salary compares favourably to judicial salaries found adequate to attract outstanding candidates by past Commissions. The following chart compares CRA private sector data from 2002 to 2010 with the judicial salary. The 2002 and 2003 judicial salaries were recommended by the Drouin Commission and implemented without variation by the Government. There can be no question as to their adequacy. 118

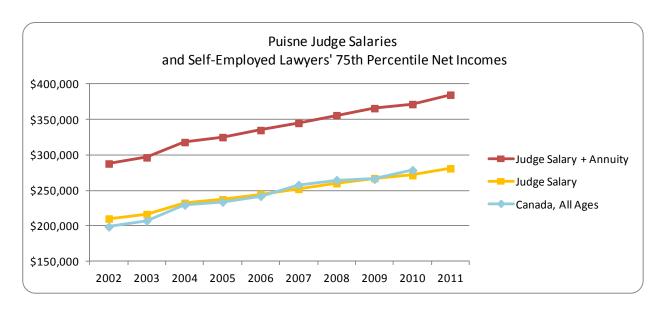
_	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Judge Salary + Annuity	\$287,764	\$296,525	\$318,019	\$325,001	\$334,994	\$344,988	\$355,940	\$365,797	\$371,547	\$384,826
Judge Salary	\$210,200	\$216,600	\$232,300	\$237,400	\$244,700	\$252,000	\$260,000	\$267,200	\$271,400	\$281,100
Canada, All Ages, 75th Percentile	\$198,950	\$207,429	\$229,797	\$233,932	\$242,006	\$257,762	\$264,550	\$266,210	\$278,526	

93. As the following chart demonstrates, judicial salaries have kept pace with those of potential private sector appointees over the past decade: 119

Block Commission Report, at p. 37.

¹¹⁶ CRA Methodology, *supra*.

¹¹⁸ The annuity value in the first row of this chart is calculated as 36.9%: Pannu Report, at pp. 13-14 (Annex E). The CRA data in the bottom row of this chart is from the CRA reports relating to lawyers aged 35-69. The 75th percentile is used as it is currently the closest percentile to judges' salaries; however, as discussed above, the 65th percentile would be the appropriate comparator for a benchmarking analysis. ¹¹⁹ Annuity value calculated as 36.9%: Pannu Report, at pp. 13-14 (Annex E).



e) Demographic Data

- 94. Recent demographic data regarding judicial appointees confirms that private sector lawyers continue to be attracted to judicial positions. The percentage of judges appointed from the private sector in 2007-11 was 71%, which is consistent with past appointment data (73% from January 1, 1997 to March 31, 2007).
- 95. It is noteworthy that former provincial and territorial court judges and masters are classified as "public" even if they were in private practice prior to their provincial appointments. Of the 69 "public sector" appointees in 2007-11, 28 were provincial or territorial judges or masters. Accordingly, the number of appointees whose law practice prior to any judicial appointment was in the private sector is likely to be higher than 71% (that is, it is very unlikely that all of the provincial and territorial judges had previously been public sector lawyers).
- 96. It is significant that the provinces with higher private sector salaries also have a high proportion of private sector appointments. For example, 77% of Ontario appointees were in the private sector, as were 83% of Quebec appointees. There is no evidence of difficulty attracting outstanding private sector candidates in provinces with higher law firm salaries.

¹²⁰ This demographic data was provided by the CFJA to both the Government and the associations representing the judiciary (tables to be included in the Joint Book of Documents).

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97. Indeed, the overall rate of lawyers' applications for judicial positions by jurisdiction is consistent with the percentage of the national judicial complement in each jurisdiction, and is generally consistent with the percentage of self-employed lawyers in each province or territory, as reported by CRA, as is illustrated by the following chart:

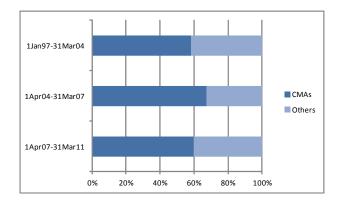
	Lawyer Applicants for Appointment ¹²¹		Current Comple		2010 CRA Income Data (All ages, no threshold)		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	P ₇₅ Income
Alberta	169	9%	78	10%	1,360	6%	\$301,632
British Columbia	214	11%	103	13%	2,120	10%	\$237,711
Manitoba	68	4%	43	5%	560	3%	\$186,403
New Brunswick	78	4%	31	4%	320	2%	\$151,208
Newfoundland & Labrador	34	2%	27	3%	200	1%	\$216,436
Nova Scotia	95	5%	43	5%	410	2%	\$170,761
Ontario	761	39%	264	33%	10,760	51%	\$348,692
Prince Edward Island	12	1%	8	1%	40	0.2%	\$191,166
Québec	433	22%	165	20%	4,920	23%	\$223,120
Saskatchewan	69	4%	40	5%	300	1%	\$188,990
Territories	60	3%	10	1%	40	0.2%	\$166,595
Canada	1,993		812		21,120	•	\$278,526

- 98. Of the appointees from the private sector for whom law firm size information was available, 38% practiced in firms that had more than 60 lawyers nationally, and 30% were from firms with more than 100 lawyers. 123
- 99. The proportion of appointees from Canada's major cities (the "Census Metropolitan Areas") has also remained relatively consistent over time:

¹²¹These numbers exclude applicants who were or are provincial, territorial or Tax Court of Canada judges.

These numbers exclude the Supreme Court of Canada, the Federal Court of Appeal, the Federal Court and the Tax Court of Canada. They include vacancies but exclude supernumerary judges.

Data provided by CFJA, "Table 3: Size of Firm for Appointees at the Date of Appointment April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2011" (to be included in Joint Book of Documents). For past Quadrennial Commissions, the CFJA did not identify the national firm size of appointees, so that column was not included in past tables.



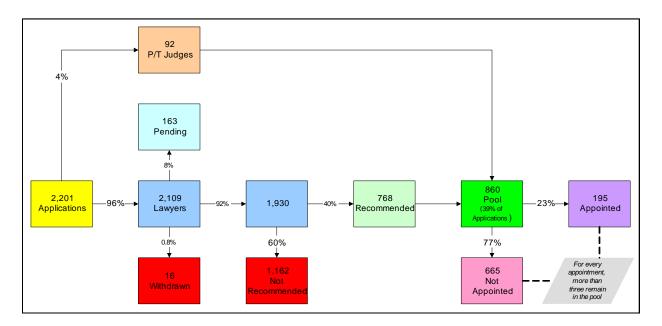
- 100. In light of the foregoing demographic information, there is no evidence of a problem recruiting judges from any segment of the legal community, including from the private sector in the provinces with higher private sector lawyers' salaries, from CMAs or from large firms.
- 101. In the absence of such evidence, the Government respectfully submits that there is no objective basis for recommending increases to judicial salaries above the Government's proposal in order to recruit outstanding candidates to the judiciary.

f) Application and Resignation Statistics

- 102. Statistics relating to applications for judicial appointment and resignations from judicial office further confirm that the judicial salary is adequate for recruitment.
- 103. As the following table demonstrates, there is an ample pool of qualified applicants for the Bench. For every judge appointed, there are 3.3 recommended applicants remaining in the pool:¹²⁴

¹²⁴ As set out in the chart, 2109 lawyers applied for consideration for appointment. Their applications are assessed by a Judicial Appointment Committee. There were also 92 provincial and territorial judges who applied for federal appointments. Existing judges' applications are not reviewed by the Judicial Appointment Committee; their applications are effectively automatically recommended.

During its preparations for this Commission, the Government realized that the number of provincial and territorial judge applications reported in its 2007 submissions was incorrect; the statistics provided by the CFJA at that time did not identify provincial/territorial judge or "pending" applications, and the Government incorrectly inferred that all applicants who were neither recommended nor "not recommended" must be provincial/territorial judges who were not assessed by the committee. The CFJA provided more detailed statistics to the Government and judiciary for this Commission. Accordingly, the current statistics cannot be compared directly to paragraphs 36 and 37 and the accompanying footnotes of the Government's 2007 opening submission.



104. Similarly, statistics relating to retirement from judicial office demonstrate that there is no compensation-related retention problem. There have only been 4 judges who have elected to resign from the bench (for any reason other than disability), prior to eligibility for early retirement, since 2007.¹²⁵

g) Conclusion

105. In light of the foregoing, there is ample evidence that the current judicial salary, with the proposed increase of up to 6.1% over the current quadrennial period, is adequate to attract outstanding candidates, including private sector lawyers. One of the constitutional requirements for this Commission is that it be objective. The Government respectfully submits that the objective evidence demonstrates that its salary proposal meets the test of "adequacy" to be applied by this Commission.

¹²⁶ PEI Judges Reference, supra at para. 133.

¹²⁵ Retirements from 1 Jan 97 though 13 Apr 11 (to be included in the Joint Book of Documents). Judges who resign prior to eligibility for early retirement receive a return of their pension contributions.

D. Other objective criteria that the Commission considers relevant

1. There is no consensus of past Commissions regarding a formulaic DM-3 comparator

106. Recommendation 14 of the Block Commission states that where "consensus has emerged" with respect to a particular issue, in the absence of demonstrated change "such Consensus should be taken into account by the Commission." This Commission has interpreted that recommendation as mandating it to apply the mid-point of the DM-3 salary range, plus one-half of maximum performance pay as a comparator, unless a change of fact or circumstance is established.

107. With respect, there is no consensus that the mid-point of the DM-3 salary range plus one-half of maximum performance pay is an appropriate comparator. Indeed, the 2004 McLennan Commission specifically rejected a focus on DM-3s alone, and concluded that performance pay is based on considerations not relevant to the judicial context. The last two Commissions specifically disagreed regarding the comparator being proposed in the Notice. There is no consensus.

108. Past Quadrennial and Triennial Commissions have considered "rough equivalence" to the salaries earned by DM-3s, but Commissions have differed significantly in the weight, if any, placed on the "DM-3 comparator." For example, the McLennan Commission noted: "During the period 1975 to 1992, it appears that judges' salaries, with the exception of 1975 and 1986, were below the DM-3 midpoint and generally below the minimum of the DM-3 salary scale." The McLennan Commission further pointed out that the Scott Commission had concluded: "A strong case can be made that the comparison between DM-3's and judges' compensation is both imprecise and inappropriate." ¹³⁰

109. There is also no consensus that a single benchmark should be used. As the McLennan Commission noted: "it would be counter-productive to fix judicial salaries as having a pre-

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¹²⁷ Block Commission Report, at p. 78.

¹²⁸ See also the Government's submissions in Annex B.

¹²⁹ McLennan Commission Report, at pp. 27-28.

¹³⁰ *Ibid.*, at p. 25.

determined relationship to other salaries, whether those of senior civil servants or senior legal practitioners. ... Were it otherwise, there would be no need to address this subject every four years, as contemplated by the *Judges Act*." Similarly, the Drouin Commission concluded: "the unique position of the Judiciary in Canada strongly militates against a formulaic approach to the determination of an adequate salary." With respect, the Government submits that to treat the mid-point of the DM-3 salary range plus one-half of maximum performance pay as a formulaic benchmark is wrong in law and in principle.

2. If this Commission considers DM-3 salaries, it should consider all deputy minister salaries

110. All Commissions have acknowledged that no direct comparison can be made between judges and senior public servants. The work done by judges and DM-3s is not similar. Deputy Ministers are not generally potential candidates for judicial appointment. Deputy Ministers are not constitutionally required to be independent. Rather, the only rationale given for considering DM-3 salaries has been as a reflection of "what the marketplace expects to pay individuals of outstanding character and ability, which are qualities shared by deputy ministers and judges." As the McLennan Commission pointed out, this phrase, used by the Courtois, Scott and Drouin Commissions refers to "deputy ministers," not DM-3s and is clearly true of all levels of deputy ministers. Indeed, other senior public servants who do not have the deputy minister title are also "individuals of outstanding character and ability." The Government submits that if this Commission decides to consider senior public servants' salaries, it should follow the McLennan Commission's approach of considering all deputy ministers, rather than focusing solely on the salaries of the 13 DM-3s.

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¹³¹ McLennan Commission Report, at p. 8.

¹³² Drouin Commission Report, at pp. 9-10.

¹³³ See e.g. McLennan Commission Report, at pp. 25-26.

¹³⁴ *Ibid.* at p. 25.

¹³⁵ *Ibid.*; Block Commission Report, at para. 103; Drouin Commission Report, at p. 31; Report and Recommendations of the 1995 Commission Judges' Salaries and Benefits, September 30, 1996 ("Scott Commission Report"), at p. 13; Report and Recommendations of the 1989 Commission on Judges' Salaries and Benefits, March 5, 1990 ("Courtois Commission Report"), at p. 10. The reports of the Courtois, Scott and other "Triennial Commissions" were provided to the Commission on CD-ROM on November 22, 2011.

¹³⁶ McLennan Commission Report, at p. 28.

- 111. The McLennan Commission observed that the large majority of senior public servants who reach the DM-3 level have come up from the DM-1 and DM-2 levels. That remains the case; of the 30 DM-3s currently serving or that have served in that position since 2000, 27 (90%) had been DM-2s. The McLennan Commission also relied upon the fact that the significant majority of DM-1s and DM-2s are similar in age to judges on their appointment. That also remains the case. The average age of judges on appointment is 52. The average age of an associate deputy minister (DM-1) is 54.4, and that of deputy ministers is 53.9.
- 112. The McLennan Commission placed particular emphasis on the fact that all deputy ministers have levels of experience comparable to judges. As of October 21, 2011, the average level of experience of DM-1s was 27.1 years, the average level of experience of DM-2s was 27.4 years and the average for DM-3s was 29 years. Overall, 86% of all deputy ministers had more than 20 years' experience. All deputy ministers "are public servants of long experience and demonstrable ability."

113. The McLennan Commission found: 144

Since many, if not most, of those who reach the DM-1 and DM-2 levels have the qualities of character and ability that qualify them for promotion to DM-3, were openings available, there seems to us to be no good reason to exclude them from consideration. This is especially so given the importance that is accorded to the DM-3 comparison and the fact that, at present, there are only nine people who hold that rank, a very small sample upon which to base the remuneration of more than 1,100 federally appointed judges. Another consideration that influences our thinking was the difference in the pension available to those at the DM levels compared with the judicial annuity, which we will discuss in the next chapter. We are also cognizant of the fact that deputy ministers do not have the security of tenure accorded *puisne* judges.

¹³⁸ Data supplied by the Senior Personnel and Public Service Renewal section of the Privy Council Office as of June 22, 2011.

¹³⁷ *Ibid*.

McLennan Commission Report, at p. 29.

¹⁴⁰ Clerk of the Privy Council and Secretary to the Cabinet, *Eighteenth Annual Report to the Prime Minister on the Public Service of Canada for the year ending March 31*, 2011, online: http://www.clerk.gc.ca/eng/feature.asp?pageId=275.

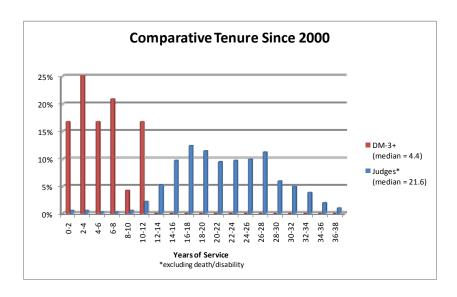
Data provided by Privy Council Office as of October 21, 2011.

¹⁴² Ibid.

¹⁴³ McLennan Commission Report, at p. 28.

¹⁴⁴ *Ibid*. at p. 29.

- 114. With respect to security of tenure, deputy ministers serve at the pleasure of the Governor in Council; whereas pursuant to s. 99 of the *Constitution Act, 1867*, judges can only be removed from office on address of the Senate and the House of Commons, to preserve their independence. Among the 24 individuals who have served as a DM-3 and whose tenure as a DM-3 or higher ended between 2000 and 2011, the median tenure at the rank of DM-3 or higher was 4.4 years. Even the maximum tenure was less than 12 years.
- 115. In contrast, the 424 judges who retired between 2000 and 2011 had spent a median of 21.6 years as a judge, with the maximum tenure close to 38 years. Indeed, only 4% retired with less than 12 years of service, which was the maximum DM-3 tenure.
- 116. Graphically, judicial and DM-3 tenure compare as follows: 148



¹⁴⁵ This calculation includes time as a DM-4 and time in "step down" positions where a DM-3 is given an assignment as an advisor, head of a board or international posting, usually just prior to retirement, at his or her previous DM-3 salary (but not the same level of benefits and not necessarily with the same level, if any, performance pay). Data supplied by the Senior Personnel and Public Service Renewal section of the Privy Council Office as of June 22, 2011.

¹⁴⁶ Judges who passed away while in office, or retired by reason of a disability, have been excluded from this calculation. The calculation of years of service includes those as a supernumerary judge. Data derived from the Judicial Personnel System database of the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs as of April 13, 2011.

¹⁴⁷ It is noteworthy that deputy ministers' pensions are based on their best 5 consecutive years of service, so most DM-3s will not receive a pension based solely on compensation while at DM-3 or higher levels. Deputy Minister (DM-3) Summary of Benefits, prepared by Department of Justice based on data supplied by the Senior Personnel and Public Service Renewal section of the Privy Council Office as of June 22, 2011 (to be included in the Joint Book of Documents).

¹⁴⁸ Additional comparison charts will be included in the Joint Book of Documents.

- 117. This comparison of tenure is evidence that was not before the Block Commission.
- 118. The Advisory Committee on Senior Level Retention and Compensation (the "Stephenson Committee") can recommend economic increases for deputy ministers. Even though such increases reflect a percentage increase in base salary, a deputy minister who fails to meet expectations is not normally given the economic increase. ¹⁵⁰
- 119. While the IAI adjustment increased judicial salaries by 3.6% in 2011-12, deputy ministers' base pay for 2011-12 increased 1.75% compared to 2010-11, which includes .25% relating to elimination of severance pay accumulation. Deputy ministers' base pay for 2011-12 will be as follows: 152

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¹⁴⁹ The Advisory Committee on Senior Level Retention and Compensation, composed of senior executives from the private and other public sectors, was established in 1997 to provide advice to the Government on compensation for public service executives and Governor in Council appointees. Its recommendations are not binding on the Government.

¹⁵⁰ Senior Personnel Secretariat, Privy Council Office, "Performance Management Program Guidelines for Deputy Ministers, Associate Deputy Ministers and Individuals Paid in the GX Salary Range" last updated October 2011 ("PMP Guidelines"), online: http://www.pco-bcp.gc.ca/index.asp?lang=eng&page=secretariats&sub=spsp-psps&doc=pmp-pgr/dm-sm/dm-sm-eng.htm.

psps&doc=pmp-pgr/dm-sm/dm-sm-eng.htm.
 Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, "Information Notice: Changes to Executive Level Total Compensation" online: http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/hrh/110729in-bi-eng.asp.

¹⁵² Data provided by Privy Council Office, "Landscape_DM_Income_Info_.doc (19Oct11)" (to be provided in Joint Book of Documents).

	Minimum	Maximum	Midpoint	Population
DM-1	\$185,800	\$218,500	\$202,150	30
DM-2	\$213,700	\$251,300	\$232,500	38
DM-3	\$239,200	\$281,400	\$260,300	13
DM-4	\$267,900	\$315,100	\$291,500	3

Weighted Midpoint: DM-1 to DM-4	\$228,070
Weighted Midpoint: DM-2 to DM-4	\$242,470

- 120. These salaries will increase by 1.5% in 2012-13, ¹⁵³ the same increase being proposed for judges.
- 121. The Government submits that in light of the small number of DM-3s (13 compared to 1,117 judges), their short tenure (4.4 compared to 21.6 years), and the fact that the entire deputy minister population has a level of experience comparable to judges, if this Commission considers a public sector comparator, it should consider all deputy ministers and not only DM-3s. The judicial salary is consistent with both judges and deputy ministers being paid as "individuals of outstanding character and ability."

3. Deputy Minister Performance Pay is Provided for Reasons Not Relevant to the Judicial Context

- 122. Since 1998, deputy ministers, associate deputy ministers and certain other Governor in Council appointees have been eligible to potentially receive "performance pay" measured against agreed targets and the achievement of business plans. As the McLennan Commission noted, it is apparent from a review of the reports of the predecessors to the Stephenson Committee: "that this is so in part because of the executive market pressures that exist to attract and retain talented people in the public service, as compared to the income levels available to such people in the private sector, and in part as an incentive to reward the attaining of preset and measurable annual goals of achievement. Those considerations are not relevant to the judicial context." ¹⁵⁴
- 123. Performance pay has two elements a potential variable amount (at-risk pay) which is reassessed each year and a potential bonus for performance that surpasses expectations. As of

¹⁵³ Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, "Information Notice: Changes to Executive Level Total Compensation" online: http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/hrh/110729in-bi-eng.asp.

¹⁵⁴ McLennan Commission Report, at p. 27.

2011, 60% of at-risk pay is based on results against individual commitments, and the remaining 40% is based on achievement of corporate commitments linked to the all-of-government spending review under which at least \$4 billion in annual savings is targeted, as discussed in paragraph 44 above. The dependence of 40% of performance pay on achievement of the Government's deficit-reduction goals is yet another change in facts since the Block Commission. The dependence of 40% of performance pay on achievement of the Government's deficit-reduction goals is yet another change in facts since the Block Commission.

124. Deputy minister performance awards for 2011-12 will be assessed as follows: 157

	Corporate Commitment	Individual Commitment	Economic Increase	In-Range Increase
	Did not meet	Did not meet	X	X
	X	X		
	Unable to assess	Unable to assess	$\sqrt{}$	X
	X	X		
	Partially Achieved	Succeeded –	$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$
	$\sqrt{DM-1/GX}$: up to 4%	$\sqrt{DM-1/GX}$: up to 6%		
	$\sqrt{DM-2/3}$: up to 5%	$\sqrt{DM-2/3}$: up to 10%		
ATE DICIZ DAN	$\sqrt{DM-4}$: up to 6%	$\sqrt{DM-4}$: up to 14%		
AT-RISK PAY	Achieved	Succeeded	$\sqrt{}$	\checkmark
	$\sqrt{DM-1/GX}$: up to 6%	$\sqrt{DM-1GX}$: up to 9%		
	\sqrt{DM} -2/3: up to 7.5%	$\sqrt{DM-2/3}$: up to 12.5%		
	$\sqrt{DM-4}$: up to 9%	$\sqrt{DM-4}$: up to 16%		
	Fully Achieved	Succeeded +	$\sqrt{}$	\checkmark
	$\sqrt{DM-1/GX}$: up to 8%	$\sqrt{DM-1/GX}$: up to 12%		
	$\sqrt{DM-2/3}$: up to 10%	$\sqrt{DM-2/3}$: up to 15%		
	$\sqrt{DM-4}$: up to 12%	$\sqrt{DM-4}$: up to 18%		
BONUS	Surpassed		√	√
	$\sqrt{DM-1/GX}$: 20%	6 + up to 6% bonus		
	$\sqrt{DM-2/3}$: 25%			
	√DM-4: 30% +	up to 9% bonus		

¹⁵⁵ PMP Guidelines, *supra*; Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, "Information Notice: Changes to Executive Level Total Compensation," *supra*.

¹⁵⁶ 2007-2008 Performance Management Program Guidelines – Deputy Ministers, Associate Deputy Ministers and Individuals Paid in the GX Salary Range, November 2007, at p. 3 (emphasis in original) (to be included in the Joint Book of Documents. The same document was Appendix 15 of the Submission of the Government of Canada to the Block Commission).

¹⁵⁷ Privy Council Office, "Performance Awards for Deputy Ministers, Associate Deputy Ministers and People Paid in the GX Salary Range for 2011-12", online:

 $[\]underline{http://www.pco.gc.ca/index.asp?lang=eng\&page=secretariats\&sub=spsp-psps\&doc=pmp-pgr/dm-sm/performance-rendement-eng.htm}.$

- 125. As noted above, in 2004 the McLennan Commission concluded that the purposes of atrisk pay are not relevant in the judicial context. That is even more true now that at-risk pay is tied to achievement of deficit-reduction targets. An incentive paid to the few deputy ministers who lead the public service to find means of reducing government expenses and balancing the federal budget is not an appropriate amount to include in a benchmark to potentially increase the salaries of 1,117 judges.
- 126. Moreover, the concept of a "bonus" has no place in judicial remuneration. The very notion of a discretionary bonus offends the constitutional principle that the judiciary not be beholden to the Executive nor swayed by favour.
- 127. For the reasons set out above, the Government submits that it is not necessary for this Commission to consider deputy minister compensation at all, much less deputy minister performance pay. Nevertheless, even if the Commission considers the midpoint of the at-risk pay available to a deputy minister who "succeeds" in his or her individual commitments (that is, the mid-point between maximum at-risk pay for "succeeded-" (10% for DM-3s, as shown in the chart at para. 124 above) and the maximum for "succeeded" (12.5% for DM-3s)), judicial salaries compare well to those amounts: 159

DM-1 Midpoint + 7.5%	\$217,311
DM-2 Midpoint + 11.25%	\$258,656
DM-3 Midpoint + 11.25%	\$289,584
DM4 Midpoint + 15%	\$335,225
Weighted DM-1 to DM4	\$251,411
Weighted DM-2 to DM4	\$270,356

¹⁵⁸ McLennan Commission Report, at p. 27.

¹⁵⁹ These figures are for 2011-12. See para. 119, *supra*.

128. For the information of the Commission, the Government has also set out below the maximum available to a deputy minister who has "succeeded" in his or her individual commitments: 160

DM-1 Midpoint + 9%	\$220,344
DM-2 Midpoint + 12.5%	\$261,563
DM-3 Midpoint + 12.5%	\$292,838
DM4 Midpoint + 16%	\$338,140
Weighted DM-1 to DM4	\$254,417
Weighted DM-2 to DM4	\$273,346

129. Accordingly, even if performance pay is taken into account, the salary of a *puisne* judge is currently between that of a DM-2 and a DM-3 and the salary of a chief justice or associate chief justice exceeds that of a DM-3. The salary of a Supreme Court *puisne* judge is comparable to that of a DM-4, the apex of the judiciary and the public service respectively.

PART IV - ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUESTED IN NOTICE

- 130. With respect to the Commission's request for submissions regarding whether there has been a change in facts or circumstances regarding Recommendations 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the Block Commission, as noted in Annex B, the Government understands, based on the meeting held with the Commission on November 15, 2011, that the judges' associations are not seeking increased benefits during this Commission's inquiry. The Government respectfully submits that the Commission has no objective basis upon which to recommend such increases. If the judges' associations now seek increases to benefits as well as salaries, the Government will respond in its reply submissions.
- 131. Similarly, with respect to Recommendation 3, as noted in Annex B, the Government is not aware that an appellate differential is being requested during this Commission's inquiry. If submissions are made seeking a differential, the Government will respond in its reply submissions.

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¹⁶⁰ These figures are for 2011-12.

132. With respect to Recommendations 1 and 4, the Commission requested "that submissions be made as to what those amounts should be currently based on the reasoning enunciated in those Recommendations." For the reasons set out above and in Annex B, the Government submits that Recommendations 1 and 4 should not be adopted by this Commission. However, if this Commission, like the Block Commission, were to recommend an increase of 4.9% (inclusive of the IAI increase) for the first year of its mandate, and a 2% increase in addition to IAI in the remaining 3 years, the resulting salaries would be:

Year Starting	Increase from Prior	Puisne Judge (1071	Chief Justice/ACJ	Supreme Court Puisne	Chief Justice of Canada
	Year	Judges)	(37)	(8)	(1)
April 1, 2011		\$281,100	\$308,200	\$334,500	\$361,300
April 1, 2012	4.9%	\$294,800	\$323,300	\$350,800	\$379,000
April 1, 2013	4.6%	\$308,300	\$338,100	\$366,900	\$396,400
April 1, 2014	4.8%	\$323,000	\$354,300	\$384,500	\$415,400
April 1, 2015	4.9%	\$338,800	\$371,600	\$403,300	\$435,700

PART V - CONCLUSION

- 133. In conclusion, the Government submits that when the Commission considers the three mandatory *Judges Act* criteria (the economy, financial security and recruitment), the current judicial salary, increased by up to 1.5% annually for each of the next four years, is adequate. Even if this Commission determines that it should also review salaries of senior public servants, as a further objective criterion that the Commission finds relevant, ¹⁶¹ the judicial salary remains adequate.
- 134. The paramount consideration for this Commission, and for the Government, must be the public interest. Preservation of judicial independence is essential to the public interest. The Government submits that in current circumstances, public perception of independence is best preserved not through automatic increases but through temporary measures that a reasonable and informed member of the public would consider to be fair in light of overall economic measures that are being implemented in the public interest. The Government's proposal of increases of up to 1.5% annually for the next four years is consistent with the Supreme Court's admonition that:

¹⁶¹ See *Judges Act*, s. 36(1.1)(d).

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"Nothing would be more damaging to the reputation of the judiciary and the administration of justice than a perception that judges were not shouldering their share of the burden in difficult economic times." ¹⁶² Accordingly, the Government respectfully submits that the Commission

should recommend that the Government's proposal be implemented.

ALL OF WHICH is respectfully submitted.

DATED at Toronto, this 23rd day of December, 2011.

Catherine Beagan Flood

Counsel for the Attorney General of Canada

 162 PEI Judges Reference, supra at para. 196.

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ANNEX A

Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission



Commission d'examen de la rémunération des juges

99 Metcalfe Street Ottawa, Ontario K1A 1E3

Chairperson/Président Brian M. Levitt

Members/Membres Paul Tellier, P.C., C.C., Q.C./c.r. Mark L. Siegel Executive Director/Directrice exécutive Suzanne Labbé

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NOTICE

Recommendation 14 of the 2008 Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission's Report stated, in effect, that the parties should not view the establishment of a new commission as an opportunity to reopen settled issues, absent a change in facts or circumstances which would justify reconsideration of the matter. This Commission has determined to adopt that principle and apply it rigorously, with the following implications:

- (a) With regard to the selection of the appropriate comparator, paragraphs 47 to 120 of the report of the previous Commission provide an exhaustive review of the relevant factors. That Commission concluded in paragraph 118 that "...the midpoint of the DM-3 salary range, plus one half of maximum performance pay..." is a comparator that meets the section 26(1.1) criteria of the *Judges Act* to which the Commission is directed by the statute to turn its mind. This Commission intends to regard that determination of the previous Commission as a settled matter of principle in the absence of submissions which convince this Commission that, since the previous Commission reported, there has been a change in facts or circumstance which justify a rehearing of the question.
- (b) This Commission has made the same determination with respect to Recommendations 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11 of the report of the previous Commission as well as with respect to the portion of Recommendation 4 which relates to salary differentials.
- (c) With respect to Recommendations 1 and 9, and with respect to the portion of Recommendation 4 which fixes actual amounts, the Commission requests that submissions be made as to what those amounts should be currently based on the reasoning enunciated in those Recommendations.

The Commission has noted the time elapsed between the submission of the previous Commission's report and the Government's response thereto as well as the substance of that response. The Commission invites submissions providing guidance as to whether the relevant body of judge made law suggests that it is necessary or advisable for this Commission to turn its mind to the timeliness and substance of that response.

Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission



Commission d'examen de la rémunération des juges

99 Metcalfe Street Ottawa, Ontario K1A 1E3

Chairperson/Président Brian M. Levitt

Members/Membres Paul Tellier, P.C., C.C., Q.C./c.r. Mark L. Siegel Executive Director/Directrice exécutive Suzanne Labbé

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AVIS

La Recommandation 14 du rapport 2008 de la Commission d'examen de la rémunération des juges précisait que les parties ne devaient pas voir dans l'établissement d'une nouvelle Commission une occasion de rouvrir des points sur lesquels une entente était intervenue, en l'absence d'un changement dans les faits ou les circonstances pouvant justifier un réexamen. La présente Commission a choisi d'adopter ce principe et de l'appliquer rigoureusement, avec les conséquences suivantes :

- (a) en ce qui concerne le choix d'un comparateur approprié, les paragraphes 47 à 120 du rapport de la précédente Commission fournissent un examen exhaustif des facteurs pertinents. Cette Commission concluait, au paragraphe 118 que « le point médian de l'échelle salariale DM-3, plus la moitié de la rémunération maximale au rendement... » est un comparateur qui satisfait au critère du paragraphe 26(1.1) auquel la Commission est tenue par la *Loi sur les juges*. La présente Commission entend considérer cette détermination faite par la Commission précédente comme une question réglée en principe, en l'absence de présentation pouvant convaincre la présente Commission qu'il s'est produit depuis le rapport de la précédente Commission, dans les faits ou les circonstances, des changements qui justifient un réexamen de la question;
- (b) la présente Commission fait la même détermination en ce qui concerne les Recommandations 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 et 11 du rapport de la Commission précédente et en ce qui concerne la partie de la Recommandation 4 portant sur les écarts de traitement;
- (c) en ce qui a trait aux Recommandations 1 et 9 et à la partie de la Recommandation 4 qui fixe les montants effectifs, la Commission demande que des mémoires lui soient présentés sur les éléments sur lesquels ces montants devraient être actuellement basés, selon le raisonnement énoncé dans ces recommandations.

La Commission a noté le délai écoulé entre le dépôt du rapport de la Commission précédente et la réponse du gouvernement à ce rapport, de même que la substance de cette réponse. La Commission invite les parties intéressées à lui présenter des mémoires à savoir si la jurisprudence porte à croire qu'il est nécessaire ou souhaitable que la présente Commission se penche sur la rapidité et la substance de cette réponse.

ANNEX B

Blakes-

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December 13, 2011

Catherine Beagan Flood Dir: 416-863-2269 cbe@blakes.com

VIA EMAIL

Reference: 100716/16

Ms. Suzanne Labbé
Executive Director
Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission
99 Metcalfe Street, 8th floor
Ottawa, ON K1A 1E3

Dear Ms. Labbé:

Re: 2012 Quadrennial Commission on Judicial Compensation

This is further to the Notice issued by the Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission on December 8, 2011.

The Notice indicates that the Commission has determined that in the absence of "a change in facts or circumstance," the Commission "intends to regard" a particular comparator, Recommendations 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11 and a portion of Recommendation 4 of the 2007 Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission's Report "as a settled matter of principle." The Commission has also invited submissions regarding whether it is "necessary or advisable" for it to consider the timeliness and substance of the Government's 2009 Response to the 2007 Commission.

With respect, the Notice is not consistent with the Commission's constitutional or statutory mandate, or the principles of natural justice. The Commission has apparently met *ex parte*, deliberated, and determined the bulk of the issues that are the subject of its inquiry under s. 26 of the *Judges Act* prior to receiving and considering submissions from any party or from the public.

In Provincial Court Judges' Assn. of New Brunswick v. New Brunswick (Minister of Justice); Ontario Judges' Assn. v. Ontario (Management Board); Bodner v. Alberta; Conférence des juges du Québec v. Quebec (Attorney General), 2005 SCC 44, [2005] 2 S.C.R. 286 at para. 17 ("Bodner"), the Supreme Court of Canada provided the following guidance for judicial remuneration commissions:

The commission must objectively consider the submissions of all parties and any relevant factors identified in the enabling statute and regulations. Its recommendations must result from a fair and objective hearing. Its report must explain and justify its position. [emphasis added]

In the same decision (at para. 19), the Supreme Court held that a judicial compensation commission will have had a "meaningful effect" as required by the Constitution if it is a "public and open process of recommendation and response." The Notice does not reflect the process required by the Constitution.

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In Bodner, the Supreme Court further held (at para. 14) that the purpose of a judicial compensation commission "is not simply to 'update' the previous commission's report." Rather, while a commission can consider the reports of previous commissions as part of the background and context for its inquiry, "Each commission must make its assessment in its own context." The 2007 Commission chose not to follow several of the recommendations of the 2004 Commission, including the 2004 Commission's determination that it is not appropriate to focus solely on the DM-3 comparator. Far from being "settled," or a matter of "consensus," prior Commissions' views regarding DM-3s as a potential comparator have varied widely, as have their views on several of the 2007 recommendations. If the 2007 Commission's intention in Recommendation 14 was to fetter the independence and objectivity of this Commission, it lacked the jurisdiction to do so. It would be an error of law for this Commission to fetter itself by following the recommendations of a prior Commission without making its own independent and objective assessment of all of the evidence and submissions presented by all participants in its public inquiry.

Indeed, at their initial meeting with the Commission on November 15, 2011, the principal parties advised the Commission that they were both of the view that, as a matter of law, this Commission must inquire into the adequacy of judicial salaries and "cannot just adopt what the previous Commission has done."

Moreover, the fact that the Commission has indicated that it intends to adopt non-salary related recommendations of the previous Commission (Recommendations 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10), despite having been advised by counsel for the judiciary on November 15 that only salaries would be in issue during this quadrennial period, is also inconsistent with the Commission's constitutional duty to proceed on an objective basis. Similarly, the Commission has indicated that unless there has been a change in facts or circumstances, it will recommend a salary differential for appellate judges (Recommendation 3 of the 2007 Commission), even though no party has given notice to the Government that such a differential will be requested.

Finally, with respect to the last paragraph of the Notice, the timing and substance of the Government's 2009 response is not a subject of this inquiry. This Commission was established under s. 26 of the Judges Act to "to inquire into the adequacy of the salaries and other amounts payable under this Act and into the adequacy of judges' benefits generally," for the period of April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2016. Its mandate is prospective.

The Supreme Court has determined in the Ref re Remuneration of Judges of the Prov. Court of P.E.I.; Ref re Independence and Impartiality of Judges of the Prov. Court of P.E.I., [1997] 3 S.C.R. 3 (see e.g. paras. 133, 176-77) and Bodner (see e.g. paras. 21, 131) that the report of a judicial compensation commission is consultative: "the Constitution does not require that commission reports be binding, as decisions about the allocation of public resources belong to legislatures and to the executive" (Bodner, at para. 21). A commission's recommendations can be rejected by a government for legitimate reasons based on a reasonable factual foundation. Such a rejection is subject to a limited, deferential form of judicial review by the superior courts "which acknowledges both the government's unique position and accumulated expertise and its constitutional responsibility for management of the

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Page 3



province's financial affairs" (Bodner, para. 30). A government's response to a judicial compensation commission is clearly not subject to review by later remuneration commissions.

Indeed, at the same time that the Government responded to the 2007 Commission, it also responded to recommendations of a Special Advisor on Federal Court Prothonotaries' Compensation. While the federally-appointed judges did not seek judicial review of the Government's decision not to implement the 2007 Commission's recommendations, the prothonotaries did seek judicial review of the Government's decision not to implement the Special Advisor's recommendations, including the timing of the Government's response. The Federal Court of Appeal held that the Government's response was constitutional in light of "the deteriorating state of the global economic situation and its impact on the finances of the Government of Canada": Aalto v. Canada (Attorney General), 2010 FCA 195 at para. 15. The Supreme Court denied leave to appeal that decision. This Commission has no mandate to revisit such matters.

In light of the foregoing, the Government's submissions to the Commission will not only address the issue of "change of facts or circumstance" referenced in the Notice, but will also address the legal errors in the Notice and will set out the evidence and submissions that the Government considers relevant to the full inquiry which the Commission is required to conduct. In fairness to the Canadian Superior Court Judges Association and Canadian Judicial Council, counsel for the Government advised counsel for the judges' associations on December 9, 2011 that the Government would be submitting this letter to the Commission and that the Government intends to address all the issues raised by s. 26 of the *Judges Act* in its submissions to the Commission.

While counsel intends to make every effort to incorporate all the changes to the Government's submissions that are necessitated by the December 8 Notice in time to meet the December 20 filing deadline, given the number of approvals and translation required for such amendments, the Government may need to seek an extension of time. The Government intends to advise the Commission and counsel for the judges' associations prior to December 20 if such an extension is needed.

Yours very truly,

Catherine Beagan Flood

CBE/lpi

c: Plerre Blenvenu Azim Hussain

ANNEX C

JOINT BACKGROUND NOTE: JUDICIAL COMPENSATION

A. <u>Current Compensation</u>

Salary	 Chief Justice of Canada: \$361,300; Supreme Court of Canada puisne judge (8 judges): \$334,500; Chief Justices and Associate Chief Justices (37 judges): \$308,200; Puisne Judges (1071 judges): \$281,100; Statutory indexation based on Industrial Aggregate ("IAI").
Incidental allowances	 Incidental allowance of \$5,000 annually, accountable; Additional \$12,000 (10 northern judges only²), non-accountable; Additional \$2,000 (FCA, FC and TCC³), non-accountable.
Representational allowance	 Chief Justice of Canada: \$18,750; SCC puisne judges: \$10,000; CJ of the Federal Court of Appeal and each CJ of a province: \$12,500; All other CJ's, ACJ's and Senior Judges: \$10,000; Ontario regional senior judges (8): \$5,000.
Removal Allowance	 Moving expenses, including house sale costs, on appointment for all judges required to relocate; Also on retirement for judges of the SCC, FCA, FCC, TCC and the northern courts.
Travel Expenses	As administered by the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs ("CFJA"), based on TBS Guidelines
Education and Conference Allowance	For conferences authorized by CJs and the Canadian Judicial Council ("CJC"); CJC policy encourages five educational days per year.
Annuity	Retirement Age 75 (70 for certain judges appointed prior to March 1, 1987); or Age plus years of service of at least 80 years (minimum 15 years of service); or 10 or more years of service, if a judge of the Supreme Court of Canada Retirement Annuity 66 2/3% of salary at the time of retirement. If less than 10 years of service, the pension is reduced by 1/10 for each year of service below 10 years. Early Retirement Age 55 with 10 years of service.
	Early Retirement Reduction

¹ The number of puisne judges will fluctuate somewhat depending on the number of supernumerary judges.

² Bill C-31 provides for the establishment of 2 additional judicial positions in Nunavut, so when passed there will be a total of 12 judges in the northern superior courts.

³ Federal Court of Appeal, Federal Court, and Tax Court of Canada.

No.	5% per year that the pension commences before age 60
	Normal Form of Pension
	Conjugal relationship: Joint life and 50% survivor pension.
	Cost-of-Living Adjustments
	100% of the Consumer Price Index ("CPI")
	Death Before Retirement
	A lump sum equal to one-sixth of salary is paid to the surviving spouse or common-
	law partner or to the estate if there is no survivor.
	Conjugal relationship: A pension is payable to the surviving spouse or common-law partner equal to one-third of the annual salary of the judge.
	Dependents: A pension is payable to each surviving dependent equal to 20% of the surviving spouse's or common-law spouse's pension, with a reduction if there are more than four dependent children. The pension for a surviving dependent is doubled if that child is an orphan.
	Termination prior to retirement
	Refund of contributions, with interest.
	Disability
	Immediate unreduced pension.
	Judges' Contributions
	For judges appointed before February 17, 1975: 1.5% of salary.
	For judges appointed after February 16, 1975: 1% of salary to the Supplementary Policement Reposition Agreement Plans 69/ of salary to the Consolidated Reserves Fund The Consolidated Fund The Con
	 Retirement Benefits Account plus 6% of salary to the Consolidated Revenue Fund. 6% contribution to Consolidated Revenue Fund ceases upon eligibility for full pension or election of supernumerary status.
	Division upon Conjugal Breakdown
	 Mechanism permits the division of the judicial annuity benefits deemed to accrue to a judge during a conjugal relationship up to a 50% limit upon breakdown of a judge's marriage or common-law relationship.
Option to elect supernumerary	A judge who is eligible to retire with a full annuity or has attained the age of 70 with a minimum of 10 years service has the option to elect supernumerary status — which allows the judge to work on a reduced schedule, commonly understood to be approximately 50%, for a full salary.
Long-Term Disability	Immediate annuity at 2/3 of salary upon permanent infirmity. Benefit is indexed to full CPI.
Basic Group Life	Offered under PSMIP (Public Service Management Insurance Plan)
	2 times adjusted annual salary as base coverage.
	 100% government-paid premium. Full coverage continues until retirement and reduces after the first year for a four-year
	period (i.e., 25% reduction per year) to a minimum of 25% gradually.
Optional Life Insurance	Offered under PSMIP.
	Coverage is 1 times annual salary.
	100% judge-paid premium.
	Coverage reduces at age 66 by 10% to a minimum of 10% of adjusted annual salary.

Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance	Included under PSMIP. \$250,000 lump sum coverage. 100% government-paid premium.
Dependent Life Insurance (including AD&D)	Included under PSMIP \$5,000 coverage for spouse. If the death is accidental, \$5,000 additional coverage. \$2,500 coverage for dependent child. If the death is accidental, \$2,500 additional coverage. 100% government-paid premium.
Sick Leave / Short-Term Disability	At the discretion of the Chief Justice.
Maternity & Parental Pay Benefit	Up to 6 month Leave of Absence with full pay subject to approval by the Chief Justice.
Extended Health Care	 Annual deductible of \$60 for single and \$100 for family. 100% government-paid premium for Hospital Level III coverage. Up to \$220 / day reimbursement for semi-private/private hospital room and board coverage. 80% reimbursement for drug expenses. 80% reimbursement for vision care coverage up to \$275 every 2 years. 80% reimbursement for hearing aid coverage up to \$1,000 every 5 years.
Dentai Plan	 Annual deductible of \$25 for single and \$50 for family. 100% government-paid premium. Reimbursement is based on previous year's dental fee guide. 90% reimbursement for basic, preventive and minor restorative treatments. 50% reimbursement for major procedures (\$1,700 annual maximum per person) and orthodontia treatments (\$2,500 lifetime maximum per person).
Vacation	At the discretion of the Chief Justice; generally understood to be approx. 6 weeks.

B. <u>History of Puisne Judge Salaries (1999-2012)</u>

The following chart sets out increases in *pulsne* judge salaries since 1999 (the year before the first Quadrennial Commission recommendations were made):

		Statutory	Net
April 1 st	Salary	Indexation	Increase
1999	\$178,100	1.35%	
2000	\$198,000	0.67%	11.2%
2001	\$204,600	2.33%	3.3%
2002	\$210,200	1.76%	2.7%
2003	\$216,600	2.10%	3.0%
2004	\$232,300	1.30%	7.2%
2005	\$237,400	2.20%	2.2%
2006	\$244,700	3.10%	3.1%
2007	\$252,000	3.00%	3.0%
2008	\$260,000	3.20%	3.2%
2009	\$267,200	2.80%	2.8%
2010	\$271,400	1.60%	1.6%
2011	\$281,100	3.60%	3.6%

ANNEX D



Department of Finance Canada Ministèré des Finances Canada

Assistant Deputy Ministér

Sous-ministre adjoint

December 16, 2011

Ms. Catherine Beagan Flood Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP Barristers & Solicitors 199 Bay Street Suite 4000 Commerce Court West Toronto, Ontario M5L 1A9

Dear Ms. Beagan Flood:

I am writing in response to your letter of November 3 requesting input for the Government's submission to the Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission. Much of the material below is drawn from the latest *Update of Economic and Fiscal Projections* (Update) released on November 8, 2011. The Update sets out the Government's assessment of the state of the Canadian economy and of the current and future financial position of the Federal Government.

a) "the prevailing economic conditions in the Canadian economy generally

The global economic situation and outlook have deteriorated recently, and uncertainty over the outlook has risen, largely reflecting the negative impacts of the sovereign debt and banking crisis in Europe and concerns over the sustainability of the U.S. fiscal situation. This uncertainty has shaken consumer and business confidence and resulted in sharp declines in equity values worldwide, since mid-year.

As a result of ongoing weak external demand and headwinds from a relatively high Canadian dollar, Canadian exports remain well below levels seen at the outset of the recession. External weakness has also begun to be felt in Canadian employment, which declined in October and November, and is now essentially unchanged since June 2011.

The economic forecasts presented in the Update represent the average forecast from the Department of Finance's September 2011 survey of private sector economists. Reflecting the deterioration in the global economic situation and outlook, private sector economists expect relatively modest Canadian real GDP growth of 2.2 per cent in 2011 and 2.1 per cent in 2012, down significantly from 2.9 and 2.8 per cent, respectively, in the 2011 budget. The economists



expect growth in the 2.5-per-cent range over the 2013-2016 period. The near term private sector outlook is in line with the current economic projection published by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The IMF's fall 2011 World Economic Outlook projects Canadian real GDP growth of 2.1 per cent in 2011 and 1.9 per cent in 2012.

b) "the current and projected increase in the cost of living (possibly in comparison to the indexation of judges' salaries by the Industrial Aggregate)"

The Consumer Price Index (CPI), which is widely used to determine costof-living adjustments, increased by 1.8 per cent in 2010 and is projected to increase by 2.9 per cent in 2011 and 2.0 per cent in 2012, based on the average private sector forecast at the time of the Update.

Table 1: Projected Increases in the Total Consumer Price Index

2011	2012	2013	2014-2016
2.9	2.0	2.0	2.0

The Department has also produced forecasts of growth in average weekly earnings (i.e. the Industrial Aggregate excluding the unclassified) for 2011 and 2012, based on the economic outlook from the survey of private sector economists. For 2011 and 2012, growth in average weekly earnings is projected at 2.4 and 1.3 per cent, respectively, following growth of 3.5 per cent in 2010. This projection is in line with the average private sector forecast for the growth in the CPI.

c) "the current financial position of the federal government."

The audited financial statements of the Government of Canada for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011 reported a budgetary deficit of \$33.4 billion for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2011, compared to a budgetary deficit of \$55.6 billion in 2009–10. The federal debt stood at \$550.3 billion at March 31, 2011, 33.9 per cent of GDP.

The fiscal projections outlined in the Update show that the Government remains on track to eliminate the federal deficit over the medium term. The government has announced in Budget 2011 a deficit reduction action plan that will achieve at least \$4 billion in ongoing annual savings by 2014–15. These savings will support the Government's commitment to return to budgetary balance over the medium term. In light of the uncertain global environment, meeting this commitment will require maintaining diligence over restraining growth in government expenditures.

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
				(\$ billions)			,
2011 Update – budgetary balance	-33.4	-31.0	-27.4	-17.0	-7,5	-3,4	0.5
Deficit reduction action plan targeted savings			1.0	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Budgetary balance including targeted savings	-33.4	-31.0	-26.4	-15.0	-3.5	0,6	4,5

I hope that this information will be useful to you in preparing the submission to the Commission. Should you require any more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Benoît Robidoux

Assistant Deputy Minister

Economic and Fiscal Policy Branch

ANNEX E

REPORT ON THE EARNINGS OF SELF-EMPLOYED LAWYERS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CANADA IN PREPARATION FOR THE 2011 JUDICIAL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS COMMISSION

December 13, 2011

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Haripaul Pannu has been retained by the Department of Justice Canada to conduct an analysis of the net income of self-employed lawyers as reported by individuals who filed personal income taxes for the 2006 to 2010 tax years. The study will be used in preparation for the Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission. The purpose of the study is to analyze the data and identify significant trends in the income of self-employed lawyers. This analysis will then be used to make comparisons of the income of federally appointed judges with the income of self-employed lawyers.

Data

Data for the analysis of the earnings of self-employed lawyers was provided by the Department of Justice. The source of the data was the 2006 to 2010 personal taxation information of self-employed lawyers in Canada collected and supplied by Canada Revenue Agency ("CRA").

CRA extracted data from the T1 Data Mart and T1 Mini-Universe, which are CRA databases for capturing all filed individual tax returns. The T1 databases capture assessed individual tax data. This is taxation data that is the current or updated form of the initial assessed data. This means that CRA has validated and verified the quality, precision and integrity of the data.

The information was for self-employed lawyers as identified by the North American Industry Classification code for lawyers:

- who were between 35 and 69 years of age;
- with no duplicated records;
- · excluding those filing from abroad;
- excluding those who claimed amounts for social assistance and employment insurance or whose CPP/QPP amounts exceeded the sum of their net professional and business incomes; and
- excluding those whose employment income exceeded the sum of their net professional income and net business income.

For the 2007 Commission, a study was conducted based on similar self-employed lawyers' income data but with 2001 to 2005 personal taxation information.

The data provided for this study is reliable for the purposes of analyzing the income of self-employed lawyers. I have conducted tests of the 2006 to 2010 data for the purposes of determining its reliability and comparability. I tested the internal consistency of the 2006 to 2010 data by examining the totals for Canada with the provincial totals and with the totals from the major urban centers. The net income across the age-bands was also reviewed for consistency.

The number of self-employed lawyers filing tax information is provided below:

2006 to 2010 Number of Self-Employed Lawyers

	2006	2007	2008	<u> 2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
Number of Lawyers	23,530	23,100	22,510	21,630	21,120

CRA was contacted to inquire about the decrease in the number of self-employed lawyers from 2006 to 2010. CRA has informed us that this is not an unusual situation and that there are several reasons that this could occur. The 2010 income data was filed in 2011 and may not include all self-employed lawyers who will file income tax information. In addition, CRA indicated that lawyers might be retiring at a faster rate than young people who are becoming lawyers.

I have concluded that the 2006 to 2010 taxation data is reliable based on my own internal tests and the information received from CRA.

A detailed summary of the data is included as Appendix D.

Process

The process I have used in analysing the net income data is to focus on the entire range of available data. I do not propose to use one statistical value but to provide a range. In this way it can be determined which statistical value to best benchmark judicial salaries to self-employed lawyers. It is compensation study best practice to use the 50th percentile, 65th percentile or 75th percentile as benchmarks for which to recruit and retain exceptional individuals. The particular percentile used depends on supply / demand issues and economic factors. Further, as judges are appointed at various ages I have given more emphasis to the ages where the majority of judges are appointed, while still using the entire set of data available. As judges are appointed from across Canada, the incomes of self-employed lawyers should be looked at geographically to identify any income differences.

In addition, as the judicial annuity scheme's retirement benefit and disability benefit provided to judges is a significant and important portion of a judge's compensation, I have provided a separate analysis including these benefits as a part of the judge's compensation. In most cases, self-employed lawyers would have to use a portion of their income to fund for their retirement or potential disability. Thus to make the comparison more equitable between self-employed lawyers and judges, the judicial annuity scheme's retirement and disability benefits should be included as part of the judicial compensation.

Analysis

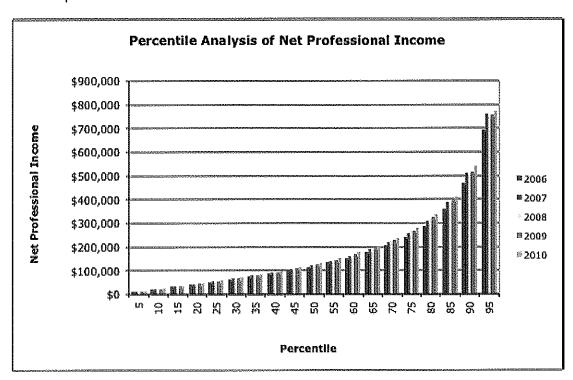
The analysis of the data is based on the percentile net income information for the 2006 to 2010 taxation years provided by CRA.

The range of income information for the years 2006 to 2010 is presented in the table below:

Lowest and Highest Net Income Percentiles

	Fifth Percentile	95 th Percentile
Year	Income	<u>Income</u>
2006	\$11,355	\$691,489
2007	\$11,282	\$761,582
2008	\$10,891	\$755,476
2009	\$11,321	\$755,619
2010	\$12,007	\$771,654

The shape of the distribution of net incomes over the whole group is markedly skewed to the right, as the following chart demonstrates in terms of the sharp rise in the net income for each percentile.



As the data is markedly skewed, an appropriate representation of the net incomes can be obtained by examining the median net income. The median is the middle point of the data. That is, half the data is larger than this amount and half the data is smaller than this amount. It is not impacted by the extreme values at either end of the tails.

Median Net Income - 2006 to 2010 Taxation Years

Year	Net Professional Income
2006	\$115,961
2007	\$121,884
2008	\$125,120
2009	\$125,588
2010	\$131,603

It is a common practice in the compensation industry to target the 50th percentile as a benchmark in recruiting suitable individuals. However, it is reasonable to assume that judges' salaries should not be based on the median but rather the 65th percentile or the 75th percentile. It is a best practice in compensation studies to use the 65th percentile or 75th percentile as benchmarks in ensuring the recruitment and retention of exceptional individuals.

These statistics would provide a better representation of the most likely comparator group for judges. That is, those in the top third or quarter of the legal profession, assuming that incomes are a proxy for talent. The particular percentile used depends on supply / demand issues, economic conditions and the employer's ability to attract individuals.

65th Percentile and 75th Percentile Net Professional Income

Year	65 th Percentile	75 th Percentile
2006	\$177,137	\$242,006
2007	\$188,204	\$257,762
2008	\$193,401	\$264,550
2009	\$196,790	\$266,210
2010	\$204,159	\$278,526

The 65th percentile would be used in most cases in attracting exceptional individuals. Whereas, the 75th percentile would be used when trying to attract truly exceptional individuals.

A further refinement can be made by examining the income of self-employed lawyers by age bands. Data was provided for lawyers in the following age bands:

- under age 44
- age 44 to under age 48;
- age 48 to under age 52;
- age 52 to under age 56;
- age 56 to under age 60;
- · age 60 to under age 64; and

· older than age 64.

As judges are appointed to the bench at various ages, it would be appropriate to factor this into determining the income.

The approach I have used is to weight the income from the age bands by the proportion of judges that were appointed from that age band and then arrive at a single age-weighted income.

Information was obtained from the Department of Justice on the ages of appointment of federal judges. The information was for judges appointed to the bench from January 1, 1997 to March 31, 2011. This information is outlined in Appendix C.

Summarizing the information:

Age at Appointment	Appointments	Percentage
Under 44	39	5.2%
44 to under 48	154	20.7%
48 to under 52	179	24.0%
52 to under 56	186	25.0%
56 to under 60	126	16.9%
60 to under 64	50	6.7%
64 and over	<u>11</u>	1.5%
Total	749	100%

Therefore to obtain a weighted average for the income of all lawyers, the following formula was used:

income_{all lawyers} =
$$5.2\%$$
 x income_{under 44} + 20.7% x income₄₄₋₄₇ + 24.0% x income₄₈₋₅₁ + 25.0% x income₅₂₋₅₅ + 16.9% x income₅₆₋₅₉ + 6.7% x income₆₀₋₆₃ + 1.5% income_{64 and over}

The results for the 65th percentile and 75th percentile are outlined below.

65th Percentile Age-Weighted 2010 Income

Age	Weight	65 th Percentile Income	Age-Weighted
Under 44	5.2%	\$217,761	\$11,400
44 to under 48	20.7%	\$237,941	\$49,185
48 to under 52	24.0%	\$232,366	\$55,830
52 to under 56	25.0%	\$224,524	\$56,056
56 to under 60	16.9%	\$192,377	\$32,536
60 to under 64	6.7%	\$168,422	\$11,303
64 and over	1.5%	\$148,300	<u>\$2,190</u>
Age-Weighted 65 th	Percentile 20	10 Income	\$218,500

75th Percentile Age-Weighted 2010 Income

Age	Weight	75 th Percentile Income	Age-Weighted
Under 44	5.2%	\$280,003	\$14,658
44 to under 48	20.7%	\$331,799	\$68,587
48 to under 52	24.0%	\$322,087	\$77,387
52 to under 56	25.0%	\$322,894	\$80,615
56 to under 60	16.9%	\$274,245	\$46,382
60 to under 64	6.7%	\$235,071	\$15,777
64 and over	1.5%	\$197,365	<u>\$2,914</u>
Age-Weighted 75th	Percentile 20	10 Income	\$306,320

The 65th percentile income increases by 7.0% when an age-weighted income is used and the 75th percentile income increases by 10.0% when an age-weighted basis is used.

Salary Exclusion Impact

Previous Commissions have been presented with income information that had a salary exclusion applied (a \$60,000 salary exclusion was applied for both the 2003 and 2007 Commissions). The use of a salary exclusion is not a common practice in benchmarking salaries for comparative purposes. It is an unusual approach that distorts the results of the salary information. As incomes below \$60,000 are excluded, the range of incomes are compressed, resulting in higher percentile values than if no salary exclusion was applied.

The impact of using a salary exclusion is presented below with the corresponding percentile results if no salary exclusion was applied.

Number of Self-Employed Lawyers With and Without Salary Exclusion

Year	Without Salary Exclusion	With Salary Exclusion	Percentage Difference
2006	23,530	16,860	28%
2007	23,100	16,790	27%
2008	22,510	16,510	27%
2009	21,630	15,870	27%
2010	21,120	15,850	26%

65th Percentile Net Income With \$60,000 Salary Exclusion

Year	65 th Percentile	Non-Exclusion Percentile*	Approximate Non-Exclusion Percentile*
2006	\$241,426	70 th to 75 th	74 th
2007	\$254,164	70 th to 75 th	74 th
2008	\$257,729	70 th to 75 th	74 th
2009	\$260,823	70 th to 75 th	74 th
2010	\$269,603	70 th to 75 th	73 th
*Non-age we	eighted percentile		

75th Percentile Net Income With \$60,000 Salary Exclusion

	75 th	Non-Exclusion	Approximate
Year	Percentile	Percentile*	Non-Exclusion Percentile*
2006	\$317,019	80 th to 85 th	82 nd
2007	\$334,557	80 th to 85 th	81 st
2008	\$338,278	80 th to 85 th	81 st
2009	\$344,324	80 th to 85 th	81 st
2010	\$356,169	80 th to 85 th	81 st
*Non-age w	eighted percentile		

It is not a normal practice to use salary exclusion for compensation benchmark purposes. The percentile information is distorted by the compression of data. The 65^{th} percentile with salary exclusion is actually the 70^{th} to 75 percentile without salary exclusion. Likewise, the 75^{th} percentile with salary exclusion result is actually at the 80^{th} to 85^{th} percentile without salary exclusion.

A more standard approach is to use a fair percentile benchmark without salary exclusion.

Major Metropolitan Centers

The above was an analysis of the income of self-employed lawyers over the entire country. However, we should also examine the distribution of such incomes in the major metropolitan centers ("CMA'S") in Canada to determine whether there are any centers where the net income is significantly different from the national number.

I have analyzed the incomes of self-employed lawyers for the major metropolitan centers in Canada and have outlined the 65th percentile and 75th percentile incomes. The results are presented below

65th Percentile Income for Major Metropolitan Centers

Metropolitan Area	<u>Income</u>	% Difference from Canada
Calgary	\$276,268	35%
Edmonton	\$223,978	10%
Hamilton	\$201,737	(1)%
London	\$201,042	(2)%
Montreal	\$191,026	(6)%
Ottawa / Gatineau	\$208,640	2%
Quebec City	\$159,355	(22)%
Toronto	\$334,234	64%
Vancouver	\$215,716	6%
Winnipeg	\$143,466	(30)%
All 10 CMA'S	\$242,500	18%
All other regions	\$136,619	(33%)
All Canada	\$204,159	

75 th Percentile Income for	r Major Metrop	olitan Centers
Metropolitan Area	Income	% Difference from C

<u>Metropolitan Area</u>	Income	% Difference from Canada
Calgary	\$385,772	39%
Edmonton	\$280,760	1%
Hamilton	\$249,196	(11)%
London	\$255,303	(8)%
Montreal	\$262,818	(6)%
Ottawa / Gatineau	\$276,976	(1)%
Quebec City	\$204,830	(26)%
Toronto	\$455,008	63%
Vancouver	\$299,074	7%
Winnipeg	\$193,303	(31)%
All 10 CMA'S	\$337,761	21%
All other regions	\$170,857	(39%)
All Canada	\$278,526	

A comparison of the major metropolitan centers indicates that the 65th percentile figures for Calgary Edmonton, Ottawa / Gatineau, Toronto and Vancouver are higher than the national number and 75th percentile figures for Calgary, Edmonton, Toronto and Vancouver are higher than the national number.

Judicial Annuity Scheme

The final part of my analysis is the impact of the judicial annuity on the judge's total compensation in comparison with the income of a self-employed lawyer. The judicial annuity is an important benefit available to judges. The magnitude of this benefit should not be overlooked when comparing judicial compensation with that of self-employed lawyers. In all likelihood, self-employed lawyers would have to save for their own retirement.

The judicial annuity scheme as it currently exists has the following provisions:

- an annuity of 2/3 of final year earnings is provided at retirement;
- a judge is eligible to retire with a full annuity when:
 - they have served at least 15 years and their combined age and service is at least 80:
 - they have attained age 75 and have at least 10 years of service;
 - they are a judge of the Supreme Court of Canada with at least 10 years of service; or
 - they become disabled
- if the judge is not eligible for a full annuity, the annuity is reduced as follows:
 - if the judge has less than 10 years of service and is 75, the annuity is reduced by 1/10 for each year of service below 10 years;
 - if the judge has less than 80 points (age plus service) and is retiring prior to age
 75, a pro-rated annuity is provided with an additional reduction if the annuity is commencing prior to age 60 of 5% per year for each year prior to age 60.
- the annuity is payable for the life of the judge and if the judge has a spouse or common-law partner 50% of the annuity will be paid to the spouse or common-law partner for their lifetime on the death of the judge;
- · the annuity is indexed at 100% of the increase in CPI; and
- judges contribute 7% of earnings each year towards the plan. The contributions drop to 1% of earnings when a judge is eligible for an unreduced annuity.

A detailed summary of the judicial annuity scheme is outlined in Appendix A.

Retirement Benefit

In order to compare the incomes of self-employed lawyers and judges, the value of the judicial annuity should be included as part of the overall compensation package of judges. One method to accomplish this is to determine the value of the judicial annuity as a percent of the judge's income and then gross-up the judicial income by that amount.

This method would represent the annual cost of providing the judicial annuity retirement benefit during a judge's appointment to the bench.

In particular, I calculated the value of the judicial annuity at appointment ages from 40 to 65, in 5-year increments. From this value, the impact of the judge's contributions was removed to reflect the portion that is not funded by the judge's own contributions. This value was then stated as a level percent of a judge's career income to reflect the average annual benefit.

It is important that the value not include the impact of the judge's contributions. This is a more representative value of the "additional benefit" judges receive from participating in the judicial annuity scheme. Likewise, self-employed lawyers would be able to deduct contributions to their personal RRSP's from income. Thus it is reasonable to exclude the judge's own contributions to the judicial annuity scheme from the pension value.

The method and assumptions used in determining the value of the judicial annuity are outlined in Appendix B.

The value of the judicial annuity as a level percent of a judge's career income is outlined below.

Value of Judicial Annuity - Pension Value

Appointment Age to Bench	Pension Value
Under 44	19.6%
44 to under 48	21.2%
48 to under 52	25.0%
52 to under 56	27.3%
56 to under 60	31.6%
60 to under 64	41.3%
64 and over	55.0%

To determine a single pension value applicable to all judges, I have calculated an ageweighted pension value. The age of appointment information was obtained from the Department of Justice, previously used in determining the age-weighted net income percentile value. Each pension value determined above was weighted by the proportion of judges who were appointed from that age band.

Therefore to obtain a weighted average of the pension value, the following formula was used:

```
Pension Value = 5.2\% x pension value _{44-47} + 20.7\% x pension value _{44-47} + 24.0\% x pension value_{48-51} + 25.0\% x pension value_{52-55} + 16.9\% x pension value_{56-59} + 6.7\% x pension value _{60-63} + 1.5\% x pension value_{64} and _{over}
```

The result of the pension value is outlined below.

Weighted Average Value of Judicial Annuity Based on Age at Appointment

Appointment Age to Bench	Percentage Appointment	Pension Value	Weighted Average Pension Value
Under 44	5.2%	19.6%	1.0%
44 to under 48	20.7%	21.2%	4.4%
48 to under 52	24.0%	25.0%	6.0%
52 to under 56	25.0%	27.3%	6.8%
56 to under 60	16.9%	31.6%	5.3%
60 to under 64	6.7%	41.3%	2.8%
64 and over	1.5%	55.0%	<u>0.8%</u>
Weighted Average			27.2%

Taking a weighted average of the pension value based on a judge's appointment age results in a pension value of 27.2%. This represents the cost to a private sector firm of providing a retirement benefit comparable to the judicial annuity.

Disability Benefit

The judicial annuity scheme also provides a disability benefit. The disability benefit is comprised of an annuity of 2/3 of a judge's annual earnings just prior to disability for the life of the judge. I have determined the value of the disability benefit, excluding the value of the retirement pension, which was calculated above.

The value would represent the annual cost for funding a disability benefit upon a judge's potential disability. That is, the cost of self-funding for providing this provision as part of the judicial annuity scheme.

The value of the disability benefit provision was calculated in 5-year increments, at appointment ages from 40 to 65. From this value, the impact of the judge's contributions was removed to reflect the portion that is not funded by the judge's own contributions. This value was then stated as a level percent of a judge's career income to reflect the average annual benefit.

It is important that the value not include the impact of the judge's contributions or the value of the retirement benefit. This is a more representative value of the "additional benefit" judges receive from having a disability benefit in the judicial annuity scheme.

The method and assumptions used in determining the value of the disability provision are outlined in Appendix B.

The value of the disability benefit as a level percent of a judge's career income is outlined below.

Value of Disability Benefit

Appointment Age to Bench	Disability Value
Under 44	5.5%
44 to under 48	6.3%
48 to under 52	8.1%
52 to under 56	10.3%
56 to under 60	13.1%
60 to under 64	16.5%
64 and over	18.3%

To determine a single disability value applicable to all judges, I have calculated an ageweighted disability value. Each disability benefit value determined above was weighted by the proportion of judges who were appointed from that age band.

Therefore to obtain a weighted average of the disability value, the following formula was Disability Value = 5.2% x disability value $_{under\ 44}$ + 20.7% x disability value $_{44-47}$

- + 24.0% x disability value₄₈₋₅₁ + 25.0% x disability value₅₂₋₅₅
- + 16.9% x disability value $_{56-59}$ + 6.7% x disability value $_{60-63}$
- + 1.5% x disability value_{64 and over}

The result of the disability value is outlined below.

Weighted Average Value of the Disability Benefit Based on Age at Appointment

Appointment Age to Bench	Percentage Appointment	Disability Value	Weighted Average <u>Disability Value</u>
Under 44	5.2%	5.5%	0.3%
44 to under 48	20.7%	6.3%	1.3%
48 to under 52	24.0%	8.1%	1.9%
52 to under 56	25.0%	10.3%	2.6%
56 to under 60	16.9%	13.1%	2.2%
60 to under 64	6.7%	16.5%	1.1%
64 and over	1.5%	18.3%	<u>0.3%</u>
Weighted Average	9.7%		

Taking a weighted average of the disability value based on a judge's appointment age results in a disability value of 9.7%. This represents the cost to a private sector firm of self-funding a disability benefit comparable to the judicial annuity.

Grossed-up Income with Judicial Annuity Scheme

Federally appointed judges received an income of \$271,400 per annum in 2010/2011. Taking into account the value of the retirement benefit and the disability benefit and grossing up the income to include this value increases judicial compensation to \$371,547 per annum ($$271,400 \times (1 + 0.272 + 0.097)$).

Percentile Ranking of Judicial Compensation

By combining the above analysis, I have determined the percentile ranking of the judicial salary both including and excluding the gross-up for the annuity scheme in relation to that of self-employed lawyers for each major urban center. That is, using the judges' 2010/2011 salary of \$271,400 per annum and incorporating the gross-up for the judicial annuity scheme (retirement benefit and disability benefit) by increasing the salary to \$371,547.

The following would be the percentile ranking of the corresponding salaries:

Percentile Rankings of Judicial Compensation

Metropolitan Area	Percentile Ranking* (excluding Judicial Annuity)	Percentile Ranking* (including Judicial Annuity)
Calgary	60 th to 65 th	70 th to 75 th
Edmonton	70 th to 75 th	85 th to 90 th
Hamilton	75 th to 80 th	85 th to 90 th
London	75 th to 80 th	80 th to 85 th
Montreal	75 th to 80 th	85 th to 90 th
Ottawa / Gatineau	70 th to 75 th	80 th to 85 th
Quebec	85 th to 90 th	90 th to 95 th
Toronto	55 th to 60 th	65 th to 70 th
Vancouver	70 th to 75 th	80 th to 85 th
Winnipeg	85 th to 90 th	90 th to 95 th
All Canada	70 th to 75 th	80 th to 85 th

^{*}Percentile ranking with no salary exclusion

The judicial salary of \$271,400 per annum would place it in the 70^{th} to 75^{th} percentile nationally and the judicial salary would be in at least the 70^{th} percentile in all major urban centers in Canada, except for Calgary (60^{th} to 65^{th}) and Toronto (55^{th} to 60^{th}). 73% of self-employed lawyers would have a net income lower than the judicial salary.

When the value of the judicial annuity is included as part of the judicial compensation the percentile ranking increases to over the 80th percentile, nationally and for all major urban centers except for Calgary and Toronto. 82% of self-employed lawyers would have a net income lower than the judicial salary including the judicial annuity.

Other Compensation Issues

One final aspect that should be considered when a comparison of compensation is done between self-employed lawyers and judges is the generous benefits package in addition to the judicial annuity that is provided to judges. In particular, the judges have:

- · an extensive group benefits plan which includes:
 - basic life insurance, supplementary life insurance, post-retirement life insurance and dependents' life insurance;
 - accidental death and dismemberment insurance;
 - a health care plan;
 - a dental service plan

Most self-employed lawyers would have to provide for their own individual extended health/dental benefits; and

the option to elect supernumerary status. Supernumerary judges are judges who
are eligible to retire with a full annuity (have at least 15 years of service and
whose combined age and number of years in judicial office is not less than 80 or
who have attained the age of 70 and have at least 10 years of judicial service)
and have elected supernumerary office, which permits them to work a reduced
workload (commonly understood to be around 50%) for a full salary.

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Appendix A

Summary of the Plan Provisions of the Judicial Annuity Scheme

Retirement Age 75 (70 for certain judges appointed prior to March 1, 1987);

or

Age plus years of service of at least 80 years (minimum 15 years

of service); or

10 or more years of service, if a judge of the Supreme Court of

Canada

Retirement Pension 66 2/3% of salary at the time of retirement. If less than 10 years

of service, the pension is reduced by 1/10 for each year of

service below 10 years.

Early Retirement Age 55 with 10 years of service.

Early Retirement Reduction 5% per year that the pension commences before age 60

Normal Form of Pension Conjugal relationship: Joint life and 50% survivor pension.

otherwise: Lifetime pension with no guarantee.

Cost-of-Living Adjustments 100% of the Consumer Price Index

Death Before Retirement A lump sum equal to one-sixth of salary is paid to the surviving

spouse or common-law partner or to the estate if there is no

survivor.

Conjugal relationship: A pension is payable to the surviving spouse or common-law partner equal to one-third of the annual

salary of the judge.

Dependents: A pension is payable to each surviving dependent

equal to 20% of the surviving spouse's or common-law's pension, with a reduction if there are more than four dependent children. The pension for a surviving dependent is doubled if

that child is an orphan.

Termination prior to retirement Refund of contributions, with interest.

Disability Immediate unreduced pension.

Employee Contributions For judges appointed before February 17, 1975: 1.5% of salary.

For judges appointed after February 16, 1975: 1% of salary to the Supplementary Retirement Benefits Account plus 6% of salary to the Consolidated Revenue Fund if the judge is not

eligible for an unreduced pension.

Contributions cease when a judge elects supernumerary status

Appendix B

Assumption and Methods Employed in Determining Judicial Annuity Scheme – Retirement Benefit and Disability Benefit

Actuarial assumptions	Interest rate	5.75% per year
	Rate of future increase in income	3.0% per year
	Consumer Price Index increase	2% per year
	Post-retirement pension indexing	100% of increase in Consumer Price Index
	Termination of employment or death prior to retirement	Nil
	Incidence of disability	Rates specified in the actuarial report on the Pension Plan for Federally Appointed Judges as at 31 March 2010 prepared by the Office of the Chief Actuary of the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (unisex 67% male, 33% female)
	Retirement age	Retirement rates specifed in the actuarial report on the Pension Plan for Federally Appointed Judges as at 31 March 2010 prepared by the Office of the Chief Actuary of the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions
	Mortality after retirement	UP1994 mortality table projected to 2020 (unisex 67% male, 33% female)
	Disability mortality	mortality after retirement multiplied by factors as outlined in the actuarial report on the Pension Plan for Federally Appointed Judges as at 31 March 2010 prepared by the Office of the Chief Actuary of the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions
	Relationship status at retirement	conjugal relationship, with spouse of opposite gender and same age as the member
Actuarial valua	tion method	Projected Benefit

Appendix C

Judicial Ages at Appointment from January 1, 1997 to March 31, 2011

Appointment Age	Number
40 and under	4
41	8
42	8
43	19
44	26
45	43
46	39
47	46
48	47
49	38
50	46
51	48
52	43
53	49
54	54
55	40
56	35
57	40
58	28
59	23
60	15
61	19
62	7
63	9
64	4
65	5
66	0
67	2
68	<u>0</u>
	745

Gender of Judicial Appointments from January 1, 1997 to March 31, 2011

Gender	Number
Female	246
Male	<u>499</u>
	745

Appendix D

Self-Employed Lawyer Income Data

Percentile Analysis of Net Professional Income

Percentile	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
0	<\$0	<\$0	<\$0	<\$0	<\$0
5	\$11,355	\$11,282	\$10,891	\$11,321	\$12,007
10	\$21,794	\$22,231	\$22,018	\$22,307	\$23,786
15	\$32,214	\$32,723	\$32,880	\$33,167	\$35,377
20	\$41,980	\$43,334	\$43,973	\$44,532	\$46,308
25	\$52,581	\$54,893	\$55,562	\$56,011	\$57,770
30	\$63,429	\$66,147	\$68,000	\$68,191	\$70,608
35	\$75,089	\$78,566	\$80,370	\$80,656	\$83,537
40	\$87,727	\$91,846	\$93,481	\$94,183	\$97,317
45	\$100,943	\$106,374	\$108,181	\$108,446	\$112,770
50	\$115,961	\$121,884	\$125,120	\$125,588	\$131,603
55	\$133,916	\$140,594	\$144,840	\$145,517	\$153,373
60	\$153,572	\$162,308	\$165,843	\$168,096	\$176,278
65	\$177,137	\$188,204	\$193,401	\$196,790	\$204,159
70	\$206,992	\$219,694	\$225,377	\$226,512	\$236,213
75	\$242,006	\$257,762	\$264,550	\$266,210	\$278,526
80	\$289,090	\$309,036	\$316,196	\$323,933	\$338,059
85	\$357,438	\$388,193	\$390,634	\$399,841	\$411,533
90	\$468,307	\$509,441	\$512,768	\$517,410	\$539,417
95	\$691,489	\$761,582	\$755,476	\$755,619	\$771,654
100	>\$1M	>\$1M	>\$1M	>\$1M	>\$1M
Number	23,530	23,100	22,510	21,630	21,120

2010 Net Income Percentiles - By Age Bands

		44 to	48 to	52 to	56 to	60 to	64 and
Percentile	Under 44	Under 48	Under 52	Under 56	Under 60	Under 64	over
10	\$27,632	\$26,763	\$27,452	\$25,366	\$21,086	\$20,059	\$20,153
20	\$52,989	\$52,606	\$51,725	\$49,680	\$45,406	\$39,765	\$35,926
30	\$80,344	\$79,199	\$77,501	\$76,856	\$68,158	\$60,684	\$51,857
40	\$113,231	\$112,062	\$104,700	\$103,846	\$93,115	\$84,739	\$72,823
50	\$153,847	\$155,741	\$145,287	\$140,423	\$122,868	\$111,160	\$96,324
60	\$192,507	\$207,712	\$199,944	\$189,681	\$165,822	\$145,961	\$126,459
70	\$245,394	\$273,187	\$267,126	\$265,764	\$228,077	\$197,673	\$169,322
80	\$323,942	\$380,568	\$383,271	\$390,535	\$346,898	\$282,599	\$241,487
90	\$458,450	\$594,329	\$616,704	\$659,667	\$613,510	\$495,964	\$389,763
100	\$3,142,413	\$3,367,690	\$2,506,094	\$4,263,588	\$4,136,680	\$6,663,873	\$8,072,545
65th Percentile	\$217,761	\$237,941	\$232,366	\$224,524	\$192,377	\$168,422	\$148,300
75th Percentile	\$280,003	\$331,799	\$322,087	\$322,894	\$274,245	\$235,071	\$197,365

Percentile Analysis of Net Professional Income - \$60,000 Salary Exclusion

Percentile	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
0	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000	\$60,000
5	\$67,704	\$68,204	\$68,774	\$68,930	\$69,553
10	\$76,493	\$77,294	\$77,845	\$78,043	\$79,204
15	\$85,302	\$87,259	\$87,079	\$87,903	\$89,187
20	\$94,627	\$97,309	\$97,668	\$97,769	\$99,585
25	\$104,445	\$107,714	\$108,219	\$108,392	\$110,671
30	\$115,454	\$118,792	\$120,039	\$120,482	\$123,926
35	\$128,125	\$131,893	\$133,711	\$134,571	\$139,384
40	\$141,313	\$146,368	\$149,118	\$149,757	\$155,600
45	\$156,156	\$162,463	\$164,233	\$166,579	\$172,477
50	\$172,772	\$180,875	\$183,935	\$186,380	\$191,358
55	\$192,668	\$201,326	\$205,307	\$208,539	\$214,529
60	\$216,015	\$226,085	\$229,952	\$231,148	\$239,031
65	\$241,426	\$254,164	\$257,729	\$260,823	\$269,603
70	\$273,749	\$289,962	\$293,718	\$298,715	\$309,994
75	\$317,019	\$334,557	\$338,278	\$344,324	\$356,169
80	\$369,816	\$397,279	\$398,351	\$406,338	\$414,620
85	\$447,847	\$484,743	\$483,245	\$488,589	\$506,807
90	\$574,635	\$622,329	\$612,762	\$620,988	\$634,561
95	\$802,060	\$881,777	\$876,543	\$869,897	\$897,393
100	>\$1M	>\$1M	>\$1M	>\$1M	>\$1M
Number	16,860	16,790	16,510	15,870	15,650

Report on the Earnings of Self-Employed Lawyers

2010 Perce	2010 Percentile Analysis of Total Net Income - CMA's											
						OTTAWA-	QUÉBEC				All 10	All Other
Percentile	CALGARY	EDMONTON	HAMILTON	LONDON	MONTRÉAL	GATINEAU	CITY	TORONTO	VANCOUVER	WINNIPEG	CMA's	Regions
5	\$11,000	\$16,992	\$17,645	\$17,511	\$7,675	\$15,843	\$10,379	\$16,907	\$11,575	\$10,009	\$12,177	\$11,883
10	\$24,000	\$36,588	\$32,251	\$32,629	\$14,526	\$31,685	\$19,086	\$32,546	\$25,000	\$26,286	\$23,928	\$23,461
15	\$35,058	\$55,667	\$43,739	\$48,781	\$20,758	\$44,262	527,196	\$47,512	\$37,500	\$36,319	\$36,355	\$32,288
20	\$49,643	\$73,366	\$55,399	\$59,538	\$28,106	\$54,992	\$37,583	\$64,193	\$50,000	\$48,359	\$48,850	\$41,565
25	\$64,168	\$91,148	\$74,493				\$50,022	\$79,580			\$61,989	\$50,470
30	\$79,506	\$101,853	\$87,998	\$86,765	\$45,166	\$78,387	\$58,702	\$97,278			\$76,217	\$58,708
35	\$93,309	\$114,390	\$96,774	\$103,215	\$56,933	\$92,117	\$69,936	\$116,523	\$88,246	\$74,874	\$92,011	\$68,830
40	\$110,773	\$125,951	\$113,632	\$117,190	\$69,532	\$109,699		\$141,053			\$108,624	\$78,521
45	\$134,705	\$142,849	\$131,794	\$128,695	\$86,388	\$127,034	\$92,092	\$168,271	\$120,318		\$129,112	\$66,993
50	\$174,870		\$143,485				\$107,624	\$202,584			\$153,700	
55	\$206,250	\$178,539	\$159,583	\$162,251	\$128,013	\$160,828	\$126,598	\$238,507	\$166,110		\$179,344	\$109,395
60	\$240,974	\$202,279				\$186,860		\$281,452			\$209,583	\$121,458
65	\$276,268	\$223,978		\$201,042			\$159,355	\$334,234	\$215,716		\$242,500	\$136,619
70	\$340,407	\$247,471		\$219,068				\$385,542	\$251,000		\$283,636	\$153,342
75	\$385,772			\$255,303		\$276,976		\$455,008		\$193,303	\$337,761	\$170,857
08	\$445,783		\$282,207	\$292,995		\$334,665		\$543,455		\$216,545	\$398,352	\$189,319
85	\$545,917	\$366,754	\$325,273	\$375,816	\$370,278	\$386,345	\$252,099	\$655,960			\$489,678	\$219,782
90	\$699,495		\$376,566	\$490,189						\$284,543	\$620,859	\$261,487
95	\$907,587	\$499,164	\$604,864	\$615,697				\$1,151,175			\$883,143	\$344,329
100	\$1,965,134	\$867,942	\$1,270,245	\$4,136,680	\$2,947,637	\$1,779,077	\$1,576,880	\$6,663,873	\$3,697,863			\$8,072,545
Number	703	507	416	425	3,301	1,018	619	6,735	1,566	498	15,778	5,331

IN THE MATTER OF THE JUDGES ACT, RSC 1985, c J-1, as amended

2015 JUDICIAL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS COMMISSION

SUBMISSIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

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I. OVERVIEW

- 1. An independent judiciary is the "lifeblood of constitutionalism in democratic societies". Canada is privileged to enjoy the benefits of an independent judiciary, and the Government of Canada is committed to continuing to uphold the three components of the constitutional principle of independence security of tenure, administrative independence, and financial security.
- 2. The current remuneration of both the superior court judges and the Federal Court prothonotaries is entirely adequate to ensure that Canada continues to enjoy an independent judiciary, and that outstanding candidates continue to be attracted to judicial office. An objective analysis of the statutory criteria supports the conclusion that salaries need only be increased annually to allow for a cost of living adjustment until the next quadrennial review.
- 3. First, Canada's economic position and the overall state of the Government's finances militate against increasing judicial salaries any more than the cost of living at this time. Canada continues to face uncertain economic times.
- 4. Second, there can be no suggestion that the current judicial salary of \$308,600 and the prothonotary salary of \$234,500 have fallen below an acceptable minimum such that judicial independence has been interfered with or compromised. Indeed, taking into account the generous judicial annuity, which is valued at approximately 36.5% of the judicial salary, it increases their total compensation significantly to approximately \$421,239 for judges and approximately \$320,093 for prothonotaries.
- 5. Third, there is no evidence of any difficulty in recruiting outstanding candidates to either office. A comparison of judicial and prothonotary salaries to the income levels of lawyers in both public and private sectors, who would be eligible for both offices, demonstrates that the salaries are fully adequate to continue to attract outstanding

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¹ Beauregard v Canada, [1986] 2 SCR 56, p 70, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 1

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candidates. In addition, the generous judicial annuity is a further incentive and attraction which cannot be underestimated.

- 6. Finally, the continued benchmarking to the DM-3 group has no basis in logic or statute. The *Judges Act* does not specifically contemplate consideration of a formulaic benchmark that is, the "mid-point of a DM-3 salary plus one-half maximum performance pay". Given the comparability issues at play, there is no principled basis upon which to narrow the inquiry in such a manner. To the extent that public sector compensation trends are relevant to ensure salary relativity, they are properly considered as a whole under the residual criterion "other objective criteria that the Commission considers relevant". Here, a review of the salaries of high-ranking federal public servants shows that the judicial salary is set at an appropriate level which recognizes the importance of judicial office, while at the same time not receiving preferential treatment as compared to other individuals paid from the public purse.
- 7. Furthermore, the more appropriate and relevant indexation factor is the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Based on CPI forecasts, judicial and prothonotary salaries would increase by 6.8% over the next four years to \$329,500 and \$250,400 respectively.

II. COMMISSION MANDATE

- 8. The Commission's mandate is informed by both constitutional principles and statutory provisions. The Supreme Court described the constitutional role of a judicial compensation commission in *PEI Reference*; its statutory mandate is defined in the *Judges Act*.
- 9. In *PEI Reference*, the Supreme Court likened judicial compensation commissions to "institutional sieve[s]" that would serve the constitutional function of preventing the "setting or freezing of judicial remuneration from being used as a means to exert political pressure through the economic manipulation of the judiciary".² In this way, the

² Ref re Remuneration of Judges of the Prov Court of PEI; Ref re Independence and Impartiality of Judges of the Prov Court of PEI, [1997] 3 SCR 3, [PEI Reference], para 170, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 25**

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Commission's mandate includes the imperative to preserve the independence of the federally-appointed judiciary, in particular their financial security.

- 10. In response to the decision in *PEI Reference*, the *Judges Act* was amended in 1998 to establish a federal Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission to inquire into the adequacy of the salaries and other amounts payable under the *Judges Act* and into the adequacy of judges' benefits generally.³
- 11. Subsection 26(1.1) mandates that the Commission conduct its inquiry with reference to the following prescribed criteria: (1) the prevailing economic conditions in Canada; (2) the role of financial security of the judiciary in ensuring judicial independence; (3) the need to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary; and (4) any other objective criteria that the Commission considers relevant.⁴
- 12. Pursuant to recent amendments to the *Judges Act*, the adequacy of Federal Court prothonotaries' compensation is now also considered as part of the same Commission process.⁵
- 13. The statutory criteria provide the analytical framework for the Commission's inquiry and assessment of the adequacy of judicial compensation. In that regard, it is useful to examine Parliament's rationale for mandating these specific criteria. As recognized by the Supreme Court of Canada, legislative history is relevant and admissible as evidence of specific legislative intent.⁶

³ Judges Act, RSC 1985, c J-1, s. 26(1), Joint Book of Documents, Tab 24

⁴ *Ibid*, s. 26(1.1)

⁵ *Ibid*, s. 2.1(1)

⁶ Rizzo & Rizzo Shoes Ltd (Re) [1998] SCJ No 2, [1998] 1 SCR 27, paras 31-36, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 2; Re Canada 3000 Inc [2006] SCJ No 24, [2006] 1 SCR 865, para 57, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 3; Quebec v CP Desjardins De Montmagny [2009] 3 SCR 286, paras 12-14, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 4. See also: Ruth Sullivan, Sullivan on the Construction of Statutes, Sixth ed (Markham, Ontario: LexisNexis Canada Inc, 2014), pp 679-698, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 5

- 14. It is important to note that when the 1998 Bill was first introduced in the House of Commons, statutory criteria were not proposed. However, when the Bill was considered by the Senate and the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs, it was determined that the inclusion of express mandatory criteria was required to "help define and clarify the scope of the mandate" of the Commission's inquiry. 8
- 15. The Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs heard from numerous witnesses, including David Scott, the Chair of the 1995 Triennial Commission. Following those hearings, the Senate proposed two amendments, which included adding the four statutory criteria to the *Judges Act*. 10
- 16. The first two criteria were added in direct response to the Supreme Court's decision in *PEI Reference*. ¹¹
- 17. According to Senator Joyal, who proposed the amendment to the Bill, the third criterion "the need to attract outstanding candidates" was added based on Mr. Scott's testimony before the Senate committee. ¹² He had spoken about a need to measure "how we compensate our judges against that body of people from which we are drawing to ensure that we are competitive". ¹³ As was noted in the House of Commons, the Scott Commission

⁷ Proceedings of the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs, Issue No 32, 1st Sess, 36th Parl, September 30, 1998 [Senate Committee September 30, 1998], pp 32:7-32:9, **Government's Book of Documents, Tab 6**

⁸ House of Commons Debates, 36th Parl, 1st Sess, No 151 (6 November 1998) [Hansard November 6, 1998], at 9944 (Eleni Bakopanos), **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 7**. Proceedings of the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs, Issue No 37, 1st Sess, 36th Parl, October 22, 1998 [Senate Committee October 22, 1998], pp 37:20, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 8**⁹ Senate Committee September 30, 1998, supra, pp 32:3-32:23, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab**

¹⁰ Hansard November 6, 1998, *supra*, pp 9943-9944, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 7**; Senate Committee October 22, 1998, *supra*, pp 37:13-37.26, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 8**

¹¹ Senate Committee October 22, 1998, *ibid*, pp 37:18-37:21

¹² *Ibid*, at p 37:20

¹³ Senate Committee September 30, 1998, *supra*, pp 32:18-32:19, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 6**

based its recommendations "on the relationship between judges' salaries and those of lawyers in private practice, since this is the source of most candidates". 14

Of additional relevance from the Senate committee hearings is the dialogue 18. between Senator Joyal and Mr. Scott about whether judicial salaries should be measured against public servants' salaries. Mr. Scott testified that the United States was, in fact, eliminating that type of "lock-step arrangement" and that his Commission had debated whether they were bound by some public service compensation level. ¹⁵ Mr. Scott's opinion was that if Parliament prescribed criteria tying judicial salaries to that of certain public servants, like deputy ministers, there would be no room for an independent Commission to make a recommendation. 16

19. In the end result, a specific criterion that mandated consideration of public sector salaries was not added to the legislation. The fourth criterion, namely "any other objective criteria that the Commission considers relevant" was added to allow the Commission to consider other criteria "that are justified, ones that are measured on objective grounds". 17

III. ANALYSIS OF THE ADEQUACY OF JUDICIAL COMPENSATION

Α. **Total Compensation is Adequate**

20. In light of the statutory criteria set out in s. 26(1.1) of the Judges Act, the current level of judicial and prothonotary salaries and benefits, coupled with automatic annual adjustments in accordance with the CPI, fully meets the "adequacy" test to be applied by this Commission.

¹⁴ Hansard November 6, 1998, supra, p 9947, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 7. See also: Proceedings of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights, Issue No 70, 1st Sess, 36th Parl, May 13, 1998, pp 1555, 1600, 1615, 1620, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 9

¹⁵ Senate Committee September 30, 1998, supra, pp 32:9, 32:17, Government's Book of Documents, Tab

¹⁶ *Ibid*, pp 32:16-32:17

¹⁷ Senate Committee October 22, 1998, *supra*, p 37:21, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 8**

21. The current salaries are \$308,600 and \$234,500 respectively. The value of the judicial annuity increases those salary levels by approximately 36.5% ¹⁸, resulting in a net judicial salary of approximately \$421,239 and a prothonotary salary of approximately \$320,093. ¹⁹

1. Present Economic Situation Supports Status Quo

- 22. Based on the prevailing economic conditions in Canada, nothing more than annual indexation adjustments are justified. This first statutory criterion mandates the Commission to consider "the prevailing economic conditions in Canada, including the cost of living, and the overall economic and current financial position of the federal government".²⁰
- 23. The Canadian economy remains fragile. The most recent Update of Economic and Fiscal Projections sets out the Government's assessment of the state of the Canadian economy and of the Government's current and future financial position.
- 24. Since the previous Government's budget of April 2015, Canada's economic and fiscal outlook has deteriorated.²¹ Crude oil price are approximately one-third of the price prevailing in mid-2014.²² As a producer and net exporter of crude oil, Canada has seen these low prices result in sharp declines in capital investment in the energy sector, which contributed to the reduced real GDP over the first half of 2015. The real GDP declined by 0.8% in the first quarter and 0.5% in the second quarter and then increased by 2.3% in the

¹⁸ This assumes that the age profile of prothonotaries at appointment is the same as that of judges. If prothonotaries are generally younger than judges at appointment, the average value of their annuity benefit would be lower than 36.5% and *vice versa*.

¹⁹ Haripaul Pannu, Report on the Earnings of Self-Employed Lawyers for the Department of Justice Canada in Preparation for the 2015 Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission dated February 25, 2016 [Pannu Report], p 13, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 10**

²⁰ Judges Act, supra, s 26(1.1)(a), Joint Book of Documents, Tab 24

²¹ Department of Finance Canada, Update of Economic and Fiscal Projections 2015, November 20, 2015, online: http://www.budget.gc.ca/efp-peb/2015/pub/toc-tdm-en.html, p 14, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 11**. See also: Letter dated February 24, 2016 from the Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance, Department of Finance Canada, p 1, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 9**; Department of Finance Canada, Backgrounder – Canadian Economic Outlook, February 22, 2016, online: http://www.fin.gc.ca/n16/data/16-025_1-eng.asp, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 12**

²² Crude oil (West Texas Intermediate (WTI)) closed at USD\$32.78 per barrel on February 26, 2016. Crude oil (WTI) closed at USD\$103.17 per barrel on June 5, 2014 (see online: http://www.nasdaq.com/markets/crude-oil.aspx).

third quarter.²³ At the time of Budget 2015, the first two quarters were expected to show real GDP growth of 1.2% and 1.5%, respectively.²⁴

- 25. In his economic and fiscal update speech, the Minister of Finance said that it was "a challenging time for the global economy". ²⁵ Reflective of this, "global economic growth slowed in 2015 to its slowest pace since the end of the global recession in mid-2009". ²⁶ Forecasts for global growth have been revised down to 3.1% for 2015, 3.4% for 2016 and 3.6% in 2017²⁷ rates that are "a far cry from headier pre-recession days". ²⁸
- 26. Speaking about the impact on the Canadian economy, the Minister of Finance has said that it is "sluggish" and "growing far more slowly than previously forecasted". Economists are projecting "a modest growth outlook for Canada" -1.7% for 2016. 30
- 27. The CPI, which is widely used to determine cost-of-living adjustments, is projected to increase over the next four years as follows: 1.1% in 2015; 1.6% in 2016; 2.0% in 2017, and 2.0% in 2018 and 2019.³¹

²³ Letter dated February 24, 2016 from the Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance, Department of Finance Canada, *supra*, p 2, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 9**

²⁵ Minister of Finance's Economic and Fiscal Update Speech, November 20, 2015 [Minister of Finance's November 2015 Speech], online: http://www.fin.gc.ca/news-nouvelles/speeches-discours/2015/2015-11-20-eng.asp, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 13**

²⁴ *Ibid*, p 9

²⁶ Letter dated February 24, 2016 from the Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance, Department of Finance Canada, *supra*, p 1, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 9**

²⁷ International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook Update, January 19, 2016, online: http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/weo/2016/update/01/pdf/0116.pdf, p 1 & 3, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 14**

²⁸ TD Economics, Quarterly Economic Forecast, December 17, 2015, online: https://www.td.com/document/PDF/economics/qef/qefdec2015_canada.pdf, p 2, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 15.** See also: Department of Finance Canada, Update of Economic and Fiscal Projections 2015, *supra*, p 8, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 11**.

²⁹ Minister of Finance's November 2015 Speech, *supra*, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 13** ³⁰ TD Economics, Quarterly Economic Forecast, December 17, 2015, *supra*, p 1, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 15**.

³¹ Department of Finance Canada, Backgrounder – Canadian Economic Outlook, February 22, 2016, *supra*, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 12**; Letter from the Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance dated February 24, 2016, Department of Finance Canada, *supra*, p 1, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 9**

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28. Economic increases in the federal public sector since the last Quadrennial Commission were as follows: 2011-1.75%; 2012-1.5%; 2013-2.0%; 2014-1.5%. There

have been no new agreements finalized since then.³²

29. For the fiscal year that ended March 31, 2015, a budgetary surplus of \$1.9 billion

was reported as compared to a budgetary deficit of \$5.2 billion the previous fiscal year. As

of March 31, 2015, the federal debt stood at \$612.3 billion – 31.0% of GDP.³³

30. Recent economic developments, however, are expected to push the Government

back into a deficit, reducing the projected budgetary balance. It is expected to result in

deficits of \$2.3 billion in 2015-16, \$18.4 billion in 2016-17 and \$15.5 billion in 2017-18.³⁴

31. The Government will table a new Budget on March 22, 2016, which will provide

further information on the current status of the economy. The new Budget may have an

impact on this statutory criterion. The Government will, if necessary, make further

representations to the Commission on the present state of the economy in its reply

submissions.

32. As recognized by the Supreme Court, the guarantee of a minimum salary is not a

device to shield the judiciary from the effects of deficit reduction:

Nothing would be more damaging to the reputation of the judiciary and the administration of justice than a perception that judges were not shouldering their

share of the burden in difficult economic times.³⁵

33. The critical factors mentioned above -(1) Canada's weak economic and fiscal

conditions; (2) the less optimistic outlook for growth; (3) the very low rate of inflation

experienced in the past four years and as projected for the next four years; and (4) the low

rate of wage growth experienced by other individuals paid from the federal public treasury

³² *Ibid*; See also: Treasury Board of Canada, "Negotiated Pay Increase, Restructure & CPI Movement, March 17, 2014, Table 1- Summary, **Joint Book of Documents, Tab 18**

³³ Letter from the Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance dated February 24, 2016, Department of Finance

Canada, supra, p 3, Joint Book of Documents, Tab 9

³⁴ Ibid

³⁵ PEI Reference, supra, para 196, Joint Book of Documents, Tab 25

 suggest that an increase beyond statutory indexation based on CPI is not justified at this time.

2. Financial Security Respected

- 34. When assessing the "adequacy" of judicial compensation, s. 26(1.1)(b) of the *Judges Act* requires consideration as to whether the compensation level is such that it ensures the financial security of the judiciary. Financial security is an essential condition of judicial independence, its purpose being ultimately to protect the judiciary from economic manipulation by the legislature or the executive.³⁶
- 35. As articulated by Chief Justice Lamer (as he then was), in order to ensure financial security, judicial salaries must not fall below an acceptable minimum level:

I have no doubt that the Constitution protects judicial salaries from falling below an acceptable minimum level. The reason it does is for financial security to protect the judiciary from political interference through economic manipulation, and to thereby ensure public confidence in the administration of justice. If salaries are too low, there is always the danger, however speculative, that members of the judiciary could be tempted to adjudicate cases in a particular way in order to secure a higher salary from the executive or the legislature or to receive benefits from one of the litigants...³⁷

36. The current judicial salary of \$308,600 is far removed from the minimum level at which a need to protect the judiciary from political interference through economic manipulation would be relevant. Automatic indexing in accordance with the CPI offers sufficient protection against the erosion of judicial salaries.

3. No Difficulty Attracting Outstanding Candidates

(a) Consider the Pools from which Judges Drawn

37. It is under the third criterion that the Commission must consider the pools from which judges are drawn. In order to continue to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary, judicial salaries must be set at a level that will not deter those candidates from applying. It must also be recognized, however, that the judicial salary is not the sole

³⁶ *Ibid*, para 131

³⁷ *Ibid*, para 193

motivating factor in applying for a judicial position. Other considerations, including the opportunity to make a contribution to public life, a career change, the security of tenure of a judge, the generous judicial annuity and the recognition, status and quality of life associated with judicial office, also play an important role.³⁸

- 38. Further, as acknowledged by the Block Commission, "the issue is not how to attract the highest earners; the issue is how to attract outstanding candidates" from both private and public sectors, from large and small firms and from large and small centres.³⁹ Or as the Drouin Commission noted, "no segment of the legal profession has a monopoly on outstanding candidates".⁴⁰
- 39. Based on the evidence heard by the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs, the third criterion "the need to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary" was prescribed when the *Judges Act* was amended in 1998.⁴¹ This criterion was intended to address recruitment what was necessary in order to "attract" senior members of the Bar to judicial office.

However, taking the point about the criteria, we do always have to be measuring how we compensate our judges against that body of people from which we are drawing to ensure that we are competitive. 42

40. The first Quadrennial Commission, the Drouin Commission, understood that s. 26(1.1) expressly mandates consideration of this relationship:

The criterion identified in subsection 26(1.1)(c), for example, is directed expressly to the issue of recruitment of suitable candidates for the Bench. Traditionally, most judges in Canada are appointed from the ranks of private legal practitioners. Accordingly, those factors constituting incentives or disincentives to

³⁸ Report of the Fourth Quadrennial Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission, dated May 15, 2012 [Levitt Commission Report], para 42, p 15, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 31**

³⁹ Report of the Third Quadrennial Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission, dated May 30, 2008 [Block Commission Report], para 116, p 37, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 30**

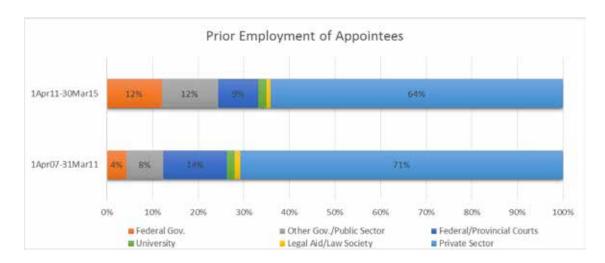
⁴⁰ Report of the First Quadrennial Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission, dated May 31, 2000 [Drouin Commission Report], p 36, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 28**

⁴¹ Hansard November 6, 1998, *supra*, p 1025, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 7**. Senate Committee October 22, 1998, *supra*, p 37:20, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 8**

⁴² Senate Committee September 30, 1998, *supra*, pp 32:18-32:19, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 6**

the seeking of judicial office by private legal practitioners are relevant to recruitment of judicial candidates. 43 (emphasis added)

41. Between 2011 and 2015, of the 226 lawyers appointed to the judiciary, 64% were from private practice and 36% from other sectors - federal and provincial government lawyers, legal aid lawyers, in-house counsel, academia and the provincial court judiciary. This is a significant increase from the last Quadrennial Commission process, where 29% of appointees were from other sectors. 44



- 42. On that basis, therefore, it is relevant to consider the income levels of the lawyers who are eligible for appointment to the bench from private practice, as well as outside the private sector.
- 43. While past Commissions have considered income levels of private sector lawyers, they have not fully considered the salary levels of lawyers from other sectors who are eligible for and are, in fact, appointed to the judiciary. Instead, under the rubric of "the need to attract outstanding candidates", the past two Commissions have considered a public

⁴³ Drouin Commission Report, *supra*, p 23, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 28**. See also: Drouin Commission Report, *supra*, p 35, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 28**; Report of the Second Quadrennial Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission, dated May 31, 2004 [McLennan Commission Report], pp 31 & 41, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 29**.

⁴⁴ Statistics derived from Judicial Appointments Database Documentation provided by the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs [CFJA Data], **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tabs 4 & 5(i)**. An increase from 29% during the last Quadrennial period to 36% during this Quadrennial period is a 23% increase.

sector comparator (the DM-3 group) and a private sector comparator (private sector lawyers). 45

- 44. The former, however, is not a relevant or equivalent comparator under this criterion. The DM-3 group is not a pool from which judges are drawn. The DM-3 group is not the analogous "public sector pool" as compared to the "private sector pool" of lawyers from private sector law firms.
- 45. As the legislative history demonstrates, this criterion is concerned with the relationship between judicial salaries and those salaries of the senior members of the bar from whose ranks the judiciary are drawn. In that respect, the salary level of the DM-3 group is not relevant to whether the judicial salary is adequate to "attract" or "recruit" outstanding candidates under s. 26(1.1)(c) of the *Judges Act*.
- 46. If consideration of the DM-3 salary level is a relevant factor, as noted by the Drouin Commission, it is properly considered under the fourth criterion under s. 26(1.1)(d) "other objective criteria which the Commission considers relevant". ⁴⁶ As is fully explored below, however, the Government's position is that the DM-3 salary alone is not an objective or relevant criterion that this Commission should take into account. Rather, the better approach is to consider public sector compensation trends more generally.

(i) Salary Adequate to Attract Outstanding Candidates from Public Sector

- 47. The Canadian judiciary must continue to be drawn from a broad background, in addition to private sector lawyers. As the Block Commission recognized, "it is important that there be a mix of appointees from private and public practice". ⁴⁷
- 48. In the last four years, 36% of judges were appointed from other than private practice. This included federal and provincial government lawyers, legal aid lawyers, law professors and judges from other courts.

⁴⁵ Block Commission Report, *supra*, para 93, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 30**; Levitt Commission Report, *supra*, paras 22-43, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 31**.

⁴⁶ Drouin Commission Report, *supra*, pp 9, 23, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 28**

⁴⁷ Block Commission Report, *supra*, para 116, p 37, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 30**

- 49. The current judicial salary of \$308,600 exceeds the salary levels of all those positions. Within the federal government, the highest paid rank in the Law Practitioner Group is LP5/Senior General Counsel at a maximum of \$193,377, with maximum performance pay of 10%. Within the Law Management Group, the highest rank is that of LC4 with a maximum pay of \$199,700, with maximum performance pay of 26%. 49
- 50. The judicial salary is also significantly higher than the most senior law positions in provincial governments. The maximum rate of pay of the top-ranking Ontario provincial government lawyer (Crown Counsel 4) is \$211,553, inclusive of performance pay.⁵⁰ In British Columbia, a Legal Counsel Manager's salary is a maximum of \$210,571.70 with no performance pay.⁵¹
- 51. The current judicial salary also exceeds that of law professors at any Canadian law school. According to the 2014 list published pursuant to the Ontario *Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act*, the highest professor salaries at the two largest law schools Osgoode Hall and the University of Toronto were \$247,457 and \$299,695, respectively. In fact, the current judicial salary is significantly higher than all Canadian law school Deans, except for the Deans of the University of Toronto and University of Western Ontario, who earned slightly more. ⁵²

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⁴⁸ Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, "Agreement between the Treasury Board and the Association of Justice Counsel", March 12, 2013, online: https://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/pubs_pol/hrpubs/coll_agre/la/laeng.pdf, Appendix C, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 16**

⁴⁹ Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, "LC-Law Management Occupational Group Rates of Pay", online: https://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/psm-fpfm/pay-remuneration/rates-taux/rapaceexunem02-eng.asp#Toc476385565b, **Government's Book of Documents, Tab 17**; Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat, "Directive on the Performance Management Program (PMP) for Executives", online: http://publiservice.tbs-sct.gc.ca/pol/doc-eng.aspx?id=14226§ion=text%20-%20cha1#secD.1, **Government's Book of Documents, Tab 18**

⁵⁰ 2009-2013 Collective Agreement between Ontario Crown Attorneys Association, The Association of Law Officers of the Crown and the Government of Ontario, art 41 & 42, **Government's Book of Documents, Tab 19**; Government of Ontario, Salary Schedules for Professional Bargaining and Professional Excluded Crown Counsel, **Government's Book of Documents, Tab 20**

⁵¹ Government of British Columbia, Human Resources, "Salary Look-up Tool", online: http://www2.gov.bc.ca/local/myhr/tools/salary_lookup_tool/salary_lookup/legal/legal_counsel_manager.ht ml, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 21**

⁵² Government of Ontario, Treasury Board Secretariat, "Public Sector Salary Disclosure for 2014: Universities", online: http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/en/publications/salarydisclosure/ pssd/orgs-tbs.php?organization=universities&year=2014, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 22**

Salary Adequate to Attract Outstanding Private Sector Lawyers

52. The judicial salary also compares very favourably to the income levels of selfemployed lawyers in private practice. In 2014, the judicial salary of \$300,800 was higher than the net incomes of 78% of self-employed lawyers aged 35-69, without taking into consideration the judicial annuity. 53 In recent years the judicial salary has risen in relation to the net incomes of self-employed lawyers: in 2010 it was equivalent to the 75th percentile, the 76th in 2011, the 77th in 2012 and the 78th in 2013.⁵⁴

53. As past Commissions have recognized, the judicial annuity is a significant component of judicial compensation that must be considered in any comparison with private sector salaries. 55 In fact, the annuity has been valued at approximately 36.5% of the judicial salary. 56 When the judicial annuity is included as part of judicial compensation, it increases the 2014 judicial salary to \$410,592, which exceeded the net income of at least 85% of all self-employed lawyers in 2014.⁵⁷

Proper Analysis of the CRA Data a.

54. Similar to the last Commission process, the principal parties collaborated and worked with the Canada Revenue Agency (the CRA) for the purpose of jointly submitting a data set compiled by the CRA. The data provides income information for self-employed lawyers who declared professional income when filing their income taxes for the 2010-2014 taxation years.⁵⁸

55. While the principal parties have jointly produced this data, views differ on how to interpret the data, in particular on the use of filters in analyzing the data. Filters related to age, region and minimum income threshold have a significant impact on the resulting

⁵⁵ Levitt Commission Report, *supra*, para 42, p 15, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 31**; Drouin Commission Report, supra, p 42, Joint Book of Documents, Tab 28; McLennan Commission Report, supra, p 5, Joint Book of Documents, Tab 29

⁵³ Pannu Report, supra, p 5, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 10

⁵⁶ Pannu Report, supra, p 13, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 10

⁵⁷ *Ibid.* p 15

⁵⁸ Statistics derived from Self-Employed Lawyers' data provided by the Canada Revenue Agency, [CRA Data], Joint Book of Documents, Tab 1

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average income level. In addition, the appropriate and relevant percentile is an important consideration which the parties do not agree on.

- 56. The Government engaged Haripaul Pannu, an actuary with expertise in executive compensation, the analysis of employee data and the valuation of pension plans and retirement savings plans. His report analyzes the CRA data, identifies significant trends in the income of self-employed lawyers, compares the judicial salary with the income of self-employed lawyers and provides a valuation of the judicial annuity. ⁵⁹
- 57. The Commission must consider which of the data points are relevant and appropriate to its inquiry into the adequacy of judicial compensation. Rather than making a determination in that regard, the Levitt Commission simply noted that the judicial salary was "at least on par with" the private sector comparator group advocated by the judiciary and "well above" that of the comparator group advocated by the Government. ⁶⁰
- 58. In considering this evidence, the Commission should be cognizant of the fact that this data set is a "rough proxy" for private sector lawyer income levels in that it only provides information related to income levels of a certain segment of private sector lawyers: self-employed lawyers who earned professional income. It does not provide information about those private sector lawyers whose main source of income is employment income, such as non-equity law firm partners, law firm associates or those lawyers who operate as professional corporations.

i. 65th Percentile is the Appropriate Comparator

59. The Government's position is that the 65th percentile of self-employed lawyers' incomes is the appropriate private sector comparator for judges for the following reasons: (1) the current economic conditions; (2) the ample pool of qualified applicants; and (3) self-employed lawyers are the highest-earning subset of outstanding candidates.

⁶⁰ Levitt Commission Report, *supra*, para 47(a), p 17, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 31**

⁵⁹ Pannu Report, *supra*, **Government's Book of Documents. Tab 10**

- 60. It is commonly accepted practice in compensation studies to benchmark against different percentiles of the peer group in order to gain a better understanding of what is competitive compensation.⁶¹ The particular percentile used depends on supply/demand issues, economic factors and the ability to attract individuals.⁶² While the 50th percentile is commonly used as a benchmark in recruiting suitable individuals, Mr. Pannu's report examines the 65th and 75th percentiles on the basis that "judges' salaries should not be based on the median".⁶³
- 61. An analysis of the incomes of private sector lawyers between 2010 and 2014 reveals that income levels have decreased in those four years. In 2010, the 65th percentile self-employed lawyer's income was \$198,030, whereas in 2014 it significantly decreased to \$188,138.⁶⁴ Conversely, in those four years, judicial salaries rose by \$29,400, an increase of 10.8%.⁶⁵ By 2014, the judicial salary was \$300,800 \$112,662 higher than the 65th percentile of self-employed lawyers.⁶⁶
- 62. Even if the Commission is inclined to consider the 75th percentile as the appropriate comparator group, the judicial salary is still significantly higher. In 2014, the 75th percentile of self-employed lawyer's income was \$261,363 \$39,437 less than the judicial salary of \$300,800. There has been a similar decline over the past four years in self-employed lawyers' incomes at the 75th percentile. In 2010, it was \$274,058 approximately \$13,000 more than it was in 2014.⁶⁷
- 63. A comparison of the judicial salary and the 65th and 75th percentile self-employed lawyers' incomes between 2002-2012 shows that while judicial salaries have continued to increase at a steady rate, self-employed lawyers' incomes have been decreasing since

⁶¹ Frederick D Lipman and Steven E Hall, *Executive Compensation Best Practices* (Hoboken, New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons Inc, 2008), p 31, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 23**

⁶² Pannu Report, *supra*, pp 3, 5, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 10**

⁶³ *Ibid*, p 5

⁶⁴ Ibid

⁶⁵ Ibid

⁶⁶ Ibid

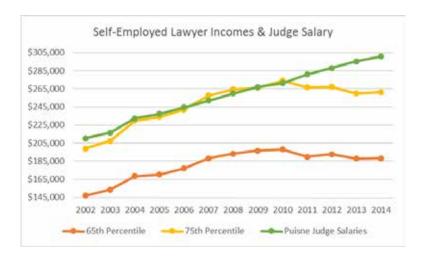
⁶⁷ Ibid

2010.⁶⁸ Thus, the current judicial salary now far outpaces that of the 65th and 75th percentiles of private sector lawyers.

Net Self-Employed Lawyer Incomes

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
65th Percentile	\$147,077	\$153,491	\$168,523	\$170,261	\$177,137	\$188,204	\$193,401
75th Percentile	\$198,950	\$207,429	\$229,797	\$233,932	\$242,006	\$257,762	\$264,550
Puisne Judge							
Salaries	\$210,200	\$216,600	\$232,300	\$237,400	\$244,700	\$252,000	\$260,000

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
65th Percentile	\$196,790	\$198,030	\$189,995	\$192,658	\$187,833	\$188,138
75th Percentile	\$266,210	\$274,058	\$266,843	\$267,223	\$260,088	\$261,363
Puisne Judge						
Salaries	\$267,200	\$271,400	\$281,100	\$288,100	\$295,500	\$300,800



ii. The Filters used by the Judiciary Skew the Results

64. Before previous Commissions, the judiciary has advocated for the application of filters related to age, location and income exclusions which result in a significant reduction

⁶⁸ *Ibid*; Haripaul Pannu, Report on the Earnings of Self-Employed Lawyers for the Department of Justice Canada in Preparation for the 2007 Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission, December 2007, p 17, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 24**; Haripaul Pannu, Report on the Earnings of Self-Employed Lawyers for the Department of Justice Canada in Preparation for the 2011 Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission [Pannu 2011 Report], December 13, 2011, p 7, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 25**

in the size of the target group of self-employed lawyers. Historically, their position has been that the Commission should only consider the incomes of those self-employed lawyers who (1) are between 44-56; (2) practice in Canada's top 10 Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs)⁶⁹; and (3) earn greater than \$60,000.

65. For the 2014 taxation year, applying these filters reduces the target group of all self-employed lawyers in the CRA data set to only 24%:⁷⁰



a) Age-Weighting is More Appropriate

66. Rather than wholly exclude incomes of those lawyers below and above the 44-56 age bands, it is more appropriate to factor in a further refinement related to age by ageweighting. This approach factors in that private sector incomes do vary with the lawyer's age and judges are appointed to the bench at various ages.

⁶⁹ A Census Metropolitan Area is an area consisting of one or more neighbouring municipalities situated around a core. A CMA must have a total population of at least 100,000 of which 50,000 or more live in the core. See: Statistics Canada, Census Dictionary, "Census Metropolitan Area", online: https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2011/ref/dict/geo009-eng.cfm, **Government's Book of Documents. Tab 26**.

⁷⁰ Statistics derived from CRA Data, supra, Joint Book of Documents, Tab 1

- 67. Accordingly, the Government's expert age-weighted private sector incomes according to judges' ages of appointment from January 1, 1997 to March 31, 2015.⁷¹ This approach provides a single point of income comparison for a private sector lawyer who is hypothetically considering accepting a judicial appointment.
- 68. For 2014, age-weighting raises the 65th percentile income to \$208,306, which is still significantly less than the judicial salary of \$300,800.⁷² Age-weighting the 75th percentile income for 2014 increases it to \$267,041, which is still approximately \$33,000 less than the 2014 judicial salary.⁷³
- 69. A further reason to prefer age-weighting over simply considering the 44-56 age band is that ages of appointment have changed. As the chart below illustrates, there has been a statistically significant trend towards older appointees:⁷⁴



70. Finally, another reason to age-weight rather than wholly exclude age bands is that private sector lawyers' incomes decline after the median age of judicial appointment. On that basis, focusing on the average income of a self-employed lawyer between the ages of

⁷⁴ Statistics derived from CFJA Data, supra, Joint Book of Documents, Tabs 4 & 5(i)

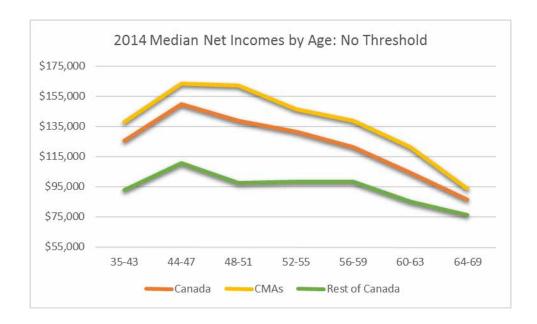
⁷¹ Pannu Report, *supra*, pp 5-7, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 10**

⁷² *Ibid*, p 6

⁷³ *Ibid*, p 7

44-56 is not an accurate portrayal of the income he/she would actually be giving up in future years in accepting a judicial appointment.

71. The CRA data set establishes a decline in private sector lawyer incomes as they age beyond the typical judicial appointment age. More particularly, the data shows that self-employed lawyers' incomes stagnate and/or decrease significantly after age 56. As illustrated below, this trend is particularly evident in Canada's major cities and at higher income brackets:⁷⁵



72. For the foregoing reasons, the Government submits that the incomes of all private sector lawyers who are eligible for appointment should be considered, with appropriate age-weighting. To focus solely on the 44-56 age bands excludes the incomes of 33% of appointees since 2004.⁷⁶

⁷⁵ Statistics derived from CRA Data, *supra*, Second Release, November 24, 2015, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 1**

⁷⁶ Statistics derived from CFJA Data, *supra*, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tabs 4 & 5(i)**

b) No Objective Basis for Salary Exclusions

- 73. There is no objective basis for applying any salary exclusions to the data. In the past three Commission processes, the judiciary applied a \$60,000 income exclusion.⁷⁷
- 74. This is not an accepted practice in compensation benchmarking.⁷⁸ The rationale of choosing a percentile above the median is to give less weight to lower-income earners within the data source. As Mr. Pannu explains, applying a salary exclusion distorts the results of the compensation analysis:

As incomes below \$60,000 and \$80,000 are excluded, the range of incomes are compressed, resulting in higher percentile values than if no salary exclusion was applied.⁷⁹

- 75. The impact of using a salary exclusion is significant. Applying a \$60,000 income exclusion and benchmarking to the 65th percentile of self-employed lawyers' incomes is really applying approximately the 75th percentile.⁸⁰ Applying the same salary exclusion and benchmarking to the 75th percentile results in an approximate percentile of 82%.⁸¹
- 76. Worthy of note is that the impact of applying a salary exclusion has increased over time. Excluding those with salaries under \$60,000 in 2014 results in excluding 30% of self-employed lawyers in the CRA data set from consideration.⁸² In 2010, it amounted to excluding 28% of those lawyers.⁸³

⁷⁷ Levitt Commission Report, *supra*, para 36, p 13, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 31**; Pannu Report, *supra*, p 7, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 10**

⁷⁸ Pannu Report, *ibid*, p 8

⁷⁹ *Ibid*, p 7

⁸⁰ Ibid

⁸¹ *Ibid*, p 8

⁸² *Ibid*, p 7

⁸³ Pannu 2011 Report, supra, p 7, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 25

c) Confining the Income Analysis to the Top 10 CMAs Not Justified

- 77. In past Commission processes, the judiciary has further suggested that the analysis is appropriately restricted to incomes of self-employed lawyers in the top 10 CMAs.⁸⁴ The Government's position is that such an approach is not justified.
- 78. The Drouin Committee properly concluded that it is not "responsible to suggest that the salary level of the Judiciary should be set so as to match the income of the highest earning lawyers in the largest urban centres in Canada". 85
- 79. In 2014, the judicial salary of \$300,800 placed it in the 78th percentile nationally.⁸⁶ Further, the 2014 judicial salary was in at least the 75th percentile in the CMAs, except Toronto and Calgary where it was at the 70th percentile.⁸⁷
- 80. Restricting the analysis to the CMAs results in ignoring a significant portion of lawyers' incomes. Between January 1997 and March 31, 2015, 39.3% of judicial appointees from the private sector bar were from the rest of Canada.⁸⁸
- 81. In addition, the incomes of self-employed lawyers are considerably lower outside the CMAs. Thus focusing exclusively on lawyers' incomes in the CMAs rather than considering the income levels from across Canada significantly increases the results. Using the 2014 CRA data as an illustration:
 - a. At the 65^{th} percentile, the all of Canada income is \$188,138 whereas the CMA income is \$218,400 a difference of \$30,262 or 16%; ⁸⁹ and
 - b. At the 75th percentile, the all of Canada income is \$261,363 whereas the CMA income is \$306,810 a difference of \$45,447 or 17%.⁹⁰

⁸⁴ Levitt Commission Report, *supra*, para 36, p 13, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 31**

⁸⁵ Drouin Commission Report, supra, p 46, Joint Book of Documents, Tab 28

⁸⁶ Pannu Report, supra, p 5, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 10

⁸⁷ *Ibid*, p 15

⁸⁸ *Ibid*, p 10

⁸⁹ *Ibid*, p 9

⁹⁰ *Ibid*, p 10

82. An alternative way of approaching it would be to "CMA-weight" the income levels based on the percentage of judicial appointees from the CMAs as opposed to the rest of Canada. This approach would entail taking the distribution of judicial appointments by CMA and applying that distribution to lawyers' incomes. The result is income percentiles that reflect that judicial appointments are distributed across different CMAs as well as outside CMAs. Using this approach, the 65th percentile actually declines to \$182,555 and the 75th percentile drops to \$249,317.⁹¹

The Value of the Judicial Annuity Raises Total Compensation b. **Significantly**

83. For those in private practice, the judicial annuity is a significant incentive to apply for a judicial appointment and must be factored in when comparing judicial and private sector lawyer compensation. As recognized by the Levitt Commission:

the superiority of the judicial annuity to the capital accumulation alternatives available to private sector lawyers to provide retirement income must be taken into consideration in order to arrive at a comparison of judicial and private sector lawyer compensation.92

- 84. The judicial annuity comprises not only a retirement benefit, but a generous disability benefit as well. After 15 years on the bench, a judge is entitled to an annuity for life equal to two-thirds of salary, based on his or her last year serving as a judge. 93 Based on the current judicial salary, the retirement benefit is approximately \$205,733 for a puisne judge. A judge who becomes disabled is entitled to the full annuity for life, with no minimum service requirement.⁹⁴
- 85. The total annuity is valued at 36.5% of the judicial salary, with the retirement benefit being 32% and the disability benefit 4.5%. 95 Taking into account the total value of

⁹¹ Ibid

⁹² Levitt Commission Report, *supra*, para 42, p 15, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 31**. See also: McLennan Commission Report, supra, pp 5, 15, 57, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 29; Drouin Commission Report, supra, p.42, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 28

⁹³ Judges Act, supra, s 42(1), **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 24**; Summary of Judges' and Prothonotaries' Compensation as of April 1, 2015, Joint Book of Documents, Tab 34; Pannu Report, ibid, p 11

⁹⁴ Judges Act, ibid, s 42(1)(c); Summary of Judges' and Prothonotaries' Compensation as of April 1, 2015, ibid; Pannu Report, ibid, p 11

⁹⁵ Pannu Report, *ibid*, p 13

the judicial annuity, the 2014 judicial salary increases from \$300,800 to \$410,592.⁹⁶ In comparison, that salary level exceeds the net income of at least 85% of self-employed lawyers nationally, who would still need to save for retirement and pay for disability insurance out of that income.⁹⁷

86. In its Report, the Levitt Commission addressed the difference between the principal parties' valuations of the judicial annuity, noting that such valuations are "extremely sensitive to the interest-rate assumptions used". In fact, the Commission's expert pointed out that if a rate that is more reflective of current market expectations for interest rates is used, the valuation of the judicial annuity would yield a much higher percentage than either of the principal parties had used – in the 40-50% range. The obvious impact is that the prospect of a judicial annuity would be even more attractive to a private sector lawyer.

87. For this process, the Government's expert has examined an alternative way to value the retirement benefit, namely to determine the cost to a self-employed lawyer to fund a similar benefit. Based on the analysis, he determined that self-employed lawyers would have to contribute 43.7% of their annual income to fund a retirement benefit equivalent to the judicial annuity. ⁹⁹

88. Using this approach provides another perspective of comparison between a judge's salary and a private sector lawyer's. Reducing the latter's annual net income by 43.7%, the amount needed to fund a pension equivalent to a judge's, the 2014 75th percentile income is reduced to approximately \$147,147, which is approximately 51% less than a 2014 judicial salary.¹⁰⁰

⁹⁶ Ibid

⁹⁷ *Ibid*, p 15

⁹⁸ Levitt Commission Report, *supra*, para 41, p 14, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 31**

⁹⁹ Pannu Report, *supra*, pp 13-14, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 10**

¹⁰⁰ *Ibid*, p 14

c. Supernumerary Status – An Important Incentive

- 89. Consideration of the third criterion the necessity to attract outstanding candidates must also factor in the option to elect supernumerary status. ¹⁰¹ Although to date no Commission has attributed a monetary value to the ability to elect supernumerary status, its value to prospective judicial candidates is significant. Indeed, the Supreme Court recognized that it is an "undeniable economic benefit" that is taken into account "by candidates for the office of judge in planning their economic and financial affairs". ¹⁰²
- 90. While this is an option that would be attractive to all judicial appointees, it is particularly significant for a private sector lawyer. Increasingly, large private sector law firms are requiring retirement as equity partners at age 65. ¹⁰³ In contrast, the mandatory retirement age for a judge is 75. Based on CFJA data, 48% of judges retired at 75 (excluding death and disability) and the average age of retirement since 1997 has been 71.5. ¹⁰⁴
- 91. A judge can elect to become supernumerary if (1) he or she is eligible to retire with a full annuity; or (2) has served 10 years and attained the age of 70. A supernumerary judge remains a member of the court and receives a full judicial salary, but is generally only expected to carry a 50% workload. As such, they have the flexibility to ramp down as health and energy decline or other interests take precedence, but continue to maintain a full judicial salary until retirement.
- 92. In addition to the significant economic and lifestyle advantages supernumerary status offers, supernumeraries can continue to enjoy the personal satisfaction of doing fulfilling work and contributing to the operations of their court. The relative attractiveness

¹⁰¹ McLennan Commission Report, *supra*, p 5, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 29**

¹⁰² Mackin v New Brunswick (Minister of Finance); Rice v New Brunswick, [2002] 1 SCR 405, para 67, **Joint Book of Documents, Tab 27**

¹⁰³ Kevin Marron, "Just saying 'no' to retirement", Canadian Lawyer Magazine, April 1, 2011, online: http://www.canadianlawyermag.com/3673/Just-saying-no-to-retirement.html, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 27**

¹⁰⁴ Data derived from the Judicial Personnel System database of the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs, current as of September 23, 2015.

¹⁰⁵ Judges Act. supra. s. 28. Joint Book of Documents. Tab 24

¹⁰⁶ Pannu Report, *supra*, p 16, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 10**

of this benefit is supported by the fact that approximately 89% of judges entitled to elect supernumerary status do so. 107

93. The prospect of maintaining a high salary to age 75 is a significant inducement for attracting outstanding candidates from the private sector to the bench. Of particular relevance is the fact that, on average, as illustrated by the chart following paragraph 71, private sector income levels decrease precipitously in a lawyer's early to mid-50s. ¹⁰⁸ On the other hand, judges' salaries increase year by year, and if they elect supernumerary status, as noted above a full salary can be maintained with a significantly reduced workload for many years past this point.

d. Other Generous Benefits Afforded to the Judiciary

- 94. Another aspect to consider in comparing the compensation of self-employed lawyers and the judiciary is the generous benefits package provided to the judiciary. Most self-employed lawyers would have to provide their own individual extended health and dental benefits and purchase life insurance. The judges' premiums, on the other hand, are paid for by the Government.
- 95. Members of the judiciary are entitled to an extensive benefits plan which includes:¹¹¹
 - a. basic life insurance, supplementary life insurance, post-retirement insurance and dependents' life insurance; 112
 - b. accidental death and dismemberment insurance; 113

¹⁰⁷ Data derived from the Judicial Personnel System database of the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs, *supra*, current as of September 23, 2015

¹⁰⁸ Statistics derived from CRA Data, *supra*, Second Release, November 24, 2015, **Joint Book of Documents**. **Tab 1**

¹⁰⁹ Pannu Report, *supra*, p 16, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 10**

¹¹⁰ Summary of Judges' and Prothonotaries' Compensation as of April 1, 2015, *supra*, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 34**

¹¹¹ Ibid

¹¹² Judges Act, supra, s 41.2(1), Joint Book of Documents, Tab 24

¹¹³ *Ibid*

- c. health care plan; 114 and
- d. dental care plan. 115

(iii) Pre-Appointment Income Study

- 96. The Government renews its request that a study be conducted during this Commission process. 116 With the benefit of the parties' principal submissions and a hearing, the Commission will be well-placed to undertake the study and request the requisite extension of time for providing its report to the Minister of Justice.
- 97. The Government maintains that the benefits of such a study are clear given the Commission's broad task to inquire into the adequacy of judicial compensation. The income levels of those actually appointed to the bench will supplement the evidentiary record before this Commission and will serve to validate the assumptions made by the principal parties about the income level required to attract outstanding candidates based on the CRA data.

4. Benchmarking to DM-3 not Objective, Relevant or Justified

98. The Government's position is that an exclusive focus on the DM-3 group is not an objective, relevant and justified consideration under s. 26(1.1)(d) of the Judges Act. Rather, a more objective and justified approach would be to consider trends in public sector compensation generally. This approach would allow the Commission to ensure that judicial compensation trends are relative to what other individuals of outstanding character and ability are paid in the public sector without establishing a formulaic link.

¹¹⁴ *Ibid*, s 41.3(1)

¹¹⁶ Submissions of the Government of Canada on the Proposal for a Pre-Appointment Income Study, January 19, 2016, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 28

- 99. Formulaic benchmarking minimizes the purpose and import of the entire inquiry process. 117 It neither fulfils the constitutional requirement of the Commission process as established in *PEI Reference* nor accords with legislative intent.
- 100. The McLennan Commission recognized the inherent dangers of simply linking the judicial salary to another group:

We were, and are, of the view that it would be counter-productive to fix judicial salaries as having a pre-determined relationship to other salaries, whether those of senior civil servants or senior legal practitioners. Those considerations represent dynamics at work in our society and they change constantly. We believe the proper approach was to consider these and other factors in light of the most current information. Were it otherwise, there would be no need to address this subject every four years, as contemplated by the *Judges Act*. ¹¹⁸ (emphasis added)

Ultimately, the Commission determined that there was no "mandate in the statute or in logic to maintain" rough equivalence with any comparator. 119

101. During the next Quadrennial Commission review process, the Block Commission did not take that approach. Instead, the Commission was focussed on identifying a "single consistent benchmark" within the public sector against which the judicial salary could be compared. ¹²⁰ Indeed, the Commission's salary recommendation was entirely founded on "what compensation increase is required, then, to bring the salary of *puisne* judges to rough

¹¹⁷ McLennan Commission Report, *supra*, p 91, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 29**; Drouin Commission Report, *supra*, pp 13, 22, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 28**; Report and Recommendations of the 1995 Commission on Judges' Salaries and Benefits, September 30, 1996 [Scott Commission Report], p 14, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 29**; Report of the Special Advisory Committee on Judicial Compensation and Related Benefits, September 13, 1974 [Hall Commission Report], p 4, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 30**; Report and Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Judicial Compensation and Related Benefits, November 22, 1978 [Dorfman Commission Report], p 6, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 31**; Report and Recommendations of the 1986 Commission on Judges' Salaries and Benefits, February 27, 1987 [Guthrie Commission Report], p 8, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 32**

¹¹⁸ McLennan Commission Report, *supra*, p 8, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 29**. See also: Drouin Commission Report, *supra*, p 22, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 28**; Senate Committee September 30, 1998, *supra*, pp 32:16- 32:17, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 6**¹¹⁹ McLennan Commission Report, *ibid*, p 49

¹²⁰ Block Commission Report, supra, para 103, p 32, Joint Book of Documents, Tab 30

equivalence with the DM-3 salary range mid-point plus one-half of maximum performance pay?"¹²¹

102. The Levitt Commission also focussed exclusively on the DM-3 group finding that while it was not "ideal", it was the "best choice". ¹²² It rationalized the benchmark on the basis that judicial candidates needed "certainty" about future remuneration. ¹²³

103. A singular focus on the DM-3 group is misplaced for the following reasons: (1) the Commission's statutory mandate; (2) comparability issues; and (3) the increased availability and reliability of evidence related to the salary levels of lawyers eligible for judicial appointment.

(a) Formulaic Linkage Inconsistent with Commission Mandate

104. Had Parliament intended that Commissions simply measure the adequacy of judicial salaries against a single, formulaic benchmark it would have specifically provided for that in the *Judges Act*. Instead, as previously discussed, it prescribed certain criteria to guide Commissions in their inquiry.

105. As explained in paragraphs 13-19, a deliberate decision was made not to specifically mandate Commission consideration of public service remuneration in the 1998 legislative amendments. That decision was informed by the 1995 Triennial Commission chair's evidence regarding concerns about the benchmarking or linking judicial salaries to public servants' salaries. 124

106. Before the 1998 amendments, pursuant to their Terms of Reference, past Commissions were specifically mandated to consider comparative factors, such as the

¹²² Levitt Commission Report, *supra*, para 27, p 9, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 31**

¹²¹ *Ibid*, para 120, p 38

¹²³ *Ibid*, para 30, p 11

¹²⁴ Senate Committee September 30, 1998, *supra*, pp 32:16-32:17, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 6**

relative compensation of judges in other jurisdictions, persons paid out of public funds and Canadians generally. ¹²⁵

107. Rather than continuing that approach, Parliament included a "catch-all" or residual provision which contemplates the consideration of other objective, relevant and justified criteria, in addition to the three enumerated ones:

If we are to allow the commission the capacity to do its work, then it must be able to consider other criteria, but in an objective manner. In other words, it must consider criteria that are justified, ones that are measured on objective grounds, that is why the word "objective" is so important. ¹²⁶

108. In order for DM-3 remuneration to be a proper consideration under s. 26(1.1)(d) of the *Judges Act* it must be objective, relevant and justified. In present day circumstances, comparing judicial salaries to that of DM-3s does not satisfy that threshold. There is no principled basis upon which to continue this formulaic benchmark.

(b) Comparability Issues

109. The existence of a "historic relationship" between judicial and deputy minister salaries does not support its continuation. Benchmarks must be objective, relevant and justified. As the Scott Commission noted, "a strong case can be made for the proposition that the comparison between DM-3's and judges' compensation is **both imprecise and inappropriate**" (emphasis added). 127

110. The Courtois Commission justified the DM-3 salary as a comparator on the basis that it "reflects what the market place expects to pay individuals of outstanding character and ability, which are attributes shared by deputy ministers and judges". ¹²⁸

¹²⁵ Scott Commission Report, *supra*, Appendix A – Terms of Reference, p 32, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 29**; Report and Recommendations of the 1992 Commission on Judges' Salaries and Benefits, March 31, 1993 [Crawford Commission Report], Terms of Reference, p 1, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 33**.

¹²⁶ Senate Committee October 22, 1998, supra, p 37:21, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 8

¹²⁷ Scott Commission Report, supra, p 14, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 29

¹²⁸ Report and Recommendations of the 1989 Commission on Judges' Salaries and Benefits, March 5, 1989 [Courtois Commission Report], p 10, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 34**

- 111. While this rationale for relying on the mid-point of the DM-3 salary has been repeated and relied on by other Commissions, it has consistently been made with the caveat that a comparative analysis of the two positions is not appropriate. Put another way, Commissions have determined the appropriateness of benchmarking or seeking rough equivalence with DM-3s based purely on "salary level". They have not examined or evaluated commonly accepted compensable factors such as skill, effort, responsibility, working conditions or security of tenure in order to determine whether the DM-3 group is indeed an appropriate peer group. ¹³⁰
- 112. The Levitt Commission criticized the Government for "submissions that focussed on job content" concluding that it was not relevant to "what the market place expects to pay". ¹³¹ With respect, the Government disagrees. That very question invites a comparative exercise or analysis of the commonalities in positions to determine whether benchmarking is in fact substantiated.
- 113. Jobs that are salary-benchmarked to other jobs necessarily have common tasks, skills, responsibilities and working conditions. ¹³² For retention and recruitment purposes, jobs are commonly benchmarked to similar positions with equivalent responsibilities in the Canadian labour market. ¹³³ Stating that judicial salaries should be the same as those paid to DM-3s because they share the attributes of outstanding character and ability fails to give sufficient consideration to all the relevant factors.

¹²⁹ Crawford Commission Report, *supra*, p 11, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 33**; Drouin Commission Report, *supra*, p 31, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 28**; Block Commission Report, *supra*, para 103, p 32, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 30**; Levitt Commission Report, *supra*, para 26, pp 8-9, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 31**

¹³⁰ The McLennan Commission was not prepared to consider judges from other jurisdictions as appropriate comparators on the basis that there was no information about working conditions, annuities and security of tenure that would permit meaningful comparisons. McLennan Commission Report, *supra*, p 12, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 29**

¹³¹ Levitt Commission Report, supra, para 26, pp 8-9, Joint Book of Documents, Tab 31

¹³² Kent Romanoff et al, "Pay Equity: Internal and External Considerations", Compensation and Benefits Review, 18(6):17-25, November 1986, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 35**; Nan Weiner and Morley Gunderson, *Pay Equity: Issues, Options and Experiences* (Toronto, Ontario: Butterworths, 1990), pp 17-33, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 36**

¹³³ Kent Romanoff et al, "Pay Equity: Internal and External Considerations", *ibid*; Frederick D Lipman and Steven E Hall, *Executive Compensation Best Practices*, *supra*, pp 25-31, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 23**

114. Further, the Levitt Commission's failure to consider this approach, which is grounded in accepted compensation benchmarking practice, is inconsistent with the approach it took on the issue of including performance pay as part of DM-3 cash compensation. On that issue, the Commission determined that not including those amounts would be contrary to "customary compensation practice". ¹³⁴

115. There is nothing untoward or demeaning about the requirement to undertake a comparative analysis to support a continued benchmarking or linkage to the mid-point of the DM-3 group. Such an analysis will not undermine "the constitutional status and role of the judiciary and also the importance of its appearance and image to the effective performance of that role". ¹³⁵ Rather, it will confirm whether the mid-point of the DM-3 salary is an objective, justified and relevant consideration under s. 26(1.1)(d) of the *Judges Act*.

116. The formulaic linkage to the DM-3 group is not appropriate based on the following comparability issues: (i) the small size of the DM-3 group, (ii) differences in tenure of the respective positions, and (iii) differences in considerations informing DM-3 compensation. Indeed, all these factors made it difficult for the Block and Levitt Commissions to determine an objective reference point in the DM-3 salary range against which to measure judicial salaries.

(i) Small Sample Size

117. At the present time, there are only eight DM-3s compared to 1,165 judges. The McLennan Commission did not restrict its inquiry to DM-3s based, in part, on this factor – "a very small sample upon which to base the remuneration of more than 1,100 federally appointed judges". ¹³⁶

¹³⁴ Levitt Commission Report, supra, para 25, p 8, Joint Book of Documents, Tab 31

¹³⁵ *Ibid*, para 26, p 9

¹³⁶ McLennan Commission Report, supra, p 28, Joint Book of Documents, Tab 29

118. In fact, the size of the DM-3 group fluctuates. In the past 17 years, there have been anywhere from eight to thirteen individuals at the DM-3 level at any given time. This fluctuation is due to the fact that the deputy minister rank is not tied to the position, but rather the individual. That is, one individual in a position (for example the Deputy Minister of Finance) could be appointed at the DM-3 level and the next day a new appointee could be appointed at a different level.

(ii) No Security of Tenure

- 119. The fact that deputy ministers do not have the security of tenure accorded to judges is also a relevant consideration. ¹³⁸ Deputy ministers serve at the pleasure of the Governor in Council and, as such, are demonstrably at risk. On the other hand, pursuant to s. 99 of the *Constitution Act*, 1867, judges can only be removed from office on address of the Senate and the House of Commons.
- 120. Among the 35 individuals who served as a DM-3 and whose tenure as a DM-3 or higher ended between 2000 and 2015, the median tenure at the rank of DM-3 or higher was 4.4 years. Since 2000 the longest tenure was 12 years, and among active senior deputies the maximum tenure to date at the DM-3/4 level is 8.7 years. ¹³⁹
- 121. In contrast, the 710 judges who retired between 2000 and 2015 had spent a median of 20.8 years as a judge, with the maximum tenure of 37.5 years. Indeed, only 10% retired with less than 12 years of service, which was the maximum DM-3 tenure. 140

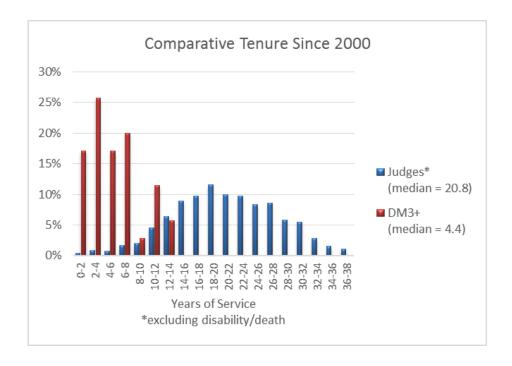
¹³⁷ At the time of the last Quadrennial Commission process in 2011, there were 13 DM-3s, Levitt Commission Report, *supra*, footnote 26, p 9, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 31**. In 2003 there were 9 DM-3s, McLennan Commission Report, *supra*, p 24, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 29**. In 1999 there were 10 DM-3s and in 2000 13 DM-3s, Drouin Commission Report, *supra*, p 23, **Joint Book of Documents**. **Tab 28**

¹³⁸ McLennan Commission Report, *supra*, p 28, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 29**

¹³⁹ Data derived from Privy Council Office, "DM3-4 Appointment History Export (names and departments removed)", August 15, 2015, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 17**

¹⁴⁰ Data derived from the Judicial Personnel System database of the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs, *supra*, current as of September 23, 2015

122. The chart below illustrates the significant differences in tenure between the DM-3 group and the judiciary.



(iii) Significant Differences in Compensation Measures

- 123. Differences in compensation measures further militate against formulaic benchmarking for two reasons.
- 124. First, an individual who occupies a DM position is paid at a certain level based on a combination of the individual's skills and experience and the duties to be performed. The DM salary plan is more akin to appointment to level, rather than position. Because DM compensation is so highly individualized, a newly appointed deputy minister could be paid less or more than the individual who occupied the position immediately before, depending on his/her seniority and skills, and the complexity of the Government's agenda. This system of determining compensation individually and based on personal achievements is not appropriate in the context of judicial compensation.
- 125. Second, since 1998, deputy ministers have been eligible to receive "performance pay" measured against agreed targets and the achievement of business plans.

126. The McLennan Commission recognized that performance pay and "the achievement of defined goals, are concepts that have no relationship whatsoever to the judicial function". ¹⁴¹ Further, the Commission questioned the continued usefulness of the DM-3 group as a comparator based on the "unfortunate disconnect" due to the "structure to compensate DM-3s". ¹⁴²

127. Performance pay has two elements – a potential variable amount (at-risk pay) which is re-assessed each year and a potential bonus for performance that surpasses expectations. At-risk pay is measured against individual commitments which are composed of policy and program results in support of the Government's agenda, management results, leadership results and corporate results in support of a priority identified by the Clerk of the Privy Council. 144

128. Based on the applicable rating distribution, the majority of DM-3s receive performance ratings of "succeeded" or "succeeded+". The rating of "surpassed expectations", which includes a bonus, is reserved for not more than 20% of the group. ¹⁴⁵ In the 2014-15 fiscal year, of the ten DM-3s, only two were rated at the "surpassed expectations" level, one received no performance pay at all and the other seven received at-risk pay based on either a "succeeded+" rating. ¹⁴⁶

129. It is critical to understand that at-risk pay is determined according to the performance assessment of the individuals in those positions in a given year. From year to year, the same person's cash compensation will fluctuate.

130. The fact that a significant portion of a DM-3s potential overall cash compensation (up to 33% for 2014-15)¹⁴⁷ is predicated on the achievement of individual and corporate

¹⁴¹ McLennan Commission Report, *supra*, p 24, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 29**. See also: McLennan Commission Report, *ibid*, pp 26, 27

¹⁴² *Ibid*, p 91

¹⁴³ Privy Council Office, "Performance Management Program Guidelines for Deputy Ministers, Associate Deputy Ministers and Individuals Paid in the GX Salary Range", updated July 2015, p 1, **Joint Book of Documents, Tab 13**

¹⁴⁴ *Ibid*, pp 3-4

¹⁴⁵ *Ibid*, p 7

Privy Council Office, "Remuneration of DM 1-3s – Fiscal 2011-2014", Distribution of at-risk-pay for DM-3s, 2014-15, Joint Book of Documents, Tab 11
 Ibid

objectives has been overlooked and underestimated by prior Commissions in assessing the comparability of DM-3 and judicial salaries. With the introduction of the new compensation plan for deputy ministers in 1998, the validity of any continued

benchmarking became even more questionable.

131. Despite the very different considerations at play in deciding to change the DM

group's compensation structure, past Commissions have considered performance pay on

the basis that all compensation elements must be considered. In doing so, they have not

recognized the variability, as well as the very personal nature of those "bonuses" that are

contingent on individual performance.

132. The reality is that these "bonuses" are not transferrable to the judicial compensation

context. The Levitt Commission recognized the difficulty in factoring the quantum of

bonus or other forms of variable pay into the analysis. The Commission's answer was to

translate "it into the judicial context through the use of judgment". 148

133. Based on the small size of the DM-3 group, the rate of turnover and fluctuations in

performance pay year to year, this proved to be a difficult task. Simply using the average

would not yield a "static" reference point. As a consequence, the Block and Levitt

Commissions determined that the best approach to ensure salary relativity was to use the

mid-point of the DM-3 salary range and one-half of the maximum performance pay for

which a DM-3 is eligible. 149

134. With respect, that approach is arbitrary and further underscores the

inappropriateness of trying to directly benchmark judicial salaries to the DM-3 group. The

same factors – small size, short tenures and different compensation plans – which made

the choice of a benchmarking point difficult - are also the factors which discredit

comparability in the first place.

¹⁴⁸ Levitt Commission Report, *supra*, para 29, p 10, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 31**

¹⁴⁹ Block Commission Report, *supra*, para 106, p 33, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 30**; Levitt Commission Report, *ibid*, para 29, p 10

(c) Reliable Evidence Relating to Pre-appointment Salaries

135. The growing availability of reliable evidence regarding the remuneration levels of members of the senior bar from both private and public sectors also militates against relying on the DM-3 group as a comparator. In past processes, the lack of this type of evidence has frustrated the inquiry and resulted in undue weight and relevance being placed on the DM-3 salary.

136. While cognizant that lawyers' incomes are critical to the inquiry based on the binding statutory criteria, past Quadrennial Commissions expressed concern and frustration with "the lack of available and reliable data on comparators other than the remuneration of public servants at the deputy minister level".¹⁵⁰

137. This lack of reliable evidence has been remedied to a degree through the collaboration of the principal parties and the CRA in presenting data on self-employed lawyers' incomes in the last process and the current one.

138. Another positive step in this direction, as already advocated by the Government, would be a pre-appointment income study which would provide reliable and accurate evidence about the actual incomes of lawyers prior to judicial appointment. In addition to validating the reasonableness of the assumptions made about the level required to attract outstanding candidates from the private sector, it would also provide information about the income levels of public sector lawyers and other judicial candidates.

(d) Consideration of General Trends More Appropriate and Relevant

139. Rather than seeking to establish a formulaic linkage with the mid-point of the DM-3 group, a more objective and justified approach would be to consider senior public servants' salaries generally. Looking at trends would be useful in demonstrating that judicial salaries retain a "relationship" to compensation levels in senior level government

para 112, p 35, Joint Book of Documents, Tab 30

¹⁵⁰ McLennan Commission Report, *supra*, p 41, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 29**. See also: Drouin Commission Report, *supra*, p 37, Joint Book of Documents, **Tab 28**; Block Commission Report, *supra*, p 112 - 25 **Lint Book of Documents**, **Tab 20**

positions. This approach would be responsive to the criterion of "other objective criteria that the Commission considers relevant".

140. This approach was used by the McLennan Commission. The Commission questioned "the wisdom of confining the examination to the DM-3 level" ¹⁵¹ and felt it was incumbent on them to "look at a broader range of the most senior public servants whose qualities, character and abilities might be said to be similar to those of judges". ¹⁵² Consequently, the Commission considered the entire group of deputy ministers and other classes of Governor-in-Council (GIC) appointees. ¹⁵³

141. The Drouin Commission also noted that "remuneration levels within the senior ranks of the Government" are relevant because judicial salaries should not be permitted "to lag materially behind". 154

142. An examination of the salary levels of the broader DM community and other GIC appointees demonstrates that the current judicial salary of \$308,600 is higher than the salary mid-point (without at-risk pay) for all current positions within the DM group, the GC group and the GCQ group.

143. As of April 2015, the salary midpoints for the DM group are: DM-1 - \$209,550; DM-2 - \$240,800; DM-3- \$269,750 and DM-4-\$302,050. The chart below illustrates the trends in DM salaries compared to the judicial salary over the last 10 years. The judicial salary has been consistently well above the mid-point salaries of the DM-1-3 groups and in the past two years outpaced the DM-4 salary.

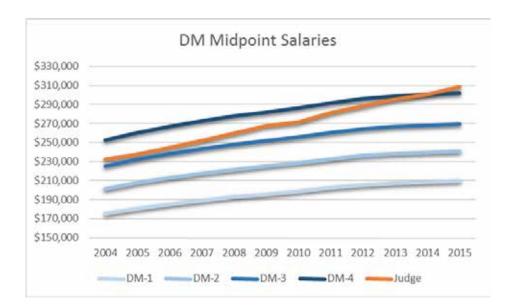
¹⁵³ *Ibid*, pp 28-31

¹⁵¹ McLennan Commission Report, *ibid*, p 28

¹⁵² *Ibid*, p 30

¹⁵⁴ Drouin Commission Report, *supra*, p 32, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 28**

Privy Council Office, "Income Information Regarding Deputy Ministers -- Salary Ranges, Salary Mid-Point and Average Salary, 2004-2015", Joint Book of Documents, Tab 12
 Ibid



144. The GC and GCQ groups are smaller in number than the DM group. At present there are three GC-9 positions. ¹⁵⁷ The present midpoint salary of a GC-9 is \$246,050. ¹⁵⁸ There are presently only two GC-10s. ¹⁵⁹ The midpoint salary is currently \$282,800. ¹⁶⁰

145. There are four GCQ-9s at present.¹⁶¹ The current midpoint salary is \$288,700.¹⁶² There have been no appointments to the GCQ-10 level since the creation of the current classification system in 2002.

146. As illustrated by the chart below, the judicial salary has been consistently higher than that of the GC-9 group for over ten years, kept pace with that of the GC-10s and GCQ-9s and then, in the last four years, has outpaced those salaries.

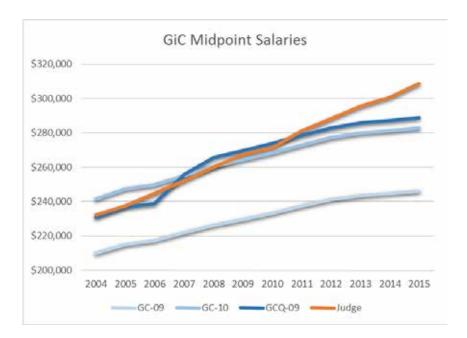
¹⁵⁷ (1) Chief Public Health Officer, Public Health Agency of Canada; (2) President, Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council; and (3) President, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council: see: Privy Council Office, "GC and GCQ Income Information Regarding as of April 1, 2015", p 1, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 15**

¹⁵⁸ *Ibid*, p 2

¹⁵⁹ The Presidents of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the National Research Council of Canada, *ibid*, p 1

¹⁶⁰ *Ibid*, p 2

¹⁶¹ (1) Chairperson and Member, Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission; (2) Chairman and Member, National Energy Board; (3) Commissioner of Competition; and (4) Superintendent, Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, *ibid*, p 1 ¹⁶² *Ibid*, p 3



147. As previously stated, the Government's position is that it is inappropriate to factor in performance pay due to the fact that it must be earned each year, a percentage of appointees will not receive it and the individuals do not have security of tenure like judges. While individuals in the GC group are eligible to receive performance pay, those in the GCQ group are not. ¹⁶³

148. Even if at-risk pay is factored in based on the practice used by past Commissions (midpoint salary and one-half of maximum performance pay), the judicial salary compares very favourably. Indeed, at the present time, it is higher than that of DM-1s and DM-2s and is only \$5,659 or less than 2% lower than the current DM-3 level.

149. In terms of the DM-4 group it is less than 15% lower, which is not unreasonable given that the Block Commission recognized that this level is "reserved for exceptional circumstances and positions of particularly large scope". ¹⁶⁴ At present, there are four individuals appointed to the DM-4 level, including the Clerk of the Privy Council and the Secretary of the Treasury Board.

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¹⁶³ *Ibid*, p 4

¹⁶⁴ Block Commission Report, *supra*, para 105, p 33, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 30**. Also see: Chart prepared by the Department of Justice, "Midpoint + Maximum Performance Pay/2 of DMs, GCs and Judges", **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 37**

150. The judicial salary is also significantly higher than the GC-9 salary midpoint with one-half maximum performance pay and is only approximately 4% lower than that of the GC-10 salary midpoint with one-half maximum performance pay. ¹⁶⁵

5. Conclusion

151. Consideration of the prescribed statutory criteria demonstrates that the current level of judicial compensation is entirely adequate to maintain judicial independence. The salaries of judges need only be increased annually to allow for a cost of living adjustment until the next review process.

B. CPI – More Appropriate Statutory Indexation Measure

- 152. The Government proposes that judicial salaries be adjusted annually based on changes to CPI, rather that the Industrial Aggregate Index (IAI). CPI is a more modern and relevant measure of changes to the cost of living that will continue to ensure that judicial salaries are protected from erosion through inflation.
- 153. When statutory indexation of judicial salaries was first introduced in 1981 it was intended to minimize the erosion of judicial salaries through Parliamentary inaction. The rationale for introducing indexation was to "enhance the independence of the judiciary by removing judicial compensation from the give-and-take of the political process to the extent consistent with the principles of parliamentary democracy and ministerial responsibility for the expenditure of public funds". ¹⁶⁶
- 154. IAI was chosen as the indexation factor because at the time, IAI applied to Members of Parliament and it was thought that applying it to judges would avoid further controversy.

¹⁶⁶ Debates of the Senate, 32nd Parl, 1st Sess, Vol II (March 11, 1981) at 1993, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 38**

 $^{^{165}}$ See chart prepared by the Department of Justice, "Midpoint + Maximum Performance Pay/2 of DMs, GCs and Judges", ibid

In answer to a question in the House of Commons about "the possibility of taking a look at a more accurate index", the Minister of Justice responded as follows:

That one we felt would be less controversial – the same one that existed for members of Parliament. I do not want this act to be subject to much controversy. I would rather go with a clause of indexation that is in existence so that we will not raise any new problems. 167

- 155. The original purpose of statutory indexation was meant to "maintain the judges' buying power". 168 CPI is, however, better tailored to achieve this. It is more widely known and understood than IAI, and is a more direct means of ensuring that purchasing power remains stable. Indeed, IAI does not correlate directly to either buying power or inflation. 169
- IAI is based on average weekly wages and salaries of typical "wage-earners" with 156. whom judges share few if any characteristics. The types of salaries included in the index are forestry, logging and support; utilities; construction; information and cultural industries; finance and insurance and educational services. 170
- In contrast, Statistics Canada defines CPI in the following terms: ¹⁷¹ 157.
 - 1.1 The Canadian Consumer Price Index (CPI) is an indicator of the change in consumer prices. It measures price change by comparing through time the cost of a fixed-basket of consumer goods and services. Since the basket contains products of unchanging or equivalent quantity and quality, the index reflects only "pure" price change.
 - **1.3** The index is used for an assortment of different purposes by various users. One of its most important uses is by governments, businesses and individuals to adjust selected contractual or legislated payments in line with inflation. By linking

¹⁶⁷ Proceedings of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, Issue No 13,

¹st Sess, 32nd Parl, February 17, 1981, pp 13:27, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 39

¹⁶⁸ Proceedings of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs, Issue No 14,

¹st Sess, 32nd Parl, February 19, 1981, pp 14:29, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 40

¹⁶⁹ The Industrial Aggregate Index is the annual rate of change in aggregate Average Weekly Earnings (AWE) established by Statistics Canada: Statistics Canada, "Earnings, average weekly, by industry, monthly (Canada)", online: http://www.statcan.gc.ca/tables-tableaux/sum-som/l01/cst01/labor93a-eng.htm, Government's Book of Documents, Tab 41

¹⁷⁰ Ibid

¹⁷¹ Statistics Canada, "The Canadian Consumer Price Index Reference Paper", 62-553-X, December 19, 2014, online: http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/62-553-x/62-553-x2014001-eng.pdf, Chapter 1, Government's **Book of Documents, Tab 42**

a stream of future payments to the CPI, it is possible to ensure the purchasing power represented by those payments is unaffected by the average change in consumer prices that may occur.

- 158. There is no constitutional requirement for statutory indexation to ensure judicial independence. Providing for automatic adjustment to judicial salaries based on the widely-accepted CPI, the same basis upon which judicial annuities are adjusted annually, will continue to ensure that judicial salaries are protected from falling below the "adequate minimum" which concerned the Supreme Court in *PEI Reference*.
- 159. Based on forecasts of CPI for the quadrennial period, and taking into account the statutory objective as outlined above, the net result would be a judicial salary that is adequate. 172
- 160. Finally, it is important to note that while there has been a historic relationship between the CPI and the IAI, at any given time one may be higher than the other. However, as a matter of principle, if the primary purpose of indexation is to guard against inflation, CPI is more suited to this purpose. It is the Government's position therefore that the *Judges Act* should be amended to replace the reference to the IAI with CPI.

C. Prothonotaries' Compensation and Representational Funding

1. Total Compensation is Adequate

161. The prothonotaries' current compensation arrangements are fully adequate. Their current salary is \$234,500 – 76% of a Federal Court judge's salary. Furthermore, they are now entitled to an annuity calculated in the same manner as the judicial annuity – that is two-thirds of their salary. The judicial annuity which is valued at 36.5% increases their

¹⁷² The forecasted CPI rates for the next four years are as follows: 1.1%,1.6%, 2.0% and 2.0%. Letter from the Assistant Deputy Minister of Finance dated February 24, 2016, Department of Finance Canada, *supra*, p 3, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 9**. Using CPI as the statutory indexation rate there would be a net increase of 6.8% over the next 4 years. IAI forecasts over the next four years are: 1.8%, 2.2%, 2.4% and 2.6%: Letter from the Office of the Chief Actuary dated February 25, 2016, Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 7**. Applying IAI would result in a net increase of 9.3% over the next 4 years.

current net income to approximately \$320,093.¹⁷³ Given the recency of these significant changes to the prothonotaries' total compensation, the Government submits that there is no basis for further enhancements.

162. The Special Advisor on Federal Court Prothonotaries undertook a comprehensive review of prothonotaries' compensation in 2013.¹⁷⁴ The Government considered the Special Advisor's Report and issued a response in 2014.¹⁷⁵ Parliament then amended the *Judges Act*, significantly increasing the prothonotaries' compensation. Their salary was increased by 10% from \$198,700 to \$218,900 retroactive to April 1, 2012 and the prothonotaries became entitled to an annuity under the *Judges Act* effective January 1, 2015.¹⁷⁶

163. The prothonotaries have given notice of their intention to raise the issues of salary, incidental allowance and supernumerary status during this review process. The onus is on the prothonotaries to establish that their current compensation is inadequate with reference to the statutorily prescribed criteria in the *Judges Act*.

164. Based on the significant change to their salary effective April 1, 2012 and an entitlement to a generous annuity under the *Judges Act* effective January 1, 2015, the Government submits that nothing more than indexation is required during this Commission process.

2. Full Funding of Costs Not Justified

165. The Commission declined to make a preliminary ruling with respect to the prothonotaries' request for full funding, but rather determined that the issue must be considered as part of its full inquiry into the adequacy of amounts payable under the *Judges Act*. The Government will provide a more complete response to this issue in reply to the prothonotaries' written submissions, but makes the following observations at this time.

174 Report by the Special Advisor on Federal Court Prothonotaries' Compensation, July 31, 2013 [Cunningham Report], **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 33**

¹⁷⁶ *Judges Act, supra*, ss 2.1, 10.1, 42, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 24**

¹⁷³ Supra footnote 18

¹⁷⁵ Response of the Minister of Justice to the Report of the Special Advisor on Federal Court Prothonotaries' Compensation, February 27, 2014, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 33(a)**

166. First, it is incumbent on the prothonotaries to articulate how the current formula under the *Judges Act* – the reimbursement of two-thirds of their costs – fails to meet the prescribed statutory criteria for the determination of the adequacy of the amounts payable under the Act.

167. Second, the amounts payable to Military Judges as representational costs in past compensation processes are irrelevant to the Commission's task. Distinct from s. 26.3 of the *Judges Act*, the regulatory provisions governing the Military Judges Compensation Committee were silent as to representational funding.¹⁷⁷

168. Finally, the public policy rationale for not providing full funding to the judges is equally applicable to the prothonotaries. Allowing full funding would afford the prothonotaries' representatives a largely unchecked discretion in deciding what costs would be incurred for legal counsel, expert witnesses and disbursements. It is in the public interest that prothonotaries be responsible for the payment of one-third of their costs. Responsibility for some costs is a financial incentive to ensure that costs are incurred reasonably and prudently.

D. Step-Down Amendments

169. The Government further proposes that s. 43(2) of the *Judges Act* be amended to entitle the Honourable J.E. (Ted) Richard to an annuity based on his former position as Senior Judge of the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories.

170. Chief justices who have served for at least five years are entitled to "step down" from their functions as chief justices and serve as *puisne* judges. If they elect to do so, they

¹⁷⁷ Past Military Judges Compensation Committees were established in accordance with s 165.22 of the *National Defence Act*, RSC 1985 c N-5, **Government's Book of Documents, Tab 43** and ss 204.23-204.24 of the *Queen's Regulations and Orders* (Chapter 204, PC 2000-1419), **Government's Book of Documents, Tab 44**. The *National Defence Act* has since been amended and the process governing the Military Judges Compensation Committees is now provided for in ss 165.33, 165.37. **Covernment's Book**

Military Judges Compensation Committees is now provided for in ss 165.33-165.37, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 45**

¹⁷⁸ Response to the Report of the Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission dated May 31, 2004 by the Minister of Justice, November 30, 2004, p 10, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 46**

receive a *puisne* judge's salary, but are entitled to an annuity on their retirement based on the salary of a chief justice. ¹⁷⁹

171. Following the 2011 Quadrennial Commission process, s. 43(2) was amended to extend this benefit to senior judges in the territories. Based on the coming into force date, however, Mr. Richard did not benefit from the legislative change. A minor statutory amendment would also address the situation of a chief justice or senior judge who "steps down" to a different court as a *puisne* judge and allow him/her to receive an annuity based on the salary of a chief justice. ¹⁸⁰

172. In the Government's view these proposed amendments are fair, appropriate and in the public interest.

E. Future Studies

173. The Government proposes that the Commission undertake two studies within its four-year mandate for use during the next Quadrennial Commission process: (1) a preappointment income study; and (2) a quality of life study. This would ensure that the next Commission and the principal parties have this relevant evidence available to them from the outset of the process.

1. Pre-appointment Income Study

174. As fully explained in its preliminary submissions requesting this Commission to undertake a pre-appointment income study, the Government's view is that the evidence gathered from such a study would be relevant and probative to the Commission's broad inquiry into the adequacy of judicial compensation. In that respect, the Government repeats and relies on those submissions.¹⁸¹

175. In addition to undertaking a pre-appointment income study to inform its inquiry during this process, the Government proposes that during its tenure, the Commission also

¹⁷⁹ Judges Act, supra, s 43(2), Joint Book of Documents, Tab 24

¹⁸⁰ At this time the Government is aware of two active judges who would benefit from this amendment.

¹⁸¹ Submissions of the Government of Canada on the Proposal for a Pre-appointment Income Study, January 19, 2016, *supra*, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 28**

undertake a study to be used for the next process. It is proposed that the study would cover the ten-year period 2007-2017 for use by the 2019 Quadrennial Commission.

176. This approach would address the concerns raised by this Commission about "the delays attendant upon such a process" and asking for an extension of time. Such a prospective approach was proposed by the McLennan Commission it its recommendations for improvements to the commission process.¹⁸²

2. Quality of Life Study

177. The second proposed study is one that would examine the intangible aspects of judicial life that factor into applying for judicial appointment – a quality of life study. Successive Commissions have recognized that compensation is only one aspect that factors into making a decision to apply to the bench. Other considerations, such as the satisfaction from public service, the development of the law, a career change, a lifestyle change and collegial colleagues are a few examples of positive attributes. Commissions have also considered the weighty judicial responsibilities and challenges faced by those accepting judicial appointments, such as the growth in litigation and intensified public scrutiny of judicial decisions. Such as the growth in litigation and intensified public scrutiny of judicial decisions.

178. The judiciary's views on what these non-monetary considerations are and what role they may play in informing a decision to apply are essential. Without them, Commissions are left to speculate. With a view to gaining a more complete picture of judicial life, this Commission could oversee a study to identify, describe and perhaps even quantify the intangible advantages and disadvantages associated with judicial office. The findings would be available for consideration by the Commission and the principal parties during the next Commission process.

¹⁸² McLennan Commission Report, supra, pp 92-93, Joint Book of Documents, Tab 29

¹⁸³ Levitt Commission Report, *supra*, para 42, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab** 31. McLennan Commission Report, *ibid*, p 49

¹⁸⁴ Drouin Commission Report, *supra*, pp 10, 17, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 28**; McLennan Commission Report, *ibid*, p 5

179. A similar type of study was commissioned in the United Kingdom in 2005 and 2010. The study examined the motivating factors for accepting judicial appointment, looking at why judges accepted judicial appointment, as well as why lawyers would accept an appointment.¹⁸⁵

IV. CONCLUSION

180. Given the current salary levels and the significant value of the judicial annuity, the Government's position is that no changes to either judicial or prothonotary compensation are justified during the next four years. Annual indexation in accordance with the CPI will provide the required protection against erosion of judicial salaries due to the effect of inflation. Applying the forecasted CPI amounts to a 6.8% net increase over four years. On that basis, by 2019-20 the judicial salary would increase to \$329,500 and the prothonotaries' salaries would increase to \$250,400.

ALL OF WHICH IS RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

Dated at Ottawa, Ontario, this 29 day of February, 2016

Anne M./Turley Kirk G. Shannon

Department of Justice 500-50 O'Connor Street Ottawa, ON K1A 0H8

Tel: 613-670-6291 Fax: 613-954-1920

Counsel for the Government of Canada

¹⁸⁵ Block Commission Report, *supra*, para 69, **Joint Book of Documents**, **Tab 30**. Office of Manpower Economics, "Report on Surveys of Pre-appointment Earnings of Recently Appointed Judges and Earnings of Experienced Barristers", July, 2010, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 47**; Office of Manpower Economics, "Survey of Pre-appointment Earnings of Recently Appointed Judges and Earnings of Experienced Barristers", June, 2005, **Government's Book of Documents**, **Tab 48**

Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission Hearings

English Transcript on Monday, May 10, 2021



77 King Street West, Suite 2020 Toronto, Ontario M5K 1A1

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1	IN THE MATTER OF THE JUDGES ACT,	
2	R.S.C. 1985, c. J-1	
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7	2021 JUDICIAL COMPENSATION	
8	AND BENEFITS COMMISSION	
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17	This is the transcript of a Public Hearing,	
18	taken by Neesons Reporting, via Zoom virtual	
19	platform, on the 10th day of May, 2021	
20	commencing at 9:30 a.m.	
21		
22		
23	[All participants appearing virtually or	
24	telephonically.]	
25	REPORTED BY: Helen Martineau, CSR	

1	COMMISSION PA	N E L:
2	Mtre Martine Turcotte	Madam Chair
3		
4	Peter Griffin	Commissioner
5		
6	Margaret Bloodworth	Commissioner
7		
8		
9	PARTICIPANTS:	
10	Pierre Bienvenu	Canadian Superior
11	& Azim Hussain	Courts Judges
12	& Jean-Simon Schoenholz	Association
13	& Chief Justice	and the Canadian
14	Martel D. Popescul	Judicial Council
15		(The Judiciary)
16		
17		
18	Andrew K. Lokan	Federal Court
19		Prothonotaries
20		
21		
22	Christopher Rupar	Government of Canada
23	& Kirk Shannon	
24	& Samar Musallam	
25		

1	Chief Justice	Court Martial Appeal
2	Richard Bell	Court
3	& Eugene Meehan, Q.C.	
4	& Cory Giordano	
5		
6		
7	Justice Jacques	Independent Appellate
8	Chamberland	Judge
9		
10		
11	Brad Regehr	Canadian Bar
12	Indra Maharaj	Association
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       Upon commencing at 9:35 a.m.
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              MADAM CHAIR: Good morning.
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   welcome to the Judicial Compensation and
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   Benefits Commission. My name is Martine, I am
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   the Chair of this Commission.
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              This is Margaret Bloodworth.
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              MADAM COMMISSIONER: Good morning.
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   everyone.
              MADAM CHAIR: And I'd like to
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   introduce, as well, my colleague Peter Griffin.
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              MR. COMMISSIONER:
                                 Good morning.
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              MADAM CHAIR: I would like to start by
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   saying thank you very much for joining us today.
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   We have a very full agenda and I would like to
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   respect it because we have a very hard stop at
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   4:30 every afternoon otherwise we lose our
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   translators, so this is just a reminder.
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              And with that, I'd like to turn it
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   over to the representative of the judiciary.
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   And I would ask each party, when you start your
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   presentation if you could introduce yourself and
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   your colleagues that would be very helpful to
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        Thank you.
   us.
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                             Thank you, Madam Chair.
              MR. BIENVENU:
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   Good morning. It is an honour for me and my
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colleagues, Azim Hussain and Jean-Simon Schoenholz, to appear before you on behalf of the Canadian Superior Courts Judges Association and the Canadian Judicial Council. I would like to begin by thanking each of you, on behalf of the federal judiciary, for having accepted to serve on the Commission. I know that my friends Mr. Rupar, Mr. Shannon, all of their colleagues representing the government of Canada, as well as Mr. Lokan, representing the Federal Court of Prothonotaries, join me in acknowledging and commending the sense of public duty and commitment to judicial independence evidenced by your agreement to serve on the Commission.

As members of the Commission your names are added to a small group of renowned Canadians who, since the very first Quadrennial Commission in 1983 agreed to take part in this process and thus contribute to promoting judiciary independence and ensuring that the highest quality candidates make up the Canadian judiciary --

[AUDIO OF SPEAKER NOT COMING THROUGH]

1 -- by the landmark decision 2 of the Supreme Court of Canada in the PEI 3 reference. The Commission is no longer a 4 teenager and it is a sign of the maturity of the 5 Quadrennial process that both principal parties, 6 without consulting each other, chose to 7 re-appoint their respective nominees to the 8 previous inquiry. And in so doing the principal 9 parties expressed confidence not just in the two 10 Commission members concern, but indeed also in 11 the larger process over which the Commission 12 presides. 13 Now, at your invitation I would like 14 to introduce the representatives of the Canadian 15 Superior Court Judges Association and the 16 Canadian Judicial Council who are attending this 17 hearing, albeit, like all of us, virtually. 18 The Canadian Superior Courts Judges 19 Association is represented by its President, the 20 Honourable Thomas Cyr of the New Brunswick Court 21 of Queen's Bench, by its Treasurer The 22 Honourable Justice Michèle Monast from the 23 Superior Court of Quebec, by The Honourable 24 Chantal Chatelain also from the Superior Court 25 of Ouebec.

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[AUDIO OF SPEAKER NOT COMING THROUGH]

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By The Honourable Kristine Eidsvik of
The Alberta Court of Queen's Bench, a long
serving member of the association's Compensation
Committee who currently serves as Vice-Chair of
the committee. Also by The Honourable Lukasz
Granosik, The Superior Court of Quebec, and who
also serves --

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[AUDIO OF SPEAKER NOT COMING THROUGH]

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And last but not least, Stephanie Lockhart, who is executive director of the association.

the CJC. Justice Richard is Chief Justice of

Saskatchewan, and he too serves on the Council's

The Canadian Judicial Council is
represented by The Honourable David Jenkins of
the Prince Edward Island Court of Appeal, and
The Honourable Robert Richard of the
Saskatchewan Court of Appeal. Justice Jenkins
is Chief Justice of PEI and he is the Chair of
the Judicial Salaries and Benefits Committee of

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Salary and Benefits Committee.

Also in attendance, as a representative of the council, is The Honourable

Martel Popescul, Chief Justice of The Court of

⁵ Queen's Bench of Saskatchewan. Justice Popescul

chairs the Council's Trial Courts Committee, as

well as its Judicial Vacancies Working Group.

He will be making a brief statement this morning to relate his own experience, as well as that of many of his colleagues on the Council, with respect to trends in judicial recruitment.

Madam Chair, I know that many other justices are attending this hearing remotely, along with members of the general public, and to one and all we extend a warm welcome to these proceedings.

As counsel to the Association and Council our instructions have been to co-operate with the Government of Canada and the Commission, with the view to assist you, members of the Commission, in formulating recommendations to the government as it is your mandate to do under the Judges Act, and the applicable constitutional principles.

I take this opportunity to thank our

friends, Mr. Rupar, Mr. Shannon, Ms. Musallam and their colleagues from the government of Canada for their co-operation in this process, especially considering the strain that everyone has been working under during this once in a lifetime pandemic.

Now, the parties have filed extensive written submissions. I do not propose to go over this ground, but I'm confident that the Commission members are now familiar with this material.

What I propose to do instead is to address what we consider are the key issues arising from these submissions.

The Commission knows that the Association and Council's key submission is that the Commission should recommend that judicial salaries be increased by 2.3 percent as of April 1st, 2022, and April 1st, 2023, in addition to the annual adjustments based on the IAI, provided for in the Judges Act. The evidence relating to the compensation earned by the two key comparator groups provides objective support for these proposed increases.

Now, the impetus driving this proposed

recommendation is the Association and Council's serious concern, with worrying trends in judicial recruitment to federally-appointed judicial positions over the last decade, and the lack of interest on the part of many senior members of the Bar in an appointment to the bench.

Now, we've reproduced, in a condensed book of materials, to be cited in oral argument, extracts of documents to which I will refer in the course of my oral presentation. This was emailed to Commission members yesterday evening. Most of these documents are already in the record and the extracts are reproduced in the condensed book so that you don't have to look for them in the documentation.

[AUDIO OF SPEAKER NOT COMING THROUGH]

Let me outline what I propose to cover in oral argument. And I refer you, in this respect, to a document entitled "Outline of Oral Argument", which you will find under tab A of our condensed book. And you'll see it -- you're seeing it now displayed on the screen.

So I'll begin by saying a few words about the Commission's mandate, including the scope of its inquiry. I'll then turn to my main submission, which will be divided into two parts, first, the principle of continuity, and then substantive issues.

On substance I will begin by addressing the issue of prevailing economic conditions and the current financial position of the government. I will then address the government's proposal to cap the annual adjustments to judicial salaries based on the IAI, a proposal to which the judiciary is firmly opposed, and that we ask the Commission to reject.

I will thereafter speak to the salary recommendation that is being sought by the judiciary and point to the evidence, before the Commission, showing that there is a recruitment problem with meritorious potential candidates from the Bar. This is when I will invite Justice Popescul to describe to the Commission how, in his experience, this recruitment problem plays out in the real world.

As part of the discussion of the

judiciary's proposed salary recommendation, I will address the two key comparators that you are invited to consider, DM-3s and self-employed lawyers.

Within the discussion of self-employed lawyers I will address the issue of filters to be applied to the CRA data on income of self-employed lawyers.

I begin then with the Commission's mandate, which is to inquire into the adequacy of judicial salaries and benefits payable under the Judges Act, applying the statutory criteria set out in section 26 of the Act.

It is the judiciary's submission that in applying these criteria the Commission needs to build on the work of prior Commissions. The Commission must, of course, conduct its own independent inquiry based on the evidence placed before it, and other relevant prevailing circumstances. But the Commission ought not, as the government and its expert, Mr. Gorham, would have it, embark upon its inquiry as if it was working on a blank slate having to reinvent the wheel at every turn. Nor should the Commission approach the exercise without due consideration

1 for the accumulated wisdom and collective insight of the other distinguished individuals 3 who, have in the past, served on the Commission. 4 And that is a good segue into the 5 first topic I would like to address, namely the 6 principle of continuity and the unfortunate 7 pattern of relitigation of settled issues in 8 which we are invited to engage every four years 9 by the Government of Canada. And if my remarks 10 on that subject sound familiar to two members of 11 the Commission, well, that in itself militates 12 in favour of a robust adoption of continuity as 13 a quiding principle in the work of this 14 Commission. 15 Now, the Block Commission's 16 recommendation 14 and the Levitt Commission's 17 identical recommendation 10 formulate a 18 principle that applies irrespective of the 19 subject matter of any given recommendation. And 20 it is what the judiciary calls the principle of 21 continuity between successive Quadrennial 22 This recommendation reads as Commissions 23 follows: 24 "Where consensus has emerged 25 around a particular issue during a

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previous Commission inquiry, in the absence of demonstrated change such consensus be taken into account by the Commission and reflected in the submissions of the parties."

Now, consensus in this context does not mean that everyone agreed with the position, as the government has once argued, what it means is that once an issue has been fully aired, and a Commission has determined that issue, it cannot be addressed before subsequent Commissions as if the past finding or past practice did not exist. This is what we mean by "the principle of continuity".

Now, the value of continuity is so self-evident that one should not have to elaborate upon it. All boards, all Commissions, all tribunals, value and promote continuity by building on practices that build on past experience. The doctrine of precedent is rooted in the principle of continuity.

Madam Chair, members of the Commission, we say that as a question of principle, and in the absence of demonstrated changes, the Commission should refuse to

1 reconsider settled issues such as, to pick 2 examples to the submissions before you, the 3 relevance of DM-3 comparator. And by way of 4 another example, which filters should be used 5 when considering the CRA data relating to 6 self-employed lawyers' income, 75th percentile, 7 low income exclusion, 44 to 56 age range, and 8 consideration of large CMAs. From the 9 judiciary's perspective it is simply not open to 10 the Government of Canada to seek repeatedly to 11 relitigate these points. 12 Now, before the Rémillard Commission 13 the judiciary complained about the relitigation 14 of issues and also about the fact that for the 15 fourth time relitigation was being done relying 16 on the absence of --17 18 MUSIC COMING IN OVER THE CHANNEL AND 19 DROWNING OUT SPEAKER] 2.0 21 RECESSED AT 9:52 A.M. 22 RESUMED AT 10:01 A.M. 23 MR. BIENVENU: I believe we left off 24 when I was observing that even though the 25 government has changed experts it has not

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1 changed its approach. Looking at the government's -- at the report of the government's new expert, Mr. Gorham.

And, first of all, it is difficult to believe, I submit to you, that a single individual's expertise can be so wide ranging as to pretend to offer expert evidence about the concept of economic compensation, economic factors behind the IAI, valuation of the judicial annuity, CRA data and the filters applied to it and the compensation of Deputy Ministers.

Mr. Gorham even allows himself to speculate that private legal practitioners, whose remuneration places them at the top of the market, are mere business hustlers rather than accomplished jurists to which clients are willing to pay a premium for their advice and professional services.

We acknowledge that Mr. Gorham can be recognized as an expert in actuarial science, and even then we submit that his analysis ought to have been guided by the Commission's precedents and past practice, which it was not. However, Mr. Gorham's report, if it is presented as expert evidence, requires an expertise that goes well beyond actuarial science. Mr. Gorham also wears the hat of economist, compensation specialist and accountant. Consider the fact that the judiciary needed no less than five experts to be able to address in reply --

[MUSIC COMING IN OVER THE CHANNEL AND DROWNING OUT SPEAKER]

MR. BIENVENU: So I was observing that a measure of the scope of the evidence offered by Mr. Gorham is the number of experts that the judiciary had to turn to in order, responsibly, to respond to Mr. Gorham's evidence. And I'll just mention them: Professor Hyatt, an economist; Messrs. Leblanc and Pickler, two accountants and tax specialists; Ms. Haydon, a compensation specialist; and, Mr. Newell, an actuary. And that, I submit to you, in and of itself speaks to the nature of the opinion evidence contained in the government's expert report.

This report, I respectfully submit, is more an advocacy submission in its own right,

and a muscular one at that, rather than the opinion of an independent expert.

Now, of particular concern, so far as the relitigation of issues is concerned, is the government's attempt to undermine the DM-3 comparator in the salary determination process, and the objectivity provided by the application of this long-standing comparator. And I'll have more to say about this later.

Even more troubling, in our submission, is the government's attempt to revisit the IAI as if the issue had not been canvassed by the Levitt and Rémillard Commission. You will recall that the government asked the Levitt Commission for a recommendation to cap the IAI. It asked the Rémillard Commission to replace the IAI with the Consumer Price Index, the CPI. Both Commissions refused and quoted from various sources to demonstrate the deep roots of the IAI as a source of protection against the erosion of the judicial salary.

Now the government is attacking the IAI once again before this Commission, reverting back to the approach adopted before the Levitt

Commission by advocating for a lower cap than the cap already included in the Judges Act.

To conclude on relitigation, we invite the Commission to be as firm as the Block,
Levitt and Rémillard Commissions have been and to say enough is enough. Part of the rules of engagement in a process such as this one is that due consideration must be given to the work of past Commissions, and that absent demonstrated changes past findings should not be relitigated but should be incorporated in the parties' submissions.

And with the greatest respect, finding an expert willing to contradict 20 years of Commission practices and findings is not a license to disregard settled issues.

Now, the government has also put forward Mr. Szekely in support of its argument in favour of more comparators. However, the government does not make the case for a widening of the comparator group, nor does it seek to justify the choice of the proposed additional comparators, or the reliability of the data provided as comparison.

Now, members of the Commission, I want

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to be very clear, the judiciary is not opposed to a party bringing fresh water to the well, however, this must serve to enrich the Commission's analysis, taking into account its past pronouncements not to seek to dilute existing comparators.

And take the issue of judges' salaries in other jurisdictions. The judiciary itself presented evidence before the Drouin Commission about judicial salaries in the exact same foreign jurisdictions as those canvassed by Mr. Szekely. And what the Drouin Commission had to say about this evidence is reproduced in your condensed book, and you see it displayed on the screen now. And it's worth reading an extract of it together:

"The utility and reliability of comparisons between judicial salaries in other jurisdictions and those in this country are questionable on the basis of the information now available to us. This is so, in our view, because of variations between economic and social conditions in Canada and the other identified jurisdictions,

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fluctuating exchange rates,
significantly different income tax
structures, different costs of living
and the absence of information
concerning the retirement benefits of
judges in the other identified
jurisdictions."

Now, the judiciary took note of these requirements and it has refrained from adducing that kind of evidence, again simply because it could not satisfy the requirements set out by the Commission.

The evidence contained in Mr. Szekely's report about the salaries of foreign judges is being placed before you without these safeguards that the Drouin Commission said were required for any comparison to be meaningful and reliable. Mr. Szekely provides no information about the comparability of functions and responsibilities between the jurisdictions canvassed in his report, and he omits relevant information about nonsalaried benefits enjoyed by some of these foreign judges.

For example, he does not mention the

fact that U.S. federal judges are entitled to their full salary after retirement, nor that federally-appointed Australian judges enjoy a car with driver service and a private vehicle allowance. And because such key information is missing from Mr. Szekely's evidence it is of very little assistance to the Commission.

But in any event, even taken at face value, the take-away from Mr. Szekely's report is that the Canadian judiciary is paid substantially less than those holding equivalent judicial functions in Australia and New Zealand. And as for the United Kingdom and the United States, it is well-known that these two jurisdictions face alarming problems in seeking to attract senior practitioners to the bench.

So having discussed the need for continuity in the analytical tools used by the Commission I now turn to the substantive issues which, as I mentioned, are framed by the statutory criteria that the Commission must consider, prevailing economic conditions, the role of financial security in ensuring judicial independence and the need to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary.

Now, the criteria I will be concentrating on in oral argument are prevailing economic conditions in Canada, including the current fiscal position of the government and, secondly, the need to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary.

And let me jump right in then and address a subject that is a subject matter that you will need to address and, therefore, that must be on your minds, COVID-19.

Members of the Commission, the pandemic has upended everyone's lives. Untold lives have been lost and livelihoods have been impaired and many lost. These are a given and they are terrible losses. The Canadian judiciary has risen to the challenges posed by the pandemic. And, reacting nimbly, has ensured that our justice system, a key institution in maintaining the fabric of Canadian society, continued to function and do what it is tasked to do, resolve disputes fairly, definitively, and peacefully; and in so doing instill confidence in our public institutions.

Now, more than one year after the lockdown of March 2020, and the initial doomsday

economic forecasts, we are today better able to take stock of the prevailing economic conditions in Canada and of the financial position of the Canadian government.

To assist the Commission in its analysis of this factor the judiciary's expert economist, Professor Doug Hyatt, has submitted two expert reports. Professor Hyatt is a renowned economist at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management and Centre for Industrial Relations. It is the second time that he submits a report to the Commission, having also contributed to the inquiry of the Rémillard Commission.

In his first report, which Commission members will find at tab C of our condensed book, Professor Hyatt makes an important distinction, at page 3, between temporary fiscal deficits and structural deficits. He refers to the pandemic as an "exogenous shock" which has led to near term deficits that, and I quote, "will be eliminated when the pandemic has dissipated".

Now, the description by Professor

Hyatt is not his own but rather is taken from

1 the government's 2020 Fall Economic Statement. 2 And it is relying on that statement that 3 Professor Hyatt points out that, and I quote: 4 "If exogenous fiscal shock 5 brought about by the pandemic should, 6 therefore, not be treated in the same 7 way as shocks that create permanent irreversible structural damage to the economy." 10 He goes on to say: 11 "The cost of responding to a 12 'once-in-a-century' shock should 13 properly be addressed by amortizing 14 the cost of the shock over time and 15 not by offsetting reductions to 16 otherwise normal Government 17 expenditures[...]. Such actions would 18 be self-defeating to the goal of 19 future economic growth." 2.0 It is also important to keep in mind 21 the distinction between the financial position 22 of the government, on the one hand, and 23 prevailing economic conditions in Canada on the 24 Section 26(1.1)(a) makes that other.

distinction and Professor Hyatt addresses it.

In his second report, attached as tab D to your condensed book, Professor Hyatt reviews the 2021 budget. And he points out that its GDP projection for 2021 is more favourable than the projection in the November 2020 economic statement. The projected increase is now 5.8 percent, up from 4.8 percent last November. This is at page 3 of his second report.

So the picture that has emerged, members of the Commission, as confirmed by the budget, is that the economy is recovering in a very strong way and the forecast is that the recovery will be robust. And this evidence establishes that the prevailing economic conditions do not stand as an obstacle to the judiciary's proposed increase.

Now, we say that the financial position of the government does not stand as an obstacle to the proposed salary increase either. And this is evidenced by the fact that the government's own budget, tabled a month ago, was not an austerity budget, as observed by Professor Hyatt in his second report. It's on page 4. This is also relevant, members of the

Commission, to the issue of the government's proposed cap on the application of the IAI to adjust judicial salaries. And this is the issue to which I would like now to turn.

So the government's proposal is that there should be a cumulative 10 percent cap on the IAI applied over the course of a four-year period. Now I'll get back to the question of which four-year period is being referred to by the government? But, first, I need to provide context by reviewing the recent history of the government's attempt to undermine this crucial feature of judicial compensation, and I refer to that in the introduction.

You know that the indexation of judicial salaries, based on the IAI, has been in place since 1981. And today we are witness to the third attack by the government in as many Commission cycles on the IAI as a factor for the annual adjustments of salaries.

Before the Levitt Commission the government proposed an annual cap of 1.5 percent, resulting in a capped net increase of 6.1 percent over the quadrennial period. The Levitt Commission rejected this and said that

1 the IAI was, and I quote: 2. "[...] a key element in the 3 architecture of the legislative scheme 4 for fixing judicial remuneration." 5 And the Commission added that it 6 should not be likely tampered with. 7 The government tried another angle 8 before the Rémillard Commission. Then it. 9 proposed a complete replacement of the IAI by 10 the CPI, and this too was rejected by a 11 Commission that reiterated the Levitt 12 Commission's strong defence of the IAI. 13 the government seeks to underline the IAI by 14 proposing a cumulative cap of 10 percent. 15 Now, before I explain why the 16 judiciary invites the Commission to reject this 17 proposal, it is useful to recall why the IAI 18 annual adjustments are so important to the 19 scheme for fixing judicial compensation. 2.0 Annual adjustments to judicial 21 salaries based on the IAI have been described by 22 the Scott Commission, in 1996, as part of the 23 social contract between the government and the 24 judiciary. find the relevant extract in our 25 condensed book at tab H. And I'll read only a

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short extract of the relevant passage:

"The provisions of s. 25 of the Act are reflective of much more than a mere indexing of judges' salaries. They are, more specifically, a statutory mechanism for ensuring that there will be, to the extent possible, a constant relationship, in terms of degree, between judges' salaries and the incomes of those members of the Bar most suited in experience and ability for appointment to the Bench. The importance of the maintenance of this constant cannot be overstated. It represents, in effect, a social contract between the state and the judiciary."

The enduring value of the statutory indexation mechanism, based on the IAI, lies in the fact that it is apolitical in character. It exists since 1981, it is automatic, it reflects inflation and productivity gains and it has a predetermined cap.

Members of the Commission, this is something that both parties should want to

1 preserve as a single accomplishment in the 2 relationship between the judiciary and the 3 legislative and executive branches, so far as 4 Parliaments' obligation to fix salaries is 5 concerned. 6 Now, with this background in mind 7 let's look at what the government is proposing. 8 And I begin with what might seem to be a 9 technical point but it is very much substantive. 10 The government refers to the years 2021, 2022, 11 2023 and 2024 as the relevant years for counting 12 the IAI adjustments that would lead to the 13 10 percent cap. 14 If you look at the table on page 13 of 15 the government's submission, it's displayed on 16 the screen, the right-most column shows the 17 projected IAI. However, the figure isn't 18 applied in the year indicated in the left-most 19 Rather, it is applied in the subsequent 20 year. And this is explained in footnote 36 on 21 that page, which reads as follows: 22 "Projected IAI for the row year 23 (i.e. 6.7 % is the projected value of 24 IAI for 2020 which will be used to 25 calculate salary increases effective

April 1, 2021)."

So since the IAI figure actually applies for the next year, it means that the government is proposing that its cap calculation begins as of April 1st, 2021, and go through April 4th, 2024, and that's the zero percent that you see in the right-hand column on the fourth line, and that figure would apply on April 1st, 2024. But the problem is that April 1st, 2024, is the first year of the reference period for the next Commission.

Your reference period begins

April 1st, 2020, because that's when the reference period of the Rémillard Commission ended. And since your reference period begins

April 1st, 2020, a period of four fiscal years, means that it ends March 31st, 2024. That is the quadrennial reference period covered by your inquiry.

So under the government's proposal, either the government is ignoring the year of April 1st, 2020, to March 31st, 2021, or it is including a fifth year, April 1st, 2024, to March 31st, 2025. Either way, it's a period that is not consistent with the Judges Act and

it has obvious constitutional implications. 1 2. Now, if the 10 percent cap is applied 3 to the four-year period over which this 4 Commission has jurisdiction, the cap would 5 reduce the adjustment in the third year from the 6 projected 2.1 percent to 0.5 percent. You see 7 that in the third column and it would eliminate 8 the adjustment in the fourth year. 9 I now turn to the substance of the 10 proposed -- the proposal to cap the IAI. And in 11 that respect, the government states that: 12 "[...] the judiciary must 13 shoulder their share of the burden in 14 difficult economic times." 15 And in support of this, the government 16 cites the PEI reference and the Supreme Court's 17 statement in that case that: 18 "Nothing would be more damaging 19 to the reputation of the judiciary and 2.0 the administration of justice than a 2.1 perception that judges were not 22 shouldering their share of the burden 23 in difficult economic times." 24 That's at paragraph 196 of the PEI 25 reference.

Now, what gets out of the government's invocation of the PEI reference is the fact that the Supreme Court, when using the language relied upon by the government, was specifically referring to deficit reduction policies of general application.

If everyone paid from the federal public purse were in fact faced with freezes or reductions in compensation and benefits, but judges were exempt from this, judges could indeed be said not to be shouldering their share of the burden. But there is no burden to be shouldered by persons paid from the public purse at the present time.

The government is actually doing the opposite. The government is engaging in stimulus spending as part of its plan of economic recovery. So we say that it is jarringly incongruous in such a context to argue that the judiciary should bear a reduction in the statutory indexation mechanism, which, as I've said, is considered an essential component of the statutory scheme relating to judicial compensation.

Now, you've read that the judiciary --

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1 the government's proposal seems to be motivated 2 by the relatively high IAI that applied on 3 April 1st, 2021, which was the amount of 6.6 percent. This figure is considered to be 4 5 the result of the so-called compositional effect 6 of the pandemic. Namely the fact that with the 7 dropping off of a large segment of low-earning 8 workers, the resulting increased proportion of 9 high-earning workers caused an upward push on 10 the IAI. 11

Now, Professor Hyatt explains in his second report that there is a self-correcting aspect to this compositional effect. There will be downward pressure on the IAI as low-income workers resume employment. You'll see that at page 7 of his second report. And this downward pressure could continue for years. And you'll note, members of the Commission, that the government itself appears to acknowledge this self-correcting feature in its March 21 submission when it argues, as a selling point for a newly proposed floor to the IAI adjustment, that it is possible that there will be a negative IAI during the next four years. It's written right there in paragraph 4:

1 "These unpredictable [...] 2. circumstances may also result in a 3 negative IAI [...] in the near 4 future." 5 So if a negative IAI is to be posited, 6 it can only be the result of this 7 self-correcting phenomenon when low-earning 8 workers re-enter the labour market and, in so 9 doing, exert a downward pressure on the IAI. 10 Now, it should also be pointed out, 11 and this is very important, that Parliament has 12 already turned its mind to what would be an 13 appropriate cap to the annual adjustment to 14 judicial salaries. Parliament decided that a 15 cap of 7 percent to the annual IAI adjustment 16 was reasonable. Now, 6.6 percent is less than 17 7 percent. Parliament did not provide for any 18 exclusionary factors in the Judges Act that 19 would call for a derogation from that 7 percent 20 cap. 21 And please note that, in a way, the 22 proposed cumulative 10 percent cap is an 23 attempt, indirectly and retroactively, to modify 24 the annual 7 percent cap by clawing back what

the government seems to think was too large an

adjustment.

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Now, a final point about the IAI. The government states at paragraph 16 of its reply submissions that the judiciary is suggesting that:

"[...] it has suffered a loss because actual IAI rates have been lower than the IAI projections used by successive Quadrennial Commissions."

The government cites paragraph 75 to 80 and 117 and 118 of our March 29 submission as support for this assertion. The assertion is incorrect. The judiciary did not and does not characterize the gap between projected and actual IAI as a loss.

What the judiciary did describe as a loss is the consequence in terms of lost salary increases of the failure of the government to implement the McLennan Commission's salary recommendation and later the Block Commission's salary recommendation. That did result in a loss and it was properly described as such in our submission.

The gap between projected and actual IAI is significant, but on a different plain.

1 It is significant because the Rémillard 2 Commission included in its reasoning, on the 3 adequacy of judicial salaries, the IAI figures 4 that were projected at the time. And since the 5 actual IAI figures turned out to be much lower 6 than the projections, from 2.2 to 0.4 in 2017, 7 the question arises as to whether the Rémillard 8 Commission would have considered the judicial 9 salary to be adequate in light of the actual 10 figure. That observation was made in paragraph 11 80 of our March submission and it does not 12 contain the word "loss". 13 Now, I leave the topic of the IAI and 14 move to the topic of the proposed increase to 15 the judicial salary. I noted in the 16 introduction that we propose an increase of 17 2.3 percent on each of April 1st, 2022 and 2023. 18 Those are the last two years of this 19 Commission's reference period. And the regular 20 IAI adjustments under that proposal would 21 continue to apply each year. 22 Now, you must approach this proposal 23 in its proper historical context. The last 24 increase to the judicial salary, outside of the 25 annual adjustments based on the IAI, was in

¹ 2004.

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You might recall from the historical overview in our main submission that the McLennan Commission issued its recommendation in 2004. The government initially accepted the recommendation, but then when a different party was elected to form the government, a second response was issued varying the first response and rejecting the salary recommendation of the McLennan Commission.

In 2006 what this new government did was impose the lower increase that it had proposed before the McLennan Commission, retroactive to 2004. But my point here is that in spite of the Block Commission's recommendation for a salary increase, judicial salaries were only adjusted since 2004 based on the IAI.

Now, I mentioned the earlier the statutory responsibility of the Commission, being to inquire into the adequacy of judicial salary benefits using, as a framework, the factors listed in subsection 26.1.1. And these factors must be balanced and none of the three enumerated factors obviously can trump the

others.

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Now, I want to highlight the fact that there are constraints inherent to some of the concepts used in subsection 26.1, and there are duties arising from the objectives that these factors serve to attain. And let me try to illustrate the point with two examples. second factor is the role of financial security in ensuring judicial independence. I believe it's always been common ground between the parties that there flows, from the nature of the second factor, a hard constraint on the Commission. Judicial salaries can never be allowed to fall to a level that would undermine financial security and thus threaten judicial independence. Now, I give this by way of example, not to suggest that we find ourselves in such circumstances.

My second example is the third factor, the need to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary. You have read in our March submission that, in our view, there arises from the third factor a duty that we have characterized as a duty of vigilance. We say that in order to preserve the quality of

Canada's judiciary, the Commission must make recommendations designed to preserve Canada's ability to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary.

Now, in weighing that factor, the Commission must consider the consequences of missing the mark. Judicial salaries, by their nature, cannot be quickly adjusted. One can quickly adjust the proposed salary of the CFO of a company if one's recruitment efforts to fill the position are unsuccessful.

In contrast, adjustments to judicial salaries must result from a recommendation of this Commission, which only meets every four years, and any corrective measure takes time implement through legislation, assuming the recommendation is accepted by the government.

So between the time you are confronted with a recruitment problem and the time that having realized that corrective measures are required, those measures are first recommended by the Commission and then hopefully implemented by the government, years will go by. Years.

Years during which vacancies will arise and an insufficient number of meritorious candidates

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will be available to fill them. And in that sense, it can be said that adjusting judicial salaries is a little bit like correcting the course of an ocean liner. You cannot do it on a dime. It takes time. And what this Commission must bear in mind is that real, long-lasting damage can be caused to Canada's judiciary until the correct -- or the corrected salary incentive is recommended and implemented.

Now, why do I say all this? I say all this because the evidence before this Commission shows that there is a recruitment problem. see it in the table on applications for appointment, which is tab 20 of volume 2 of the joint book of documents, where the proportion of highly recommended candidates in some provinces is extremely low. And when that is combined with the fact that there is a downward trend in appointments from private practice over the past 15 years, you see it displayed on the screen, you get a picture revealing a declining interest in the Bench on the part of the private Bar. And that, members of the Commission, is a source of real concern for the association and council. And we thought it might be helpful to

the Commission if a senior representative of the judiciary were invited to appear before you to describe the reality that lies behind these numbers. And so as announced in our March 29 submission, we are joined by The Honourable Martel Popescul, whom I've introduced at the outset. And Justice Popescul has a brief statement to make, and he will remain available if the Commission has questions at the end of my oral submissions.

So Justice Popescul?

Chair, members of the Commission. My name is
Martel Popescul and I am the Chief Justice of
the Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan. It
is an honour for me to appear before the
Commission as a representative of the Canadian
Judicial Council, and I hope my presentation
today will be of some assistance to you. My aim
is to share my direct experience of what I and
many of my colleagues on the CJC view as a
worrying trend in judicial recruitment over the
last decade or so. These trends raise concerns
and are of direct relevance to one of the
factors listed at section 26.1.1 of the Judges

Act, namely the need to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary.

I speak to the issue of recruitment as someone who has had the privilege to engage with judicial recruitment from various perspectives.

I was appointed to the Court of
Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan in 2006. Prior
to my appointment, I served as the President of
the Law Society of Saskatchewan from 2001 to
2002. During this time, I sat on the Provincial
Court Judicial Council as the Law Society's
representative. In that capacity, I considered
and provided input on candidates considered for
appointment to the provincial Bench.

After my appointment to the Court of Queen's Bench, I was appointed the Chair of Saskatchewan's Judicial Advisory Committee in 2010. Judicial advisory committees, sometimes referred to as JACs, have the responsibility of assessing the qualifications for appointment of lawyers and provincial and territorial judges who apply for a federally appointed judicial position. There is at least one JAC in one province and territory.

In this capacity, I reviewed the

applications of each candidate for appointment to the Court of Queen's Bench, which also includes the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal and Saskatchewan applicant's seeking appointment to the Federal Court for the Federal Court of Appeal.

I chaired the Saskatchewan Judicial Advisory Committee for five years until 2014. It is during that period of time that I was appointed Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan in 2012. In this role, I have been intimately involved in considering each potential appointee to our court, something I will discuss in greater detail later on. As Chief Justice, I have also been involved in the review of the applications of all lawyers who apply for appointment to the provincial court in our province.

In other words, for over a decade,
I've observed trends in judicial recruitment in
both the provincial court and the Court of
Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan.

As Chief Justice, my experience with judicial recruitment issues extends beyond Saskatchewan. In addition to regularly engaging

with my CJC colleagues on these issues, I chair the CJC's Trial Courts Committee, which brings together Chief Justices and Associate Chief Justices of each trial court across Canada. In this capacity, I regularly discuss issues of judicial vacancies and judicial recruitments with my fellow Chief Justices.

A key concern for the CJCs Trial
Courts Committee has been judicial vacancies.
In September of 2020, the Trial Courts Committee
proposed to the leadership of the CJC the
creation of a working group dedicated to
considering the causes of judicial vacancies,
which are endemic in many courts and to propose
solutions to the problem. I've acted as Chair
of the CJC's Judicial Vacancy Working Group
since its inception.

The statement I have prepared for the Commission is meant to reflect my observations from over 10 years of engagement on issues of judicial recruitment at the local and national level, as well as my discussions with my CJC colleagues across Canada.

I've observed, as have most of my colleagues on the CJC, a reduction in the pool

of applicants from private practice, the traditional source of candidates for the Bench. Outstanding private practitioners, many of whom distinguish themselves as leaders of the profession, have previously seen a judicial appointment to one of Canada's Superior Courts as the crowning achievement of an outstanding career.

However, many are increasingly uninterested in seeking appointment to the Bench. A large and growing number of leading practitioners no longer see a judicial appointment, with all its responsibilities and benefits, as being worthy of the increasing significant reduction in income.

This is a concerning trend and one I respectfully submit which should be of concern to this Commission. To be clear, neither I nor my CJC colleagues are questioning the quality of recent appointments to the Bench, nor do we call into question the fact that outstanding candidates can come from all types of legal careers and areas of practice. What I'm concerned about is the future and whether the current trend of a shrinking pool of outstanding

candidates will translate into a chronic inability to attract outstanding candidates from private practice, including those practicing in metropolitan areas or in larger firms.

It used to be the case that applicants regularly included leaders of the Bar from both the private and public sectors. Increasingly, the applicant pool does not include senior litigators from private practice. A good part of the reason for that lack of interest is a combination of the workload of Superior Court judges and the perceived lack of commensurate pay for that work.

Since my appointment as Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan, I often find myself having to actively seek out outstanding lawyers to convince them to apply for vacancies at our court. I must say that this was a role I had not anticipated I would need to play, but such is the current state of affairs.

The CJC's Judicial Vacancies Working
Group has identified two root causes for
vacancies endemic to our judicial system.
First, there appears to be a lack of urgency on

the part of the government in filling judicial positions as they become vacant. Second, and most relevant for our purposes today, there is often a reduced range of outstanding candidates in the applicant pool.

I have, as part of my role as Chief Justice, actively communicated on multiple occasions with senior lawyers and even provincial court judges, who my colleagues and I believe would be outstanding and diverse candidates for appointment to the Bench.

I've been unable to persuade many of these perspective candidates to apply despite my best efforts. They have shared a common narrative with me. The benefits of judicial appointment, including the judicial annuity, are increasingly perceived as not outweighing the demands imposed on federally appointed judges and the significant and increasingly reduction in income that lawyers in private practice must be willing to accept.

In particular, many perspective candidates are aware of the significant workload, travel demands, loss of autonomy, and increased public scrutiny imposed on federally

appointed judges. When viewed in light of the significant reduction in income they must accept, many candidates have expressed a lack of interest in seeking appointment.

In my experience, these issues are less pronounced amongst public sector lawyers who generally receive a significant pay increase upon appointment.

I want to emphasize that this trend that I have personally witnessed is found in Saskatchewan, which does not even have one of the top 10 CMAs. In other words, the market for legal services in this relatively small jurisdiction is such that leading practitioners can still earn much more than the judicial salary such that judicial salaries is unattractive when considered in light of the workload that federally appointed judges must take on.

That lawyers in private practice seeking appointment to the Bench accept a reduction in income is not new. This reduction has, however, become increasingly significant as is clear from my discussions with perspective candidates, as well as my colleagues at the CJC.

Outstanding candidates from private practice are increasingly unwilling to accept such a significant reduction in income in exchange for what is perceived as increasingly demanding judicial functions.

As a result, in my experience, many outstanding candidates who I would view as ideally suited for appointment to the Court of Queen's Bench are simply not interested in judicial appointment.

I also note that recruitment from the provincial Bench has become more difficult in some provinces where the gap between salaries of provincial judges and federally appointed judges are narrowing. For example, in Saskatchewan, provincial judges are paid 95 percent of the salary of federally appointed judges, while their workload is significantly less than Superior Court judges.

Now, I say this not to be disrespectful to my colleagues in the provincial court, however, the reality is, based upon concordant comments made to me by judges who have been elevated from provincial court to our court, that the complexity and the time required

to fulfill the requirements of a judge of the Court of Queen's Bench is significantly greater than they had experienced on the provincial court.

I've reviewed the appointment statistics provided by the office of the Commissioner for Judicial Affairs. In my view, based upon the experience in my own province, the decreasing proportion of appointments from private practice, the small pool of highly recommended candidates in certain regions, and the high proportion of not-recommended candidates, are reflective of the trends I have observed, namely, that outstanding candidates from private practice are applying much less frequently.

Again, and I underscore, this is not meant to cast doubt on the merit of our recent appointments. Rather, the concern is whether, given that we are already seeing a shrinking pool of quality candidates for judicial appointments from private practice, we will continue to be able to have a large enough pool of highly recommended applicants tomorrow and into the future.

1 In preparing to make this submission 2 to the Commission, I have spoken to a number of 3 my colleagues at the CJC. Many of them have 4 shared similar stories, confirming the trends I 5 have described. Of note, these trends are of 6 particular concern in some of the larger 7 metropolitan regions where the disparity between 8 the incomes of lawyers in private practice and 9 the judiciary salary is particularly 10 significant. From my discussions with my CJC 11 colleagues, I know that such concerns exist in 12 places such as Halifax, Edmonton, Calgary and 13 Vancouver, to be specific. 14 Again, I thank you very much for 15 listening to me and I am prepared to attempt to 16 answer any questions that you may have. 17 again, thank you very much for your time. 18 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much, 19 Justice Popescul. 20 Mr. Bienvenu, if you want us to wait 21 till the end or ask questions now, whichever you 22 prefer and Justice Popescul prefers. 23 MR. BIENVENU: My suggestion would be 24 to wait to the end. 25 MADAM CHAIR: Perfect.

1 You appear to manage MR. BIENVENU: 2 the clock, as it were, but I trust that I will 3 be allowed to spill over a little bit because of 4 the time --5 Yes, we will. MADAM CHAIR: 6 Members of the MR. BIENVENU: 7 Commission, never before has a member of the CJC 8 appeared before a Quadrennial Commission in 9 connection with the recommendations to be made 10 by the Commission concerning judicial salaries. 11 And Justice Popescul's appearance reflects the 12 association and Council's deep concern about the 13 negative trends in recruitment described in the 14 judiciary's written submissions. 15 Career dynamics in the profession are 16 such that if a compensation disincentive sets in 17 as an obstacle to lawyers in private practice 18 being attracted to the Bench, it will be like 19 turning an ocean liner to try to correct that 20 disincentive. And you see clear evidence of that 21 22 phenomenon in other jurisdictions like the U.S. 23 and the U.K. And we can be thankful to 24 Mr. Szekely for bringing our attention to these

jurisdictions, both of which vividly illustrate

the problems that can arise when judicial compensation issues are not addressed in a timely manner.

Now, we've demonstrated in our written submissions that the salary increase that is being sought by the judiciary is supported by both the DM-3 comparator and the private sector comparator. Nevertheless, we are once more faced with familiar objections to your reliance on these comparators, and it is to those government objections that I would now like to turn, beginning with the DM-3 comparator.

And as regard to the DM-3 comparator, I have two points to make. One is to draw attention to the Government's attempt to water down the DM-3 comparator. Second is the need for the Commission to accept to use average compensation as a measure of the compensation of DM-3s, because of recent changes in the manner in which DM-3s are remunerated.

Members of the Commission, believe it or not, the government argues that DM-3 compensation, "is not itself a comparator," but only one factor among many in the Commission's consideration of "public sector compensation

trends". You will find this in the government's submission in paragraph 51.

Now, this submission I say, respectfully, defies reality as evidenced by nearly 40 years of triennial and Quadrennial Commission reports. So I'll limit myself to saying that the government's attempt to replace the DM-3 comparator with some undefined "public sector compensation trends" contradicts past positions of the government, contradicts the considered opinion of successive triennial and Quadrennial Commissions, would break with the longstanding practice rooted in principle, and would undermine objectivity.

Now, we've provided extensive references to the various Commission reports endorsing the use of the DM-3 comparator and rejecting the government's proposed focus on public sector compensation trends. The record is so clear that it would be a waste of your time to try to demonstrate this once again.

I will reiterate that the sui generis nature of the judicial role does not lend itself to comparison with broad and undefined categories of comparators and this would

undermine the role of the DM-3 group as an anchor point. Doing so would remove a constant that creates objectivity for the Commission's inquiry, as Ms. Haydon rightly points out in her expert evidence. In fact, the sui generis nature of the judicial role makes it all the more important for this Commission to rely on a principled, objective, comparator such as the DM-3 comparator.

That DM-3 comparator is important because it reflects, as you know, what the government is prepared to pay its most senior employees. And its relevance, as compared to the private sector comparator, comes precisely from the fact that it reflects the salary level, not of outstanding individuals who've elected to work in the private sector and perhaps seek to maximize the financial reward they can derive from their work, but of outstanding individuals who have opted, instead, for public service. Like lawyers who accept an appointment to the Bench.

If you accept to dilute the DM-3 comparator as the public sector comparator by considering a host of other unprincipled

comparators, you will set yourself adrift in comparative exercise.

Now, as part of its argument seeking to undermine the DM-3 comparator, the government again refers to the differences in size, tenure, and form of compensation as between DM-3s and judges. I believe we've addressed this fully in our reply and I say only that these arguments have no more merit today than the same arguments had 4 years ago, 8 years ago, 12 years ago or 16 years ago.

The second point I wish to address with respect to the DM-3 comparators is the judiciary's reliance on the total average compensation of DM-3s. Now, in its reply, the government characterizes this approach as an attempt to measure judicial salaries, "against a different and higher benchmark."

Now, in articulating its objection to the judiciary's reliance on average compensation, the government conflates the comparator with the measure of compensation of that comparator. The comparator is the DM-3. The compensation measure is, for example, the midpoint salary range or the average

compensation. And historically, the measure -or determining the measure of compensation has
required past Commissions to decide, for
example, whether to include at-risk pay. And
having concluded that at-risk pay must be
concluded, how should it be factored in to the
compensation measure.

And by the way, the same distinction exists between self-employed lawyers, which is the private sector comparator, and the measure of compensation for that comparator, which is derived from the CRA data applying the various filters and deciding at which percentile you will find the appropriate compensation measure.

Now, I mention this distinction because it provides a complete answer to the suggestion that by inviting reconsideration of the compensation measure, the judiciary is putting into question the value of the comparator. The two are two completely separate questions.

Now, the reason why the Commission must henceforth look at average compensation is a simple one and it is there for anyone to see. Since 2017, for a reason that the government has

1 failed to explain, there has been an 2 unprecedented flatlining of the DM-3 salary 3 range and consequently of the block comparator. 4 And that is so in spite of the fact that between 5 2017 and 2019, the last three years for which data is available, the actual compensation of 6 7 DM-3s has increased year-over-year. 8 Now, in 2016, the Rémillard Commission 9 reaffirmed the use of the block comparator on 10 the basis that previous Commissions had used the 11 DM-3 reference point: 12 "as an objective, consistent 13 measure of year over year changes in 14 DM-3 compensation policy." 15 Well, this simply is no longer the 16 case because, in reality, the actual total 17 average compensation of DM-3s has, as a matter 18 of fact, increased year-over-year since 2007. 19 So if you look at tab J, you see that 20 between 2017 and 2019 alone, DM-3 total average 21 compensation has increased by more than \$20,000. 22 So clearly the stagnant block comparator can no 23 longer act as a reliable proxy for the actual 24 compensation of DM-3s and thus play its 25 intended role.

Now, I refer back to the Block Commission's rationale for favouring the block comparator over the DM-3 total average compensation. It's at paragraph 106 of the Block report and it includes the following caveat:

"Average salary and performance pay may be used to demonstrate that judges' salaries do retain a relationship to actual compensation of DM-3s."

So what the past four years demonstrate is that in order for judges' salary to retain a relationship with the actual compensation of DM-3s, you have to look at average compensation. Now, the government has not responded to this point, but clearly, in our submission, this is a demonstrated change that requires the Commission to reevaluate the appropriate measure for the DM-3 comparator.

Now, this brings me to the graph at paragraph 40 of the government's reply. And you have -- so I'm at tab M. So this is meant to impress upon you the seemingly large difference between the total average compensation of DM-3s

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and the block comparator.

Now, members of the Commission, I invite each of you to put a big question mark in the margin next to that graph because that graph is not a graph that can be relied upon. First, the DM-3 total average compensation shown on that graph is inaccurate. It has been grossed up by the assertive net value of a Deputy Minister's pension calculated at 11 percent by Mr. Gorham. Now, there's no indication of this gross up, whether it be in the chart or in the paragraphs describing it.

Second, the chart compares this adjusted DM-3 average compensation with the block comparator, but without the same pension adjustment being made to the block comparator. And likewise, you have a comparison made with the judicial salary, but again without an adjustment for the value of the judicial annuity.

So you see that by selectively applying this pension adjustment to the DM-3 compensation curve, the graph grossly inflates and misrepresents the DM-3's total average compensation, and misrepresents the significance

of the gap between that compensation level and the block comparator.

Now, I don't have much time to illustrate the need for caution with the expert evidence tendered by the government, but looking at Mr. Szekely's report, take a look at paragraph 11 of that report. There you are told, and I quote:

"Overall salaries [of] the DM-3 group (including 'at-risk' pay) have risen, on average from [288,000] as of March 31, 2015 to [305,000] as of March 31, 2020."

Well, both of those figures are inaccurate. Contrary to what is said in the parentheses, they do not include at-risk pay. And to give you an example, the correct figure as of March 31, 2020, is not 305,545, it is 383,545. \$79,000 more than the figure quoted in Mr. Szekely's report.

So we say that the DM-3 comparator, if assessed using an appropriate compensation measure, which is the average compensation of DM-3s, demonstrate the need for an adjustment to the judicial salary, and you have that

1 supported in our written submissions. 2. Now, that gap is but one justification 3 for the judiciary's requested recommendation. 4 The other is even more significant and it's the 5 gap with the incomes of self-employment --6 self-employed lawyers and that's the question to 7 which I now turn. Now, the Commission knows that 8 9 self-employed lawyers remain the principle, 10 albeit shrinking, source of outstanding 11 candidates for the Bench and that's why it's 12 been the other key comparator to assess adequacy 13 of judicial salaries. 14 So you have before you the CRA data, 15 but you also have before you something that was 16 not previously available to the Commission and 17 that is cogent evidence of the extent to which 18 higher earning, self-employed lawyers are using 19 professional corporations to earn their income. 20 And you have evidence about the impact of that 21 phenomenon on the CRA data used to --22 23 [SPEAKERS AUDIO CUTTING OUT] 24 25 The compensation measure for the

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private sector comparator. We put before you data on the number of lawyers in each of the provinces that use professional corporations and we've put before you the expert evidence of Messrs. Leblanc and Pickler of E&Y on the attractiveness of professional corporations from a tax-planning point of view for high earning lawyers.

And what you need to keep in mind when you look at the CRA data is that it dramatically under reports the actual income of self-employed lawyers and Mr. Leblanc and Mr. Pickler explain why. Once a self-employed lawyer starts earning in the 200 to \$300,000 range, there is an incentive to create a professional corporation in which the earnings of the lawyer will be retained. So the lawyer draws a lower salary or lower amount as needed, it can be a salary or it can be dividends, the corporation receives the entire professional income and that's recorded as corporate income. And when the individual lawyer receives either a salary or dividends, neither is recorded in the CRA data.

So the data you have before you has no trace of the large and increasing numbers of

- 1 | lawyers practicing in professional corporations.
- 2 And typically, because having and maintaining a
- ³ professional corporation involves costs, the
- 4 experts tell you that it's in the 200 to 300,000
- ⁵ range that it starts to make sense to have a
- ⁶ professional corporation.
- Now, even with the data provided by

 8 CRA in its limited form, we see, looking at the
- ⁹ table at tab 0 of the condensed book, the
- objective evidence supporting the need for an
- increase in the judicial salary.
- Now, I need to address a point raised
- by Mr. Gorham in his report regarding total
- 14 compensation and this is really something about
- which this expert goes overboard. Mr. Gorham
- 16 grosses up the judicial salary by a whopping
- | 49.5 percent under the guise of arriving at a
- 18 total value of the judicial annuity, inclusive
- of pension, disability, and what he describes as
- the additional cost for self-employed lawyers to
- 21 replicate that annuity.
- Now, you know, members of the
- 23 Commission, that Mr. Gorham's 49.5 percent is
- 24 | 18.5 percentage points more than the value used
- by the Rémillard Commission. So ask yourself,

is this consistent with the principle of continuity?

Mr. Gorham's approach is contrary to the considered decisions of past Commission.

Look at the question of whether the disability benefit should be included. The answer is no.

The answer was arrived at based on the view of the Commission's own expert, the Levitt

Commission's own expert, Mr. Sauvé.

Having included this disability benefit, Mr. Gorham further inflates the value of the annuity by another 11.67 percent.

There's no precedent for this component of the valuation exercise to be included.

And, members of the Commission, if one was going to look into this, one should have done it rigorously, which Mr. Gorham did not.

And you know that by consulting the second report of E&Y Canada where it is explained to you that the figure of 11.6 percent does not take into account well-known vehicles like professional corporations, like the individual pension plan, which come to reduce the cost for self-employed lawyers to save privately for retirement.

So we say that by adopting this maximalist approach that pays no heed to the precedents of the Commission, Mr. Gorham has just strayed outside of his field of expertise and his opinion is unhelpful.

Now, next in line was the proposed relitigation by the government of the filters to be applied in the CRA data on self-employed lawyers. And here Mr. Gorham calls all of the filters into question and leaves the reader wondering, at the end, whether there remains any stable reference points.

Take one example. Look at Mr. Gorham's treatment of the percentile filter. At paragraph 169, he states that the evaluation for high performing employees requires looking at the 70th to 80th percentile. And he says about the same thing at paragraph 77 -- 177, and we would agree with this because this is in line with past Commissions. But notwithstanding this, at page 46 of his report, Mr. Gorham devotes an entire page to answering the question, how can percentiles mislead us?

Now, the basic point to retain on the issue of relitigating the filters is the simple

point made by Ms. Haydon in her report. And I'll quote her report.

"One of the foundations of compensation research is the degree of consistency over time in the use of comparators in order to maintain confidence in the data collection and related analytical process."

As Ms. Haydon cautions, filters are useful and they are necessary. And bear in mind that she speaks from the point of view of a compensation expert, something that Mr. Gorham is not.

Now, I need to say a few words about the low-income exclusions and the reasons why it must be increased from 60 to 80,000. That low income exclusion has always been applied by the Commission every single time the CRA data has been considered. And it's logical because, without it, there's no way to control for those people who are practicing part-time or whose talent simply does not command an income that is even close to the average.

Now, Mr. Gorham tells you at paragraph 173 of his report that:

1 "[He] is unable to determine a 2. valid and appropriate reason for such 3 an exclusion." 4 Well, our short answer to that is that 5 20 years of reasoned Quadrennial Commission 6 reports informed by expert evidence every step 7 of the way, including from Commission appointed 8 experts, is a valid and appropriate reason to 9 apply it. 10 Now, why must that low income 11 inclusion be increased? Ms. Haydon notes that 12 the Robert Half 2021 Legal Profession Salary 13 Guide reports that \$81,000 is the salary of a 14 first-year associate. A first-year associate at 15 the 75th percentile. So this is one piece of 16 evidence which demonstrates that a low income 17 cut off of \$60,000 is manifestly too low. 18 Another piece of evidence is the 19 analysis done by Professor Hyatt. 2.0 MR. LAVOIE: Sorry, to interrupt. I'm 21 getting some messages from the reporters that 22 they might be in need of a break. 23 Madam Chair, I know we're still in the middle of Mr. Bienvenu's submissions, but I'm 24 25 wondering if we might be able to take a break

1 for the reporters at this time? 2. MADAM CHAIR: Mr. Bienvenu, is it a 3 good time? Can we cut -- of course we'll go 4 back to you after the break. I realize we'll 5 try to juggle around the timing. 6 No, no, I'm entirely in MR. BIENVENU: 7 your hands, Madam Chair. What I would ask is of 8 course we need to take a break for the court 9 reporter. I'm going to streamline what left I 10 have to say to you and I'll be done in 10 11 minutes. 12 MADAM CHAIR: Okay. We will take a 13 10-minute break. I would ask everybody to be 14 back at 11:45. 15 RECESSED AT 11:35 A.M. --16 RESUMED AT 11:45 A.M. 17 MADAM CHAIR: We will check with the 18 relevant people for a change in schedule. 19 Mr. Bienvenu, maybe I can throw it to 20 you to give us a maximum 10 minutes. 21 Thank you for your MR. BIENVENU: 22 indulgence. 23 So the topic I'm addressing is the 24 reasons why the low income exclusion must be 25 raised from 60 to 80,000. The first ground in

the evidence is the salary of first-year associate at the 75th percentile.

The second is Professor Hyatt's evidence. He shows that if the cutoff had been increased to match the growth in the IAI in 2004 when it was last adjusted to 2019, it would give you 87,000. If you apply the CPI, it would be 79,000. So it's 79,200, \$800 short of the 80,000 that we proposed, which is clearly reasonable.

Now, you can come at it by doing the proposed calculation. If it was appropriate in 2004, as decided by the McLennan Commission, to have a low income exclusion of \$60,000, the -- the effect of inflation alone has reduced that number to the amount of \$46,000. So in effect, if you apply 60,000, as compared to what it was designed to catch, you're applying a \$46,000 exclusion.

Now, interestingly, Professor Hyatt breaks down the demographics of lawyers earning between the 60 and 80,000 levels and you'll see that he finds that nearly half of them are aged between 55 and 69. So you know that they are people -- should not be included in that group.

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              The other filter is the 44 to 56 age
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            It's always been applied because that's
   range.
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   where the applicants come from on the top
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           So we noted, members of the Commission,
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   what the Rémillard Commission said in paragraph
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        And what it said is that it gave very
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   limited weight to the difference between private
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   sector lawyers salaries in the top 10 CMAs and
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   those in the rest of the country, but we have
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   now provided evidence that really should bring
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   you to pay a lot of attention.
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              MR. LAVOIE: Sorry, Mr. Bienvenu, I
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   need to interrupt again. I'm being advised that
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   we're missing Mr. Lokan, Mr. Andrew Lokan.
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   believe he might be necessary for him to be
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   present during the hearing, but he's not on at
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   the moment.
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              Does Madam Chair wish to take a brief
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   pause while we wait for him to reconnect?
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              MR. COMMISSIONER: If we can take a
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   minute, let's see if we can get him.
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                  RECESSED AT 11:49 A.M.
23
                  RESUMED AT 11:52 A.M. -
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              MADAM CHAIR: Over to you,
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   Mr. Bienvenu.
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MR. BIENVENU: So I was speaking about the need of the Commission to pay attention to the top CMAs. You have the evidence of Chief Justice Popescul. You have the applications table. And please recall that fully 68 percent of appointees come from the top 10 CMAs, so this is more than two thirds of appointees.

Now, I'm going to end by talking about incidental allowances and representational allowances. And here, our request is for an increase in these allowances consistent with the rate of inflation since they were last adjusted, and that was more than 20 years ago.

The government has replied to our suggested recommendation that the modest increases we proposed are not warranted because, it is said, not all judges use the full allowances available to them.

Now, we fail to see the relevance of this point. If anything, it proves that the allowance is only used by those who really need it. The allowance is not a form of judicial compensation. It is an entitlement to the reimbursement of reasonable expenses, reasonably incurred.

A number of judges do use the full amount of the allowances available to them or close to it. For example, more than 70 percent of judges use more than \$4,000 of their incidental allowance. And for those judges making use of the allowances, it is only reasonable that, for them, that its amount should be adjusted as the cost associated with related expenses increased with inflation. And for those judges who do not use the allowance, well, the change will be of no consequence to the Government.

Now, we focused, in our submission, on the costs associated with the increased use of technology with remote judging. I think the experience we're living this morning speaks for itself in that regard. These costs are significant. I'll just give you a pointer. Half of judges recently canvassed spent more than a quarter of the available incidental allowance on home Internet costs alone. Now, those costs were not even contemplated in 2000 when the allowance was last adjusted.

Now, please consider the same reverse

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inflation adjusted value of the \$5,000 allowance 1 2 recommended by the Drouin Commission is, today, 3 So inflation brought this amount down, 4 but the cost of the expenses designed to be 5 reimbursed has gone up with inflation. 6 Now, the same reasoning holds for 7 representational allowances, and consider this. 8 If it was Parliament's view, and we know that it 9 was, when legislation was adopted to implement 10 the 2000 report of the Drouin Commission, that 11 the sums earmarked for the representational 12 duties of chief justices and associate chief 13 justices were appropriate and commensurate to 14 the proper discharge of their duties, well then 15 you know, you know that the passage of time and 16 inflation have by now defeated Parliament's 17 intention, because these amounts have, in 18 effect, been reduced by more than 40 percent. 19 Madam Bloodworth, Mr. Griffin, Madam 20 Chair, those are my submissions. I wish to 21 thank you for your attention and your patience, 22 in spite of the many interruptions. 23 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you, Mr. Bienvenu, 24 thank you. I'm still waiting on the answer for 25 the relevant parties on the translation and

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   transcript whether we can break for lunch break
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   and do the federal protonotaries and Mr. Lokan
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   after a short break for lunch.
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              Sorry, I've got one answer. We do
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   have a problem with the interpreters.
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              Any questions that you would have,
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   Commissioners?
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              MR. COMMISSIONER: I don't have any
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   particular questions.
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              MADAM COMMISSIONER: No, I'm okay as
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   well, thanks.
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              MADAM CHAIR: Justice Popescul, thank
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   you very much for your evidence, very
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   interesting. The one question I have, being a
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   bit of a neophyte in this is, can you tell me in
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   the highly recommend that you say that that has
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   gone down and the rejection has gone up, what
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   about the recommend? Has highly recommend been
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   in the trends over the past 10 years, really the
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   driver? Would you look at that or more a
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   combination of highly recommend and recommend,
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   just so that I understand the picture a bit
23
   better?
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              JUSTICE POPESCUL:
                                 A very good
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   question. I can tell you that as 10 years ago
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1 when I started to be the Chair of the JAC, there 2 was no "highly recommended" category. Because 3 what had occurred is there was a "highly 4 recommended category at one point, and when the 5 government changed, they took out the "highly 6 recommended" category, so you just had 7 "recommended" and "not recommended". And then 8 more recently with this government when they 9 came into power, they reinstated the "highly 10 recommended" category. 11 So it's hard to go back 10 years 12 because that category didn't exist 10 years ago 13 when I was doing the JAC, chairing the JAC. 14 MADAM CHAIR: So is it fair that if I 15 look today at highly recommend and recommend, we 16 should feel good? As you said, you're not 17 saying that there's a lack of -- how would I say 18 that, the Bench currently, there's no issue in 19 the quality of the Bench right now. So I should 20 be able to combine the "highly recommend" and 21 "recommend" as a pool when we look at the 22 tables? 23 JUSTICE POPESCUL: Yes, I think that 24 that would be fair to say is that when you're 25 looking at the tables, you can put them both

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together. And I think again, as a Chair of the
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   JAC, what they are doing is they're trying to
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   signal to the Government, who has the ultimate
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   authority as to who they would appoint, which
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   candidates are of particular outstanding
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   quality, and that would be the highly
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   recommended categories. And they can choose
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   from the highly recommended and recommended
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   categories.
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              So the point, I guess, is the
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   dwindling pool. And that if you -- if you have,
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   say, for example, on a court, four vacancies and
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   you only have six people from which to choose,
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   that means your -- it affects diversity, who you
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   can choose. It would be certainly a lot better
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   if you had four vacancies and you had 20 people
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   from which to choose, that the government could
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   choose from.
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              So -- but I think in answer to your
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   question, yes, the government is able to choose
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   from the highly recommended and recommended
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   categories.
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              MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much,
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   that answers my question.
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              In terms of moving ahead, normally we
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1 would go on -- and I do have guestions for the 2 judiciary, but it could wait until tomorrow. 3 Mr. Bienvenu, you have answered many 4 of my questions already, so thank you very much. 5 Peter and Margaret, how would you like 6 to proceed, given I still don't have an answer 7 on whether we can have the team of translators 8 come back earlier in time. Should we break for 9 lunch now and come back early? 10 MR. COMMISSIONER: Well, I think it's 11 probably the logical place to be fair to 12 Mr. Lokan, so that he doesn't get a bit of a 13 kangaroo start. 14 MADAM CHAIR: Okay. So you would 15 propose that we would go for lunch, come back at 16 12:45 at the latest. And, Mr. Lokan, if we give 17 you a 40-minute break, that would mean it brings 18 us back to about 1:25. Would that be okay? 19 MR. LOKAN: That's fine, Madam 20 Commissioner. And I just want to say, I am able 21 to be flexible. I can either do my submissions 22 now, start my submissions now, wait till after 23 lunch. I am completely in your hands. 24 MADAM CHAIR: Are you okay then, Peter 25 and Margaret, to start?

1 MR. COMMISSIONER: If that's going to 2 save time, I'm fine with that. 3 MADAM CHAIR: Probably we should do 4 that, Mr. Lokan. And if you can assume we've 5 read very carefully your documents, which I did. 6 So thank you very much. If we can find some 7 time that would be greatly appreciated. 8 Thank you, Madam MR. LOKAN: 9 Commissioner, and thank you to the Commission 10 for the opportunity to make submissions on 11 behalf of the Prothonotaries. 12 I have with me today as my client 13 representative Prothonotary Aylen who will pull 14 up a couple of documents later in my 15 submissions. 16 The Prothonotaries have raised three 17 discrete issues before this Commission. One is 18 that of supernumerary status. The second is 19 increasing the incidental allowance to achieve 20 parity with the incidental allowance of the 21 judges. And the third is change in their title 22 from Prothonotary to "Associate Judge". 23 Now, on these three discrete issues, 24 the government has indicated that it does not 25 disagree with each substantive position of the

Prothonotaries, so I will be able to be briefer on those than I would be otherwise.

On supernumerary status, the parties are essentially putting forward a common position on the elements of a supernumerary scheme. Of course, the Commission will want to know the underlying logic to be able to make a recommendation, if so advised.

On incidental allowances, the government accepts that there should be parity with -- between judges and Prothonotaries.

On the change in title issue, the government asserts that the Commission has no jurisdiction, so I will be addressing jurisdiction. The government advises that it intends to make the change as a matter of policy, but gives no time frame and simply says, well, we will or may do that.

On the salary issues, the

Prothonotaries are not seeking any variation for
this Commission in the 80 percent ratio that was
established last time. However, the

Prothonotaries are affected by the government's
proposed cap on the IAI increases and, as well,
by the Association in the Council's proposed

1 salary increases. So I will make some brief 2 submissions on those points. 3 So let me start with supernumerary 4 The Commission should make a 5 recommendation on the terms which are set out in 6 the Prothonotaries initial submissions, at 7 paragraph 71. The supernumerary program is a 8 win-win for the government and the 9 Prothonotaries and for the Federal Court. It's 10 a benefit for the Prothonotaries in that it 11 enables them to keep contributing in the years 12 in which they transition to retirement with a 13 reduced workload. It's a benefit to the 14 Government because the government receives the 15 benefit of 50 percent of a full-time 16 Prothonotary's caseload while only being 17 required to pay approximately 33 percent of the So there's a financial benefit there. 18 salary. 19 It is a particular benefit to the 20 court, which can use supernumerary appointments 21 to smooth out workload and retain the benefit of 22 its most experienced Prothonotaries, and this is 23 particularly important for a small cohort. 24 There are a total of nine in the office of 25 Prothonotary.

If you have a couple of retirements or disabilities happen in quick succession and you're not able to use supernumerary appointments, then you have the potential of a disruption to the court by the time that new Prothonotaries are found and appointed and brought up to speed. But if you can plug those gaps with supernumerary appointments, it gives a lot more flexibility to the court.

These were the factors that led the Rémillard Commission to recommend that the government and the Chief Justice consider the possibility of allowing a supernumerary status. Those discussions, I'm happy to report, were held in the time since the Rémillard Commission and they have led to the more crystallized proposal at paragraph 71.

There are four elements, and I do understand this to be a common proposal, as well, from the government. That is to say, Prothonotaries would be eligible when eligible for the full judicial annuity under the Judges Act. The election to go supernumerary would be at the Prothonotary's option both whether and when. The duration of a Prothonotary's

appointment as a supernumerary would be up to five years. And the workload would be defined as 50 percent of that of a full-time Prothonotary.

Now, in our paragraph 71, we do have some language saying that that would be as a matter to be scheduled between the chief justice and the Prothonotaries. You may not need to include that in your recommendation. You may regard it as implicit since certainly that's the way in which scheduling happens, but that was a point that the Chief Justice had wanted to raise.

Now, on incidental allowance, I don't need to say very much because Mr. Bienvenu has covered that ground. This is an allowance that is paid to reimburse expenses and it's on the provision of receipts, it's not an open-ended allowance. It's not a form of compensation, but it is a benefit for Prothonotaries and judges not to have to subsidize the position with personal expenditures. Not to have to say, well, I know I need a second computer or whatever, and the allowance doesn't cover it, but I want to be professional and I want to

fulfill the duties of my office, so I'm just going to spring for it myself. We don't want that situation.

The range of expenses is set out in our paragraph 77 of our initial submissions. The major expenses, especially lately, have been in establishing and maintaining a home office as well as meeting requirements for continuing legal education, and both of those are the same for judges and Prothonotaries. Staples doesn't give a special Prothonotary deal of an 80 percent rate for printer cartridges if you're a Prothonotary. The price is the same. So we're pleased to see that the government agrees with parity and wherever that allowance amount ends up being set, it should be the same for both Prothonotaries and judges.

With respect to the change in title, I am going to spend a little more time on that one because it's contested, at least, as to jurisdiction.

This is an issue of some importance because there is widespread misunderstanding and confusion with the title of Prothonotary. It is a long-standing issue. The Committee of Judges

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   and Prothonotaries that were first tasked with
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   looking at this issued a report some 15 years
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   ago in 2006, and recommended a change to
    "Associate Judge" or Judge.
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              The Chief Justice put this
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   recommendation into a notice to the profession
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   in 2009 and perhaps the hope was that the Bar
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   would pick up from the notice to the profession
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   and start using that title, but the difficulty
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   is that it requires legislative change. Both
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   the Judges Act and the Federal Courts Act refer
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   to Prothonotary. So unless and until those are
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   amended, the statutory title will remain
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   Prothonotary.
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              Now, to address jurisdiction. I ask
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   you to look at the wording of section 26
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   carefully. This Commission has jurisdiction:
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                   "[...] to inquire into the
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              adequacy of the salaries and other
2.0
              amounts payable under this Act [...]".
2.1
              And those are very important words.
22
                   "[...] and into the adequacy of
23
              judges' benefits generally."
24
              So the insertion of those words, "and
25
   other amounts payable under this Act," is your
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tipoff that benefits can go beyond financial issues, because if it was just financial, you would not need to talk about benefits at all, having said salaries and other amounts payable under this Act. So amounts payable covers the financial field, but then section 26 goes on to say:

"[...] and into the adequacy of judges' benefits generally."

And I respectfully submit that the title is very much a benefit of the office. The wrong title is a burden; the right title is a benefit.

The change that is requested by the Prothonotaries ties into the reasons for having a Quadrennial Commission process in the first place. It's to safeguard the independence of the judiciary.

Judges, we know, are held in very high regard and are understood by Canadians to be independent of government. All too often, unfortunately, Prothonotaries are mistaken for part of government. It is a benefit to be regarded as a judge and it's a benefit that reinforces the independence of the judiciary

because everybody understands the independence of judges. Conversely, it is a distinct burden to carry a title that litigants, and even counsel, can't pronounce and don't understand.

There is some practical importance, as well, to your jurisdictional finding. If you agree with me on jurisdiction and do make a recommendation, I'm going to make a prediction, the government will then have to implement. The government will not be able to articulate any rational reason not to make the change.

You know, in the Bodner framework, the government must respond and they can refuse a recommendation on a rational basis, and on financial matters that's often contested. It would be very difficult to imagine on what basis the government would say, we're not going to change Prothonotary title in the face of a recommendation from this Commission. Now, we say that it is helpful that the government currently says that it is its present intention to change the title as a matter of policy, but we do note that things can change. Mr. Bienvenu referred to the change of government in 2006 earlier in his submissions. The Prothonotaries

were also affected by that change in government because there was a proposal to include them in a Commission process in 2005 that died on the order paper of the House of Commons with the calling of the election.

So it's much less secure to have, well, as a matter of policy, we think that would be a good idea when there's always the possibility of a change in policy, whether connected or not to a change in government.

At the very least, however, the Prothonotaries do ask, even if you don't find you have jurisdiction to make a recommendation, would you please record that the Prothonotaries raised this issue and that the government stated its intention to fix it.

Now, if I can just spend a few minutes and again this goes back to the jurisdictional points, as well as the merits. On some of the confusion that is created by the current title, and if I can ask Prothonotary Aylen to screen share for this? We had a debate in 2014, or so, in the Senate in which a Senator made an assertion about who Prothonotaries were:

"Prothonotaries in the Federal

1 Court are clerks who are halfway to 2. being a judge. They are not 3 necessarily legally trained but most 4 of them are. Their salary is being 5 increased to \$228,000 a year [...]." 6 It may not be the most inaccurate 7 thing ever said in the Senate, but it's got to 8 be up there close. 9 If we can look at tab 11 of our book 10 of documents? Here is an email, and this is 11 perhaps a little more serious, from a litigant 12 before the court to Prothonotary Furlanetto, as 13 she then was, she has since been appointed as a 14 judge. 15 "Please be advised that the 16 respondent, his firm and the counsel 17 will not refer to you by the colonial 18 title of Prothonotary as such term 19 refers to the Catholic church and the 2.0 role of the recorder of slave deeds, 2.1 and other instruments of slavery 22 [...]." 23 Certainly it's true that the 24 "Prothonotary" label was originally an 25 ecclesiastical office. I don't know about the

Catholic church. But the link to slavery caused 1 2 the Prothonotaries to look into this event, 3 because it's obviously a bit of a concern, and 4 sure enough they found, and this is at tab 12 of 5 our book of documents, that in turn of the 19th century America, this is actually in 6 7 Pennsylvania, the Prothonotaries were 8 responsible for keeping what were called the 9 registers of Negroes and Mulattos. That is to 10 say, listings of slaves born and to whom -- who 11 Now, that may be a little more owns them. 12 ancient history, but obviously concerning for 13 the court. 14 Even the Department of Justice, if we 15 can go to tab 12, in announcing the appointments 16 of the last three, I think, Prothonotaries, in 17 the announcement in French has asserted that 18 "les protonotaires sont des fonctionnaires, de 19 la cour federale", using the word 20 "fonctionnaires", as I say, this is mistaking 21 them for part of government. That is what I 22 would understand to be the same as civil 23 servant. They are not. They are judicial 24 officers. And it might be forgivable if that 25 had happened only once, but it happened three

1 times, as documented in our Book of Documents. 2. And just a final example, a Globe and 3 Mail article reporting on the merits of a case, 4 there was a case in which some affidavits were 5 struck out, and it was a fairly high profile 6 case, and the Globe and Mail reported that Roger 7 Lafreniere, now again Justice Lafreniere: 8 "Prothonotary and explained as 9 chief clerk of the Federal Court 10 stressed the need to allow the judge 11 to hear the wealth of information." 12 So there is rampant, widespread confusion and not only that, but it's confusion 13 14 that engages the separation of powers. The 15 common theme running through this is that 16 Prothonotaries are seen as government 17 functionaries. They are seen as part of 18 government as opposed to part of the judiciary. 19 It's a wholly unsuitable title. Spellcheck does 20 not even recognize the word. 21 And to get back to section 26 of the 22 Judges Act and to the criteria there, as 23 Mr. Bienvenu pointed out, one of the main ones 24 is the need to attract and retain outstanding 25 candidate. All I can say about that is that the

title is distinctly not helpful in terms of attracting leading members of the Bar.

You should be aware, and this is in our materials in the initial submissions at paragraph 88, that in Ontario there is a cohort of case management Masters who have many similar functions and there is legislation before the legislative assembly of Ontario to change that title to Associate Judge there as well. Again, it's not clear to the public what a Master is and there may be some connotations to that title, but that's in the works in Ontario.

So we respectfully request that you recommend that the title be changed from Prothonotary to Associate Judge or Juge Adoir [ph].

Now, that brings me to my comments on the economic issues. The Prothonotaries adopt the submissions of the Association and Council and I will just add a few comments.

With respect to the cap on the IAI increases, we say that that cap is unwarranted and lacks any principle. As Mr. Bienvenu pointed out, the issue of the impact of COVID is self-correcting over time. As the labour market

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normalizes, IAI increases will face downward pressure that will compensate for what is said to have occurred with the 2021 increase.

It's contrary to the legislative scheme in which Parliament has already determined that a statutory cap of 7 percent in any given year is the appropriate legislative limit.

And, furthermore, the government's position, with respect, is not symmetrical, because what they have said is, well, we'll cap -- we propose that you cap at 10 percent over the 4 years of the mandate, but don't worry, if the downward pressure is sufficient that any given year you would go negative and it would be less than zero, well, we'll protect you from that. But what the economists are telling us and the budget and the Bank of Canada, and the consensus forecast, all of those tell us that it's unlikely that the IAI increases will dip below zero. That there is still sufficient strength in the economy that between productivity improvements and inflationary increases, we are probably looking at, you know, a couple of percent for each of the next couple

of years.

2.

So the protection that the government would offer is very unlikely to come into play. There is indeed a lot of chatter these days about whether we're underestimating the risks of inflation and that COVID recovery may, in fact, cause inflation to be higher. And if it does, then there's a two-fold effect. The cap becomes more limiting for the judges and Prothonotaries and, again, it's even less likely that there would be any need for downside protection to prevent against a negative increase. So one looks in vain for any articulation of a principled basis for what the government proposes.

Now, if I can make some comments on the analysis of the comparators to judges. I'm not going to talk about the DM-3s. That was covered completely by Mr. Bienvenu, but I would like to talk about lawyers in private practice for a couple of minutes.

The government's analysis of lawyers in private practice is not reliable for a number of reasons, but including that the government ignores the impact of professional corporations.

As you know, the Gorham report applies a gross up to judicial salaries to account for what is presented as more tax efficient saving through the judicial annuity. And in the Gorham report, the analysis is once you've maxed out on your RRSP, you're saving in after-tax dollars if you are a lawyer in private practice, but no allowance is made for professional corps. And that professional corps are a very powerful savings vehicle and they are available to all lawyers. We know they are extremely widespread. They now account for around about a quarter of all practicing lawyers, according to the materials.

And now Mr. Bienvenu took you to the point that it's really not worth doing until you hit about 200,000 to 300,000 in income. The reason for that is, firstly, because there are expenses with setting up a separate corporation. But also that when you're in that range, you're more likely to be using most of your income for your expenses, but as income increases above those amounts, the higher the income, the greater the savings for professional corporations.

1 That is to say, if you're being paid, 2 let's say, 800,000 a year and you really only 3 need 300,000 to sustain your spending 4 commitments, that extra 500,000, you pay tax at 5 a lower rate and leave it as retained earnings in the corporation. It becomes very much like a 7 second RRSP, but with no limit on contributions. 8 So as I say, very powerful. 9 MADAM CHAIR: Mr. Lokan, do you have a 10 hard stop in three or four minutes, is that 11 I can give you more after lunch. 12 didn't mean to cut you. I just want to be mind 13 that we lose translators and transcripts at 14 12:30. 15 MR. LOKAN: If I can just finish this 16 point and then break for lunch. I will then 17 only have 5 or 10 minutes after lunch. 18 MADAM CHAIR: That's great. 19 MR. LOKAN: So what I was going to 20 perhaps put in your minds, I hope, is that 21 roughly speaking, once you reach the upper 22 levels, you have \$25,000 in tax savings for 23 every \$100,000 in extra income. So -- and you 24 see that ratio in the Leblanc Pickler report and 25 also in the comparative tax rates that we've

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   included in our materials. So if you can save
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   400,000, then you've got 100,000 saving in tax.
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   So a very powerful vehicle.
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              With that, I will stop for the lunch
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   break and I look forward to completing my
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   submissions, briefly, when we come back.
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              MADAM CHAIR: Perfect.
                                       Thank you very
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   much, Mr. Lokan. I apologize, I'm mindful of
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   the people who are there to help us.
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              So, Mr. Lokan, you will give us a
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   maximum of 10 minutes when we come back.
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              MR. LOKAN: I will have less than 10
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   minutes.
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              MADAM CHAIR: Can everyone please stay
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   connected. Please do not disconnect as we would
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   have to test again your audio and that might be
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   a nightmare that would delay us yet again.
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   thank you. We'll see you starting right sharp
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   at 1:30.
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                  RECESSED AT 12:28 P.M.
21
                  RESUMED AT 1:31 P.M.
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                  LOKAN: Before the break I was
              MR.
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   talking about the widespread use of professional
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   corporations and how that widespread use means
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   that the CRA data is essentially missing the top
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part of the chart. And I had referred earlier to the fact that professional corporations are not very useful at the lower income levels but become increasingly useful the more that a lawyer earns. There's another dimension to that which is, of course, you can retain more earnings if your income goes up, but you can also retain more earnings if your lifestyle expenses go down.

And one feature of professional corporations is that as you reach the stage later in life where you've paid off your mortgage, perhaps you've put your kids through school, university, you may experience a decline in expenses and, again, that's when you typically turn to a professional corporation. It's not so much the junior partners as the middle and senior partners that use them and, again, that's associated with higher earnings.

Now, the government in its written submissions conjures up the image of the senior partner in the corner office as being the only kind of lawyer who would be deterred from applying to the judiciary by the lower salaries, but that image is both inaccurate and woefully

outdated.

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There is reason to believe that in the major cities there are thousands of lawyers who are earning average partner incomes and are earning amounts in the higher six-figure range, north of 500,000, 600,000 et cetera, et cetera, that never show up in the CRA data. And this is particularly relevant to the Prothonotaries who are appointed to the largest census metropolitan areas. They are appointed specifically to Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and Vancouver where the leading lawyers who appear before them often earn far more than they do.

We do have one data point, and that is in the judiciary's book of exhibits and documents at tab 30. There is a Globe and Mail article about Cassels Brock. The information in that article gives us enough to be able to deduce that average partner compensation at Cassels Brock is in the range of \$750,000 a year. You can get that from the -- they give the gap between men and women and they talk about how many men there are versus women partners. And you just do a bit of math and get that \$750,000 figure. That's average partner

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compensation that's is not the corner offices.

Now, Cassels Brock is a fine firm, it has offices in Toronto, Vancouver and Calgary, but they are not uniquely profitable. The Cassels Brock firm would be replicated by a number of mid-size to larger firms in the major cities in Canada.

So, with respect, when you have that data point, when you understand how professional corporations work, when you understand the tax advantages, and when you see the very large number of professional corporations that private practitioners are electing to use, you can have very little confidence in the percentiles that the government puts forward. And when they talk about 89th percentile this, et cetera, et cetera, those figures are just likely to be very seriously skewed and not reliable.

So we say that the recruitment issues are real, and that the modest increases that are sought by the judges, and which would flow through to the Prothonotaries, would begin to address the challenges of recruitment. They would only be a small step but they would begin to address them and those should be recommended.

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              Now, subject to any questions from the
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   panel those are my submissions on behalf of the
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   Prothonotaries.
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              MADAM CHAIR: Mr. Lokan, to get more
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   time I assume you're back tomorrow? There is a
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   reply by the Prothonotaries so I think we will
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   keep and reserve our questions then, if that is
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   all right with you?
              MR. LOKAN:
                          Yes.
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              MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much,
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   Mr. Lokan.
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              Now can I call on the representatives
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   for the government, Mr. Rupar.
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                          Thank you, Madam Chair.
              MR. RUPAR:
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   hope you can hear me.
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              MADAM CHAIR: Yes, very well, thank
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   you.
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                          Madam Chair,
              MR. RUPAR:
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   Commissioners, we would like to echo the opening
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   statements of my friend, Mr. Bienvenu, in
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   respect of the admiration that all Canadians
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   hold for our judiciary. There is simply no
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   question that our judiciary is the envy of the
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   world, it is second to none. And we are very
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   proud to have all the members of the judiciary
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function in the very difficult circumstances, in this past year in particular, in the manner that they have. So I wish to echo those comments that my friend made.

I would also like to echo the comments my friend made with respect to the work of the past Commissions and this Commission. It's always a challenging endeavour, shall we say, and it's always been undertaken in the most professional and independent manner and, again, I echo the comments of my friend there.

And, finally, I also echo the comments with respect to the co-operation between the various principal parties. It's worked out very well. There's been very few hiccups. We don't agree on everything, as you will see in a few minutes as we go through some submissions. But I do like to thank Mr. Bienvenu and his teams for their co-operation.

Now, one of the very first times I ever appeared in court the judge looked at me and said, Mr. Rupar, now it's time to switch the water to the other side of the bathroom, so we'll see if we can do that.

Before we start I just want to talk,

- just a moment, about the process and some of the comments made about Mr. Gorham in particular.
- There seemed to be a suggestion that there
- 4 should be a finding of credibility here. And we
- ⁵ just want to make a comment that we understand
- 6 the process of this Commission is not to go that
- way. We never understood this Commission to be
- 8 a litigation-based Commission, more of a
- 9 co-operative Commission.

throw of each other.

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- Mr. Gorham put his report in, it's a
 very fulsome report. He was asked to find the
 value of the annuity and total compensation of
 the judiciary and he set out exactly, in great
 detail, how he would get there. And, as we will
 see in a few moments, Mr. Newell agrees, for the
 most part, with him. They are within a stone's
 - There's been no cross-examinations here, there's been no staggered reports, as you would find in traditional litigation. There's been no discovery. We're not asking for any kind of finding of credibility here and we just think that that's not the way this Commission should be run. And we found that that's the way

it's been in the past so just a word of caution

with respect to those comments that I think are in order.

Now, with those opening words I'd just like to add this, when we go through our materials it's about context and it's about prospective. There were some comments made about the fact that the government has raised other factors or considerations, if I can put it that way, for this Commission to take into its deliberations. Yes, we've looked at what other judiciaries were. And we're well aware what the Drouin Commission said before. And we're not suggesting, in any means, and we said this in our written submission, that there are direct comparisons between our judiciary and those of other countries.

We're not suggesting, by any means, that there's a direct comparison between what medical doctors earn and the judiciary. What we are saying, and the reason we put this information before this Commission, is it offers context and perspective. It offers context with respect to what other judiciaries generally are receiving as compensation in similar western democracies. We've tried to address a number of

the concerns that were raised by the Drouin
Commission with respect to finding comparables
and, as our report set out, finding ways to
translate the salaries and benefits there
through the exchange rate to what a comparable
Canadian value would be. Again, we're not
suggesting these are direct comparisons, they're
contextual comparisons and it provides a broader
perspective.

Because we're of the view that there's been a narrowing of what the Commission should look at over the years. And we're not at all suggesting that we disregard the DMs, we're not at all suggesting that we disregard the private sector, of course not. We are not doing that. What we are saying is that cannot be the narrow sole perspective.

The other judiciaries -- the other information we put before you is not perhaps the primary information you'll turn towards, but we say it's part of the overall picture you should look at.

Now, with that, the submissions we make this afternoon will be as follows. I will be starting and I will speak primarily to the

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1 judicial annuity issue, the prevailing economic 2 conditions and the attraction of outstanding 3 candidates to the Bench. 4 My colleague, Mr. Shannon, will deal 5 with the CRA information primarily, the ability 6 to track public sector candidates, and he will 7 also deal with the DM-3 comparator and, more 8 broadly, the other comparisons in criteria 4. 9 And I would be remiss, even though 10 Mr. Shannon and I will be speaking to you today, 11 not to acknowledge the outstanding contributions 12 of Ms. Musallam who is also part of our team, 13 although she will not be speaking today. 14 Just one caveat, Madam Chair, I know 15 timing is a little tight today. I will come 16 back after Mr. Shannon has completed -- has 17 discussed briefly the issues of allowance and 18 the issues of the Prothonotaries. I am not 19 suggesting these are not important but I suggest 20 the gulf between us, particularly with 21

Prothonotaries, is much smaller. And we have accepted, as noted by Chief Justice Crampton's letter to the Commission a few days ago, that there's a fair amount of acceptance by the government of the matters which the

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ProthonotariesProthonotaries have raised. So it's not a disrespect to the Prothonotaries it's just that we've agreed for much of what they've proposed.

So with that starting let's turn to annuities. This is really one of the keys, of course, that we have to deal with. And I will address specific issues, I'm not going to go over everything in all the submissions. course you've read everything but I will touch on some of the key issues. And let's start with the valuation of the annuity. And I won't ask you to turn these up. These are in our submissions at paragraph -- or sorry, in our condensed book at tab 6. We will turn that up if you don't mind. If we can go to tab 6.? And this is from the most recent Commission. Paragraph 71, this is tab 6 of our condensed book. And what the Rémillard Commission said is:

"We must consider more than income when comparing judges' salaries with private sector lawyers' pay. The judicial annuity is a considerable benefit to judges and is a significant

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part of their compensation package." So there's no issue that the annuity has to be dealt with. And for us the starting point of getting to what compensation should be is what we agree on. And I don't think there's any issue that what we agree with on, between the parties, is that as of April 1st of this past year, so approximately a month ago, the base salary, without any annuity value-added for federally-appointed judges, is \$361,100. So I don't think there's any disagreement there. And that's where we build from. Now, we have to determine what the valuation is of the annuity. And I'll give you the result and then I'll tell you why we get there. We, on the government side, agree with Mr. Newell's valuation of 34.1 percent. We will accept that as a valid value for the annuity. That is different from what Mr. Gorham had. Mr. Gorham had 37.84. Why is there this difference? And it's explained by Mr. Newell in his supplementary report, it's because Mr. Gorham has included the disability benefit as something that should be included as part of

the annuity, so that's why there is the

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1 distinction. He says that at page 12 of his 2 report and that is at our condensed book 3 number 2. 4 And I would like to pull that up, if 5 we could, because we're going to spend a few moments with Mr. Newell. And he explained this 6 7 quite clearly at the top of that page where he 8 says: "For clarity, this calculation of 10 the value of the Judicial Annuity of 11 34.1% is distinct from my calculation 12 of 36.7% in the question 1c above, 13 which includes an assumption for 14 disability. The figure of 34.1% does 15 not include a disability assumption 16 whereas the 36.7%[does][...]." 17

So that's where he explains the distinction between the two.

And just if we're doing -- as you've seen in many of our submissions an apples-to-apples, the inclusion of the annuity, the 36.7, would be comparable to Mr. Gorham's 37.84 because they both include the disability benefit at that point.

When I said earlier they're within a

1 stone's throw of each other, we're approximately 1 percent difference between the two experts. 3 So even though we heard a great deal this 4 morning about Mr. Gorham's approach, at the end 5 of the day where we end up between the two 6 experts is almost identical, using that 7 methodology. And just to reinforce that Mr. Newell 8 9 does not have any difficulties with what 10 Mr. Gorham has done, I'd like to go back a page 11 or two to page 6 of Mr. Newell's report. 12 this is answer 1(c) that was just referred to by 13 Mr. Newell. And if we look at the third 14 paragraph it says: 15 "I wish to observe that some of 16 the key assumptions Mr. Gorham uses 17 are more conservative than mine, which 18 will push the valuation higher - but I 19 believe the assumptions he selected 2.0 are still within the range of accepted 21 actuarial practice." 22 So Mr. Newell has no difficulty with 23 what Mr. Gorham has done. He says that's within 24 what actuaries can do. 25 He then goes on to talk about down in

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1 the bottom of the paragraph: 2. "[...]there are other assumptions 3 in which we have slight differences 4 (e.g. mortality assumption, retirement 5 age assumption, surviving spouse 6 assumption)." 7 So they're within -- like I said, when 8 you use the same methodology they're within 9 1 percent of each other. So we don't see any 10 significant differences between them. 11 So let's take the next step. The next 12 step is to take the \$361,100 and apply the 13 34.1 percent, and that gets us to, 14 approximately, \$484,235. And I won't take you 15 to it now because we don't have to because I 16 just stated it, but this is set out for your 17 convenience at tab 1 of our condensed book, 18 those calculations. 19 Now, if we use Mr. Gorham's number, if 20 we use Mr. Gorham's higher number of 21 37.84 percent we'd end up with a total value of 22 \$497,740. Now I know those two are not the same 23 methodology because Mr. Newell's 34 percent does

not include the disability, Mr. Gorham's 37.84

does. But I just did this to show you that even

using Mr. Gorham's more larger benefit factor
the difference really is \$13,000 at the end of
the day.

So going forward we can use

Mr. Newell's number but we're not done yet. And
the reason we're not done is we still have to
deal with two factors. We have to deal with the
tax implications that Mr. Gorham says are
necessary to deal with, and then we have to deal
with this idea of professional corporations, so
let's deal with those in turn.

So if we can turn to our condensed book at tab 3? If we can turn that up? And at paragraph 137 this is where Mr. Gorham says we have a tax issue here because to replicate the full amount of the judicial annuity there's not enough RRSP room and so there are going to be tax implications on the additional money used by the private sector to match that, to replicate that annuity. And then if we just turn over the next page, the chart that he's done, and if we -- sorry, keep going to the next, page 32 please. There we are. That's where we get the 11.67 percent. Mr. Gorham has done a series of weighted calculations and he comes to

1 11.67 percent. And then he talks, in the next 2 paragraph, this is where he says: 3 "By looking at the ages[...]". 4 He does the age calculation of the 5 appointments to calculate the: 6 "[...]age-weighted average value 7 of the Judicial Annuity for all 8 federally appointed judges including 9 the effects of income tax. Net of 10 judges' contributions, that is 11 49.51%[...] a self-employed lawyer 12 would, on average, need to save 49.51% 13 more of their net income than a judge 14 in order to provide savings sufficient 15 to provide the 2/3rds of earnings 16 payable under the Judicial Annuity." 17 That is where Mr. Bienvenu was 18 talking about 45.91, he explains it here. 19 So what do -- we heard this morning 20 Mr. Newell and Messrs. Leblanc and Pickler don't 21 agree with this, and we accept that they don't 22 agree with it. Let's see what they say. Sorry 23 to move around like this but this is how we have 24 to put the pieces together. If we go back to 25 Mr. Newell, which is at our condensed book

1 tab 2, we go to the last page in that, page 12. 2 Now, under question 1(e) Mr. Newell is asked to 3 comment on the figure of 49.51 arrived by 4 Mr. Gorham by taking into account his 5 11.67 percent. 6 Now, I note here that Mr. Newell 7 doesn't come up with a different number than 8 11.67 percent. What he does say in the answer: "It is true that lawyers in 10 private practice would be limited in 11 their use of 'tax-efficient' means to 12 replicate the Judicial Annuity if they 13 were to rely upon RRSP [only][...]." 14 However, there may be other ways to do 15 this. 16 He looks -- in the next paragraph he 17 says: 18 "As is noted in the April 21, 19 2021 Ernst & Young Letter, the 11.67% 2.0 additional cost to a self-employed 2.1 lawyer to replicate the judicial 22 annuity would be overstated due to the 23 fact that the tax deferral available 24 through incorporation of a 25 professional corporation, or the use

1 of an Individual Pension Plan, was not 2. taken into consideration by 3 Mr. Gorham." 4 Fine, we don't disagree with that. 5 Let's look for a moment to see what exactly is 6 said by Messrs. Leblanc and Pickler. And let's 7 go to the combined or condensed book number 5 8 please. And if we look at the fourth paragraph 9 it says -- in the actual report prepared by 10 Mr. Gorham. And if we go four lines down it 11 starts with: 12 "As discussed in our previous 13 report entitled 'Fiscal Advantages of 14 Incorporation for Lawyers' dated March 15 26, 2021, there is a possibility of a 16 large tax deferral through the 17 implementation of a professional 18 corporation." 19 And at the end of that paragraph they 20 then conclude, if I can take you there : 21 "The additional cost to replicate 22 the Judicial Annuity, calculated at 23 11.67 percent by Mr. Gorham would be 24 overstated due to the fact that the 25 tax deferral available through

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incorporation of a professional corporation has not been taken into consideration."

Similar comments were made later about the IPP, Individual Pension Plan.

What's interesting here is the use of the term, as I brought to you the first part, is the "possibility". We're not denying there's a possibility that this could happen. But you do not have any information before you as to what is actually happening on the ground with respect to professional corporations in the profession, in the legal profession.

There was comment made in the Rémillard report about this, there were efforts made by the parties to try to get this information in concert with the CRA. We were not able to do it for this Commission. So what you have before you is theory and speculation and possibility as to what the effect would be here by the inclusion of a professional corporation, but you have no numbers.

We don't know how many -- aside from a very broad view of a large percentage -- a largish group of lawyers who will take advantage

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1 of professional corporations, we don't have any 2 specific data, as we do in the CRA 3 self-employment data. We don't have the 4 granular numbers that you can then apply the 5 corporate -- the professional corporation tax 6 efficiencies to. We're not denying they may 7 exist, you just don't have that information 8 before you. And it will be our submission that 9 you cannot make a recommendation based on the 10 possibility of using these because you do not 11 have any solid evidence as to how they would be 12 used in particular circumstances, particular 13 ranges of incomes, et cetera. That is the 14 difficulty. 15 Perhaps the next Quadrennial 16 Commission we will be able to have that 17 information before you and we will have our 18 experts make adjustments. What you do have 19 before you is information with respect to 20 self-employed lawyers. And it's our position 21 that Mr. Gorham's 11.67 percent does apply to 22 that group and no alternative percentage has

the context. That's the perspective that I talked about earlier that we're trying to give

been provided to you, that I recall. So that's

1 to you with respect to these matters. 2. So at the end of the day it's our 3 position that we will accept the 34.1 percent as 4 the value of the judicial annuity. And it's 5 also our position, however, because of the data 6 that you are dealing with from the CRA, 7 Mr. Gorham's addition of 11.67 percent, which he 8 has set out in great detail in his report, is 9 also a fact that has to be taken into 10 consideration in finding the total 11 compensation -- the value of the total 12 compensation for the judiciary. 13 Now, I'd like to turn to the second 14 main item I'm going to deal with, which is 15 prevailing economic conditions. 16 MADAM CHAIR: Can I ask, Mr. Rupar, 17 the CPP contribution of about \$3,160 (sic) that 18 your expert mentions is that something you add 19 to this or is that --20 MR. RUPAR: Well, he's taking into 21 consideration -- although when there's the 22 discussion between Mr. Gorham and Mr. Newell 23 they talk about the disability. I didn't see 24 Mr. Newell discussing the disability and the CPP 25 I didn't see -- he just talked about the

1 disability. So that's why -- it's another 2 reason -- we can just go with 34,100, it's a 3 little easier, a little simpler, and we don't 4 have to get into that issue of comparing 5 Mr. Gorham who has CPP and disability and 6 Mr. Newell who just talked about disability. 7 He, as I understood, did not deal with the CPP 8 issue. MADAM CHAIR: Okay, thank you. 10 MR. RUPAR: It's not a large issue, 11 it's one that the precision of an actuary would 12 be interested in but I think we can go with, as 13 I said, 34,100. 14 MADAM CHAIR: Perfect. Thank you. 15 MR. RUPAR: Now, when we deal with 16 prevailing economic conditions I'll deal with 17 the IAI 10 percent proposal that we've 18 discussed, which is, you know, I don't think 19 there's any -- telling any tales out of school, 20 that's the point of contention in this hearing. 21 And I will go through the rationale of how we 22 got to the 10 percent. 23 I'll start though, and just again with 24 perspective in context, and Mr. Bienvenu went 25 through some of the figures this morning, I'll

add a few more to what he said. I don't think there's any disagreement among the parties that the last year has certainly been a challenging that for the Canadian economy and for the world economy at that.

We agree to a certain point that, yes, there are hopeful signs in the future. The most recent unemployment figures that came out on Friday, of course, are not that hopeful. But we say, yes, there could be, to use the proverbial, light at the end of the tunnel but we don't know. That's projections. What we do know is what we have had in the last 15 months or so. And that's where I'll take you to now for a few moments and then turn to the IAI.

So I'll just give you where you find these figures in our submissions. I'm not asking you to look them up right now. Just write down -- for the first set of figures from our reply submission, paragraph 19, the budget confirmed that the deficit for the past fiscal year was \$354 billion, projected to be 154 billion going forward. And another additional 50 billion for fiscal years 2023 and -- sorry, '22-'23, and '23-'24. So, yes,

there are significant constraints on the federal budget.

In our reply at paragraph 20 we speak of the GDP numbers of -- there's a bit of a variance between 12.4 percent and 13.8 percent. So, again, we're within a fairly close range. However, as we point out in our submissions we must also take into account the contraction that occurred in the pandemic year we just passed, which was 5.4 percent. We have to take that into account when looking at those figures.

The last set I'll give you, and these are from our main submissions at paragraph 19, the CPI going forward in 2021 is estimated at 1.7 percent, in 2022 is 1.9, in 2023 is 2.0, in 2024 is 2.1. Mr. Lokan talked this afternoon about the possibility of inflation fears. You know, economics are always a little hard to predict but these are the figures that we have and we've given you the cites for those.

Unemployment, and this is from our main submission as well, paragraph 20, expected to remain close to 10 percent -- going from 2020, and we expect it to be down around 8 percent in 2021, so it's still significant

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although hopefully better unemployment numbers going forward.

Now, with that economic context is where we'll go next to what we said with respect to IAI. And just before we get there I'd like to take -- and Mr. Bienvenu mentioned this morning the PEI reference. If we can go to our condensed book at tab 8, we have that set out, that reference set out. And in some of the commentary, some of the reply we had from the judiciary they said, well, you have to put the PEI reference in the context of a deficit-fighting budget. And we're not suggesting that was not the case there. I believe it was the Chief Justice that said at the time:

"Finally, I want to emphasize that the guarantee of a minimum acceptable level of judicial remuneration is not a device to shield the courts from the effects of deficit reduction. Nothing would be more damaging to the reputation of the judiciary and the administration of justice than a perception that judges

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were not shouldering their share of the burden in difficult economic times."

So what we take from that is that there's a recognition, in this judgment at least, that there is a sense that the judiciary taking -- the remuneration for the judiciary have to take into account the economic structure, the prevailing economic conditions at the time.

We're not suggesting that deficits have to be borne solely or disproportionately, I should say, on the shoulders of the judiciary. We're not suggesting that at all. We are suggesting that in the broader context of the economy and the budgetary constraints of any given year of the government, or any given quadrennial cycle, shall I say, is a factor that needs to be taken into consideration, as the PEI reference has said. Not a direct link, again, but a factor, a perspective that needs to be taken into consideration.

I'm going to turn now to our position on IAI. And just a brief primer on IAI, and this was set out in our factum and explained by

Mr. Gorham in particular at paragraph 70 to 78 of his main report: The industrial aggregate is the overall twelve-month average of the average weekly of earnings of Canadians, that's the industrial aggregate. The industrial aggregate index is the rate of change in the industrial aggregate from year-to-year.

Now, just to comment on a few things we heard this morning. We're not reconciling (sic) from the use of the IAI as the mechanism for guiding increases in judicial remuneration. We're not going back to CPI. We're not suggesting any other measure. What we are suggesting is that there has been an anomalous growth in the index, the industrial aggregate index in this pandemic -- this past pandemic year, which is out of line with what historically has been the growth of IAI.

Now, I'd like to turn back to the Rémillard Commission, and that's our condensed book 6. And if we turn to paragraph 39 of that report -- or sorry, recommendation. And you may recall that there was some -- there was some submissions made in that Quadrennial Commission as to whether it should be CPI or whether it

1 should be IAI as is the relevant measure for increasing judicial compensation. 3 And what the Commission found, in 4 part, is at paragraph 39 what the Commission 5 said was this: 6 "As Professor Hyatt, the expert 7 retained by the Association and 8 Council, said, 'Changes in the IAI reflect changes in weekly wages, 10 including both the cost of living and 11 the real wage (the standard of 12 living)'. The IAI ensures that the 13 'annual earnings of judges' keep pace 14 with the 'annual earnings of the 15 average Canadian'." 16 And if we look at footnote 52 there is 17 the reference back to Professor Hyatt's report 18 in that particular Quadrennial Commission. What 19 he said was: 2.0 "Keeps pace with the annual 21 earnings of the average Canadian." 22 But that is not what we've seen in the 23 last year. And I don't think there's any 24 disagreement that what we've seen in this last 25 year is that there has been a bottoming out of

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1 that average weekly report, that earning's 2 In that the lower end of the wage report. 3 earners have been hit the hardest by the 4 pandemic; tourism, hospitality, restaurants, 5 bars, some of the transient type of employment. 6 And I don't think there's any controversy that 7 that is what happened. And, of course, the 8 inverse occurs to the average; when the lower 9 end is removed the average goes to the top. 10 So what we are suggesting here is 11 there has been a change of circumstances, from 12 when IAI was adopted certainly in the 1980s and 13 when it was reinforced by the Rémillard 14 Commission, that could not have been foreseen. 15 Nobody was foreseeing a pandemic that would turn 16 on its head how the IAI was supposed to work.

As Professor Hyatt said, the IAI is supposed to work as a reflection of the average general wage. And what it's done, and this is certainly no fault of anyone, but what it has done is it has done -- it is not a reflection, at least for that period, of those average wages of those real wage earners, as Professor Hyatt said. It is an inflated value because the lower end has been removed. So that's why we say,

1 this is a unique set of circumstances that would 2 justify a review for this quadrennial period. 3 We're not suggesting at all that 4 there's any structural change going forward. 5 We're not suggesting that there has to be a 6 revisiting of the IAI and its indexing -- and 7 the indexing of judicial salaries to IAI. 8 is not what we're suggesting. What we are 9 saying is for this one particular period of 10 time, where it went to 6.6, because of the 11 removal of the lower end of the wage 12 stratosphere, it does not reflect what it should 13 reflect, as set out by Professor Hyatt. 14 Now, we can look at this in a couple 15 And if we can turn to our condensed 16 book at tab 9, and this is from our main 17 submission. And this is how we get to our 18 10 percent. Again I emphasize it's a 10 percent 19 for this quadrennial period only. It is not --20 we are not spilling into the next quadrennial 21 period. April 1st, 2024, the new quadrennial 22 period starts. We're not moving beyond this 23 four years. 24 If we go back one page please? So 25 this is a chart we've put together. And what it

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shows in the firm lines is the data we have over the last approximately 16 years with respect to increases in salary and effective IAI. And as you can see there's some ups and downs in IAI but it's within a relatively close range. What we see, as we said, is this anomalous spike in 2021 for the reasons I just said.

And then projections -- and I don't think there's a great deal of controversy, there are projections that we're going to go back to what call a more normal gradient of IAI over the next two to three years.

So what we say then, explaining this over the next two charts, what we're saying is this, as we set out in paragraph -- sorry, if you go back to the other page please? Thank you. At paragraph 30 of our main submissions we say:

"As set out in the chart below,
the average IAI cumulative four-year
increase has been 9.9%, with a maximum
four-year increase of 11.9% and a
minimum four-year Increase of 7.9%."
The wide range to this, and I'll pause
here, is it's been suggested that there's no

rationale to what we're doing. That it seems to be pulled out of thin air but it's we're not. It's based in the statistics that have been used over the past 16 years and projections going forward. So there is a rationale to what we're doing, and it's tied back to the original reason for implementing IAI, as reflected in what I just brought you the with the Rémillard Commission.

Now, if we could just go to the next page please? It says:

"In addition, the 16-year average yearly increase has been 2.4%, with a yearly high Of 3.6% and a yearly low of 0.4%." So as they conclude, "This demonstrates a steady and consistent increase of Judicial salaries in line with IAI that is well within the proposed cumulative four-year increase of 10% for this quadrennial cycle.

So that's our rationale. That's how

we get -- we get there because it's -- if we didn't have the pandemic, which was certainly not foreseen by anybody, we would have had this continued progression of a little up, a little

down. That's what we say is proper when we look at the overall flow of the last 15 to 16 years.

Now, my friend took you to a chart that we had. It's -- I'm not asking you to pull it up because I don't have his PowerPoints up, but it was his tab F. And it was projected salaries under the Judges Act with proposed cumulative 10 percent increase. It's difficult to do this. It's this chart here, I put it to you so you recognize what it is.

And my friend pointed out that he said, well, it doesn't make sense what's going on here because it looks like what the government is doing is they're pushing beyond the quadrennial period and they're moving into the next quadrennial cycle. And we're not --we're not doing that. There's a slight error that we should have made -- that they should have -- there we are. If you look at under April 1st, 2023, and we go over to "Puisne" judge at 372,600. And it's -- thank you, right there. So that is the figure that at the end of this quadrennial cycle, using our 10 percent proposed increase, would be the base salary.

Now, what we should have done is we

1 should have stopped there but we tried to go 2 forward and say, projecting forward what we 3 would be doing. So when we go over to the 4 right-hand side there then and we say there's 5 zero percent increase for the next year, and 6 that's not accurate. We don't know what it's 7 going to be on April 1st, 2024, because that 8 would be for the next Ouadrennial Commission. 9 So I just want to clarify how we ended 10 up there. The number of 372,600 is the number 11 we end up with if you use our 10 percent over 12 the quadrennial cycle. We should have left it 13 at that. We should not have moved forward. And 14 certainly it won't be a zero percent increase. 15 We don't know what it will be because that will 16 be for the next Quadrennial Commission to 17 determine. 18 And just to re-emphasize, our proposed 19 10 percent is a one-time-only proposal to deal 20 with the issue of the pandemic. So that's how 21 we get to 10 percent proposal for this period. 22 Sorry, Mr. Rupar, for MADAM CHAIR: 23 interrupting, but while you're on the slide I 24 just want to understand, I calculate the 6.7, 25 the 2.1 and the 1.03.

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              MR. RUPAR:
                           Yes.
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              MADAM CHAIR: Are you including --
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   that's 9.8.
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              MR. RUPAR:
                          Right. Yes. But what
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   we're saying is that it's a 10 percent
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   cumulative from the base of the first year.
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              MADAM CHAIR: From the base, okay.
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   Thank you.
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              MR. RUPAR:
                          Not the percentages, it's
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   10 percent cumulative.
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              MADAM CHAIR:
                             Okay.
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              MR. RUPAR: Yeah, that's where we --
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   yeah.
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              MR. COMMISSIONER:
                                 Mr. Rupar, can I
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   ask you one other question?
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              MR. RUPAR:
                           Certainly.
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              MR. COMMISSIONER: Is your proposal
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   that the 7 percent per annum cap remains in the
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    statute?
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              MR. RUPAR:
                           Yes.
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              MR. COMMISSIONER: And the statute
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   specifically says that it is a 10 percent cap
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   for those years only?
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                                 I'll double check
              MR. RUPAR: Yes.
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   with my -- with our instructing officers, but
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1 that would be the recommendation, that it'll be 10 percent for this period but we are not going to remove 7 percent, that will remain going forward.

And if there were normal conditions, if I can put it this way, if there were normal conditions, not pandemic conditions, then the 7 percent may work because there would be a flow of all the wages and the 7 percent may in fact be perfectly fine.

It's just in this very specific and very unique circumstances of the pandemic where we say, we won't go with a 7 percent for this particular year we'll go with a 10 percent for the reasons we stated. Going forward in 2024 and onward we're back to where we were before with the legislation untouched.

MR. COMMISSIONER: But what is the source of the 10 percent, other than a representative calculation that we just looked at?

MR. RUPAR: That is the source of our 10 percent, Mr. Griffin, is that we say historically if the pandemic had not occurred, and there hadn't been this anomalous increase of

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1 6.6 percent, as I showed you, the figures we 2 have are -- it would have been -- over four 3 years the average would have been a 9.9. Over 4 the 16 years the yearly was 2.4 so that gets us 5 to -- that's how we arrived at the 10 percent. 6 MR. COMMISSIONER: Thank you. 7 MR. RUPAR: I'll touch just briefly on the issue of judicial independence being 8 9 respected. I don't understand there to be any 10 issue with the judiciary to suggest that there's 11 been any problems with independence with the 12 salaries and compensation. If I'm wrong maybe 13 we can deal with that tomorrow, but I didn't 14 understand anything this morning from what I 15 heard to be -- that to be a significant issue 16 that this Commission would have to deal with. 17 Now I will turn to the final issue I'm 18 going to deal with, and that is the attraction 19 of outstanding candidates. And perhaps we can 20 just go to our condensed -- to my condensed 21 book, if we can do that? And tab 6, this again 22 is the most recent Commission, the Rémillard

Commission. And if I can take us -- we'll wait

be a movement. And I think that the statement

for it to come up on the screen.

It will just

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of paragraph 80 applies today:

"All parties agreed that Canada has an outstanding judiciary. To continue to attract outstanding candidates, judges' salaries must be set at a level that will not deter them from applying to the bench."

And 81 is an important paragraph.

What that Commission said was:

"Comparators help us to assess this factor, but this is not a mathematical exercise. Financial factors are not and should not be the only factor — or even the major factor — attracting outstanding judicial candidates. The desire to serve the public is an important incentive for accepting an appointment to the judiciary."

And that's repeated at paragraph 83. So that's just a little bit of context when we're dealing with how to attract outstanding candidates. Salary and benefits are absolutely important but they are not everything.

And just let me can touch for a moment

1 on some comments we've heard this morning about 2 what our position was with respect to attracting 3 high earners, as the phrase has gone. We 4 absolutely think that high earners need to be 5 attracted to the judiciary, we are not saying 6 anything to the opposite. High earners, to a 7 certain degree, are a reflection of success in 8 their profession, we agree with that. 9 position though is that we do not have to focus 10 solely on high earners, and this has been 11 reflected, in our view, on what other 12 Commissions have said. 13 The Block Commission, at paragraph 116 14 of its report, said: 15 "The issue is not how to attract 16 the highest earners, the issue is how 17 to attract outstanding candidates." 18 And the Drouin Commission at page 36 19 of their report said: 2.0 "No segment of the legal 21 profession has a monopoly on 22 outstanding candidates." 23 So it's a balance, in our view. It. 24 has to be -- outstanding candidates, as we said in our submissions, are found in all segments of 25

the profession. They are found in large firms,
they are found in small firms, they are found in
NGOs, they are found in academia, they are
found in government.

Outstanding lawyers are found everywhere. The idea is how to attract them. We're not suggesting that we exclude high earners, we need to have high earners, we just do not have to focus exclusively on high earners in setting judicial compensation.

I'd like to take you to a couple of points that we think merit some notice. If we can turn to our condensed book, tab 10? Now this is an analysis that we did, it's in our supplemental book. And what it shows, in our analysis from the public information that's available, is that the appointment of partners over the past decade has generally been on the rise to the judiciary.

Now, we do admit, we do say at the end there's a bit of an overlap and a bit of a reverse, but it's minor compared to the overall trend. And generally partners would be the higher earners in a firm. So we just say that as a starting point.

And if we can go back now to -- sorry, go ahead. I thought there was a question, sorry.

If we can turn back a tab to our tab 9? And if we can go to the last page there? This is a chart found at page 18 of our main submission. And there's a chart and then the graph. And what we tried to depict here is there's a fairly steady recognition of the private sector as being the main component of appointments to the judiciary.

Now, my friend Mr. Bienvenu brought out a chart he had this morning where he said we don't go back far enough. And it's really -- there's been a decrease. And I'm not disputing what Mr. Bienvenu's charts were saying. I do recall there was a bit of a -- there was a down then an up and a down. And I'm not disputing that perhaps thirty or forty years ago the percentage of appointments from the private sector was probably around 70 percent, or in the early 70s, as opposed to 64 to 62 percent that we have here. Sorry, Mr. Bienvenu's lost connection.

-- RECESSED AT 2:27 P.M. --

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-- RESUMED AT 2:33 P.M. --

MR. RUPAR: Just speaking about the chart we had this morning and 25, 30, 35 years ago, there was a slightly higher percentage in the '70s, from the private sector. And the only submission we have here is that, in our view, it still has been very steady, at least in the last decade, if not beyond the last 20 to 30 years that the preponderance of appointments have fairly come from the private sector. Ιf there has been a slight dip, it would be a reflection, maybe, of the growth of areas of practice outside of the traditional private sector government venues for practice. You know, there has been a great deal of expansion in the past 15, 20 years as the profession diversifies in other areas. So we don't see this as a significant change or significant -the private sector is still the dominant source of appointments to the judiciary.

Again, I won't ask you to turn this up, but at paragraph 42 of our main submissions, we refer to some statistics as of October 30th, 2020, and for the period of March 30th, 2017, to October 23rd, 2020, just some overall statistics

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with respect to applications and appointments.

What we put there is the Judicial Advisory Committees had full assessed 925 applicants. Of those, 140 appointments had been made, and an additional 183 applicants had been recommended for appointment, and 105 had been highly recommended. So when we do the quick math there, it's approximately 428 of the 925 applicants have either been appointed or recommended or highly recommended.

What I'd like to do now is turn to our condensed book 11 and it's the same chart -I'll just dig up where it was in my friend's material. It's the same chart that he has at tab 1 of his materials and I just want to walk through this for a moment. And there was some discussion in some of the written materials, I believe, from my friends that there was only one qualified or highly qualified or highly recommended person from British Columbia based on this chart.

And if we look -- there's a couple of things we have to take into consideration here. If we look at the bottom of the chart, the footnotes, they're fairly important actually.

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   They say:
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                   "The last column includes
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              appointments resulting from
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              applications received outside of the
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              report period window."
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              So if we look at that last column, it
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   says "Total appointments" for this period. So
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   that includes people who had applied before
   March 30th, 2017. So that's why there's a
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   larger number there.
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              And the other important aspect to keep
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   in mind is what's highlighted here. It says:
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                   "Appointees are not included in
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              the applicant columns."
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              So when we look at the middle columns,
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   it says:
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                   "Status of applicants on
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              October 23rd, 2020."
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              For instance, if we look at British
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   Columbia, there's only one highly recommended
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   and there are 18 recommended. But if we slide
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   over to the far side, we had 21 appointments in
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   this period who were applicants from that period
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   and 40 in total. So there was one person left
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   in the pool here, but that doesn't mean there
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was only one highly qualified or highly recommended applicant in that period.

Presumably the -- well, not presumably, the applicants who were appointed have to come from the highly recommended or the recommended. So we just have to read these figures in that context that the appointees are not reflected here, but they were at one time, in that pool.

And what I heard this morning from
Justice Popescul is that he was of the view, if
I recall correctly, that highly recommended and
recommended was one pool from which everyone was
chosen. And, as he pointed out, there's been
some changing of -- their highly recommended,
recommended, highly recommended depending on
each government's view of how they should be
categorized.

But at the end of the day, it would be our submission that if you are recommended by an independent judicial advisory committee for a position in the judiciary, then you are an outstanding candidate. And the judicial advisory committees have representatives from the Bar, from the judiciary, from the public.

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There's a wide variety of people who are on those committees and making these recommendations.

So what we take from this in respect to outstanding candidates is for every appointment, there were three available and approved candidates for appointments.

Another point I'll make here is when someone is labeled or found to be unable to be recommended, there could be a host of reasons why that is. I don't -- I would not want to leave the thought with this Commission that there's a link between the amount of money a lawyer would make -- the amount of money an applicant would make as a lawyer and his or her being found to be unacceptable or unable to be recommended. There is no evidence that we've seen in the record anywhere to make such a linkage.

With that, what I'd think I'd like to do, Madam Chair, if it's agreeable to you, is what Mr. Shannon is going to speak about will follow naturally from where I took. He's going to talk about the CRA. And then as I said, if there's time for me, I'll come back and speak

1 briefly about the other issues that Mr. Bienvenu 2 raised this morning. 3 MADAM CHAIR: That's great. And, 4 Mr. Shannon, if you can do the first 20 minutes 5 or so that we can actually stop for 3:00 and 6 start again with you at 3:30, if you're not 7 finished. So I'll let you figure where is the 8 best to break. 9 MR. SHANNON: Thank you very much, 10 Madam Chair. 11 Just so I can orient you in terms of 12 if my eyes are going in a weird direction, I 13 have screens all around me. So to the extent 14 I'm looking up, I'm actually looking at you. 15 This virtual hearing world, we all are trying 16 new systems and this is my system for the day, 17 so here we go. 18 As Mr. Rupar noted, I'm going to speak 19 further about criterion number 3 and then also 20 address the fourth criterion, after which I will 21 turn it over the Mr. Rupar. 22 As a preliminary point, I want to note 23 that we have included in our discussion of -- we 24 have included our discussion of the DM-3

comparison, not in the third criterion, but

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| 1 | rather in the fourth, other objective factors.

And this follows the Drouin

Commission's agreement with this approach and

4 that's been the consistent position of the

5 government that the DM-3 comparator should be

included in the fourth criterion. And I'll just

give you the cite for that in the Drouin

8 | Commission report. It's at page 23 of that

report in that first paragraph on that page.

And obviously the report is included at tab 9 of

the joint book of documents.

And the reason for this is the third criterion deals with the pools from which judges are traditionally drawn. Deputy Ministers are not a pool from which judges are traditionally drawn. That's not to say, and we heard a lot this morning frustration with the government's position with respect to DM-3s, that is not to say that the government rejects or challenges the use of the DM-3 block comparator as a means of comparison. Simply to say that it's inappropriate to address this comparator in the context of the third criterion, as the Drouin Commission stated it belongs in the fourth.

1 sector comparators as part of the third 2 criterion. Before getting into the numbers, I 3 do want to address the limits of the data that 4 is before this Commission. We've heard a great 5 deal about professional corporations, et cetera. 6 So as Mr. Rupar noted, despite the 7 fact that the parties requested data on lawyers 8 who operate as professional corporations, the 9 CRA unfortunately was unable to provide any such 10 And this was for a variety of reasons 11 involving confidentiality and the difficulty 12 with isolating professional corps that are 13 specifically used by lawyers in the tax 14 information. 15 The numbers here are important and 16 they're set out in a graph we've included at our page 23 of our main submissions and I'll call 17 18 that up right now. So as you can see in this 19 graph, in 2018 there were 63,956 practicing and 20 insured lawyers in Canada. That statistic comes 21 from the Federation of Canadian Law Societies. 22 So 63,000 or almost 64,000 practicing and 23 insured lawyers in Canada. 24 In 2019, there were 17,871 operating 25 as professional corps and 15,510 that are

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self-employed lawyers within the meaning of the CRA data. And we only have data on those 15,510. We do not have any data on lawyers operating as professional corporations. So the only proxy that we had is -- the only proxy we have for private sector lawyers is the CRA data for that 15,510.

So as a result, any arguments related to the income of lawyers operating as professional corporations unfortunately are speculative at best. We simply don't know the income of these individuals and we must work with the proxy we have, which is the CRA data. I'm going to speak more about the taxation issue in a little bit because we obviously do have some information on the taxation issue, on the 11.67 percent, but with respect the specifics of how many lawyers are professional corporations, who they are, what are their income levels, we don't have any information on that unfortunately. And so the proxy that we do have is the CRA data.

So as you will have seen, the central argument between the parties for the private sector comparison is what number do we use to

1 represent the income level for private sector 2 lawyers and what number do we use to capture 3 judicial compensation? So put another way, what 4 filters should be used to ensure an 5 apples-to-apples comparison between the levels of compensation for private sector lawyers 6 7 versus judges. 8 Before discussing each of the filters 9 that are proposed by the judiciary, I'm going to 10 share another chart, and it's based on a chart 11 that was included by the Rémillard Commission, 12 between paragraph 72 and 73 of their report. 13 The Commission inserted this table and it 14 compares the 75th percentile using the 44 to 56 15 age band, with a \$60,000 exclusion to the base 16 judicial salary and to judicial compensation, 17 including the annuity. And we've made an effort 18 to update that table for this past quadrennial 19 cycle, given that it was of concerns to the 20 Rémillard Commission. And I'm just going to 21 pull up the updated version of that chart now. 22 Sorry, I'm working my own tech, so 23 please bear with me. 24 So this is at tab 13 of our condensed 25 book. And as you'll see here, the numbers in

1 the second column, the average private sector 2 income, 75th percentile, 60K exclusion, 44-56 3 year-old age band, these are taken directly from 4 the CRA data and you see the numbers there. 5 We've got then the judicial base salary, and 6 this fourth column, we've included the judicial 7 salary with a 34.1 percent annuity, no 8 disability, and that comes from Mr. Newell's 9 report. And in the final column, we've included 10 the judicial salary plus the 34.1 percent 11 annuity, plus the 11.67 tax gross up. 12 And I'm going to get into more and 13 more about these issues, but I wanted to start 14 off my presentation by putting this chart up 15 there as it reflects the concerns of the 16 Rémillard Commission and these are the numbers 17 updated to the past four years. 18 As you can see from this table, we 19 have accepted the valuation by Mr. Newell and 20 we've also added the 11.67. And this is 21 important, because we certainly don't dispute 22 the fact that tax treatment is different and 23 perhaps more advantageous for lawyers operating 24 as professional corporations, but we don't have

that data and we don't have how that would

1 impact income of people operating as 2 professional corporations. 3 The data we have is the self-employed 4 lawyer data. And given the limits of RSP 5 contributions, a self-employed lawyer making 6 \$361,600 would not be able to have the same two 7 thirds annuity that a judge would have. would have to save an additional amount and so 8 9 that's the basis of the 11.67. They would 10 actually, in order to have a two-thirds annuity 11 plus a \$361,000 salary, they would actually have 12 to save or have to make \$526,375, so that's the 13 basis. It's -- the most important part of this 14 is to have an apples-to-apples comparison 15 between the two groups and that justifies the 16 11.67, with respect to this particular 17 comparison. 18 If we had professional corporation 19 data, it would be a different tax gross up. 20 There would still be one because there Less. 21 are still limits to IPPs and other tax 22 considerations, but it would be less than 11.67, 23 but there would still be a tax gross up. 24 I want to also note that Mr. Newell, 25 as Mr. Rupar took you to in parts of this

1 report, he questions the -- he accepts that 2 there is a tax gross up. He accepts the 11.6 3 number, or rather, doesn't offer perhaps an 4 alternative number. His questioning with 5 respect to the tax gross up is that it may not 6 be appropriate when considering the cost of the 7 judicial annuity to the Government, but that's 8 not what's being done. As Mr. Rupar set out, in 9 order to have an apples-to-apples comparison 10 between self-employed lawyer data, which is the 11 CRA data, and judicial compensation, those tax 12 implications have to be considered, otherwise 13 we're doing an oranges-to-apples comparison. 14 So we've included this updated version 15 of the table used by the Rémillard Commission as 16 a comparative aid and we will return to it at 17 the end of my presentation. 18 I do want to discuss the government's 19 position on the filters and on filtering the CRA 20 data because filters are problematic. First, 21 because filtering data, especially if you are 22 putting data through multiple filters, 23 significantly affects the results and any 24 resulting analysis and pushing those results 25 towards higher and higher earners. As

Mr. Gorham points out, this is inappropriate from an actuarial perspective because it severely limits the data set.

Here we have a data set of 15,510 and if we impose all of the filters proposed by counsel for the judiciary, that brings the data set down to 2990 lawyers, or a mere 19 percent of all the lawyers originally captured by the CRA data. And then we would presumably look at the 75th percentile of that very small set.

Second, limiting the data towards higher and higher earners also supports the false narrative, frankly, that Mr. Rupar referred to and that is this notion that the most outstanding candidates for the Bench are the highest paid individuals from the legal practice. And we would urge the Commission to reject this notion of who would make the best judges.

The legal community, the legal culture and the makeup of the profession have changed significantly even in the last five years, and it's important that diversity within society and within the profession is mirrored on the Bench.

And it is a simple fact that this diversity may

1 not have permeated to all levels of the 2 profession. 3 I want to go through each of the 4 filters in turn. First, with respect to 5 percentile. The government agrees that depending on which other filters are imposed, 6 7 the appropriate percentile to look at is likely 8 the 75th percentile. Just to note that the 9 75th percentile of all Canadian self-employed 10 lawyers in 2019 was 270,000, that's without any 11 other filters. And even when not considering 12 the judicial annuity, in 2019 the judicial 13 salary was 329,900. 14 So, second, the age filters. I note 15 here that the Rémillard Commission, and I'm just 16 going to pull up a paragraph, if you bear with 17 The Rémillard Commission said that me, please. 18 the 44 to 56 age band was a useful starting 19 point. But that Commission did not lose sight 20 of the fact that 33 percent of appointees 21 from -- came from outside that age band over the 22 past -- the previous 17 years before the 23 Rémillard Commission. 24 I'll note that during this quadrennial 25 cycle, 35 percent of appointees came from

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outside that 44 to 56-year-old age band.

And I'd also note that 62 percent of self-employed lawyers in the CRA data were from outside that age band, so this is a significant filtering or exclusion that we would be applying. So while the 44 to 56-year-old age band is a useful starting point, the broader picture is also important to consider, and that is what the Rémillard Commission said. And I'm going to pull that up now. In paragraph 61, the Rémillard Commission said:

"We agree that focusing on the age group from which the majority of judges is appointed is a useful starting point. However, using any of the comparators in considering the appropriate judicial salary is not a mathematical exercise. We must apply sound judgment in determining the adequacy of judges' salaries. In doing so, we have considered the fact that 33 % of the appointments over the past 17 years have come from [outside that age band]."

points be considered here. We would ask the Commission to recall that for a self-employed lawyer, the period between 44 to 56 years old is by far the most lucrative period during a self-employed lawyer's life. And you can see this in a chart that we've included and I won't take you there, but we've included it at page 27 of our main submissions, where you'll see that income drops precipitously starting at the age of 44.

By contrast, when we're looking at the

judicial salary, we're looking at a lifetime of income. At the age of 70-plus, working judges are still bringing home the judicial salary, whereas the income of most self-employed lawyers has dropped off significantly by this point. And this is an added attraction for individuals considering a judicial position. Just as incomes of self-employed lawyers being to drop off, the judicial salary and annuity maintains an ongoing and increasing income as far down the road as 75 years of age.

I'll touch on salary exclusions. The government maintains its concern with respect to salary exclusions and states that they're

1 problematic. We -- if we add a \$60,000 2 exclusion, this is just to explain, but if we 3 add a \$60,000 exclusion, the figure we get for 4 the new 75th percentile is actually the 82nd 5 percentile in the complete distribution. So put 6 another way, if we use a \$60,000 exclusion, it's 7 simply false to say that we're targeting the 8 75th percentile. With the exclusion, it's not 9 the 75th, it's the 82nd and we have just bumped 10 it up by excluding a chunk of data at the lower 11 end. 12 I'd also note that the Rémillard 13 Commission doesn't appear to -- I was about to 14 say whole hog, but entirely have accepted the 15 application of a \$60,000 salary exclusion. 16 I'm going to refer you to, or I'll take you to 17 actually, paragraph 65 of the Rémillard 18 Commission's report. And the first part of that 19 sentence is: 20 "Even assuming a basis for 21 excluding lower incomes from the data 22 to be examined [...]." 23 And the point there is that the 24 Rémillard Commission didn't accept necessarily 25 the validity of these exclusions, though it did,

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as I mentioned with respect to that chart, it did use those exclusions.

The second half of that sentence explicitly rejects the use of an increased exclusion to \$80,000. It says:

"[...] we are not convinced that a case has been made to increase the salary level based on this type of exclusion."

Nevertheless, the judiciary has raised or chosen to reraise this issue before this Commission, despite the rejection before the last Commission. And in response, the government maintains that there is really no basis for any exclusion. And certainly no basis to raise the level of any exclusion. simply feeds into this false narrative that lower income is a proxy for a lack of commitment or a lack of success. It favours the notion that the highest paid lawyers are the only outstanding candidates. It would also, presumably, exclude a large number of individuals who work outside the largest cities where lawyers' incomes may be lower. And these are areas from which judges are regularly drawn

and the salaries of many of those self-employed lawyers should not be simply factored out.

Furthermore, an income exclusion doesn't account for fluctuations in lawyers' income. I just recall that the CRA data is a snapshot in time, but from year-to-year, a self-employed lawyer's income may fluctuate significantly. Such fluctuations have no bearing on whether they're eligible for appointment or whether they would make outstanding candidates. If there's a year with significantly higher expenses and lower fees, an exclusion would factor that lawyer out, whereas the next year with higher fees and lower expenses, they may be back in. We don't see the basis for that.

Finally, Mr. Bienvenu noted that half of the people between the 60 and \$80,000 groups are from the age 55 to 69 age group. I would say that people from that age group are regularly appointed to the Bench and there's simply no basis for just excluding them from the data set because of their age.

Again, as the Rémillard Commission found, a significant proportion of appointees

1 are from outside that 44 to 56 age band, so we 2 shouldn't, on that basis, exclude lower income 3 earners who may be part of that age group. 4 I'll move to the census metropolitan 5 areas. 6 MADAM CHAIR: Is this a good time 7 to -- before you get on to another filter. So 8 can I have everybody back at 3:30, please? 9 Please do not disconnect. Just put yourself on 10 mute and stop the video. Do not disconnect. 11 And Gab, can you put us each in our 12 breakout rooms, please. 13 14 MR. RUPAR: 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

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                  RECESSED AT 2:59 P.M.
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                  RESUMED AT 3:30 P.M.
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              MADAM CHAIR: Welcome back everyone.
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   Do we have everyone?
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              MR. LAVOIE: I believe we're all back.
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                                      Welcome back.
              MADAM CHAIR: Perfect.
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   Mr. Shannon, can I hand it over?
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              MR. SHANNON: Thank you very much,
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   Madam Chair.
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              The next topic that I wanted to
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   address was the CMA filter, the census
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   metropolitan area filter that's being proposed.
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   As you will know, the Rémillard Commission
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   effectively rejected using a CMA filter or
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   exclusion the last time around, and that's at
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   paragraph 70 of the report.
                                  It said:
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                   "Accordingly, we have given very
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              limited weight to the difference
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              between private sector lawyers'
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              salaries in the top ten CMAs and those
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              in the rest of the country and have
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              looked primarily to average national
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salary figures."

Thirty-eight percent of private sector appointees were from outside the top ten CMAs between 1997 and 2019, with 33 percent of private sector appointees coming from outside the top CMAs in the last quadrennial cycle.

To use the Rémillard Commission's language, there's is still no evidence that lawyers' salaries in the top ten CMAs had become so high that attracting qualified applicants to sit in those cities has become an issue.

I want to note, in that regard, that the 2019 base judicial salary, so that's without annuity, is the equivalent of the 75th percentile of all the top ten CMAs, except in Toronto where it is the equivalent of the 72nd percentile. So the 75th for all the top ten CMAs except Toronto with the 72nd.

But of course, and I'm going to sound a bit like a broken record, this itself is a false comparison, it's an apples-to-oranges comparison, because once you include the judicial annuity in the comparison judicial compensation is considerably above the 75th percentile in all of the top ten CMAs.

And that brings me to my final point on private sector comparisons. It's simply wrong to compare self-employed lawyer data with the base judicial salary. The judicial annuity is an excellent, excellent pension regime and, as Mr. Rupar described it, it would be extremely costly to replicate for a self-employed lawyer cover by the CRA data.

So, to conclude, I want to take you back to the chart that I put up at the beginning of the private sector comparison, which is at tab 13 of our condensed book. And once again, these -- this data has been updated for this period of time, for this last quadrennial cycle. And we suggest that it shows that the value of judicial compensation is sufficient to attract outstanding candidates from the private sector.

And this brings me back to my next point, which is the public sector comparison under the third criterion. Again, doesn't include the DM-3, in our submission, that waits until the fourth criterion. So 38 percent of appointees in this last cycle were from that sector. It includes legal Aid, provincial court judges, public service, profs, deans, et cetera.

And from our research, apart from three law deans throughout Canada, the base judicial salary is more than every other one of these groups.

As you heard this morning, there is a bit of a discounting of this comparison. It's says it's not entirely relevant because public sector workers often don't make as much as the judicial salary and so, therefore, of course it's adequate.

We would say given that almost

40 percent of judicial appointees come from this
world it's incredibly relevant to look at this
public sector data, that we've included at
paragraphs 101 and following of our main
submissions. So I'm not going to say much more
about the public sector data, it's included in
our submissions. But, again, we would say that
it absolutely has bearing on this issue and it
should be considered.

And I'll move on to the fourth criterion, which is other objective factors.

And, of course, primary among these is a block comparator. Before getting into the details or addressing the judiciary's proposal in this

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regard I want to make a few brief points on the history of the comparison.

The judiciary has expressed its frustration with our written submissions regarding the DM-3 comparison, and I believe there may have been some sort of an understanding on this issue. The government doesn't contest or challenge the use of the DM-3 comparator, in so far as we're using the one that has been used by successive Quadrennial Commissions and predecessor Commissions. And what I mean by this is, from the 1975 equivalency, through the rough equivalency, including the Guthrie Commission the Crawford Commission, the Courtois Commission, and on to the Quadrennial Commissions, including Block and Levitt, to the extent there has been a consensus among these Commissions, it's using the DM-3 midpoint as the comparator. And later on, when at-risk pay came in, the DM-3 midpoint plus half the available at-risk, that is the historical consensus. It is not DM-3 writ large. not some other version of DM-3 salary and at-risk pay. The only historical consensus is the DM-3 midpoint plus half of the available

at-risk. And, frankly, for obvious reasons the government doesn't contest or relitigate, as it's been put, the use of that comparator as we have already achieved parity. The judicial base salary now exceeds the DM-3 midpoint and half available at-risk.

Now, before the Block Commission and the Rémillard Commission, and here again before this Commission, the judiciary proposes a different comparator from the historical one, which is total average compensation of the DM-3 group. The first two times the judiciary proposed this it was rejected by the Commission. And, once again, we say it should be rejected by this Commission.

We heard Mr. Bienvenu this morning speaking about differences between comparators and compensation measures, this is a new point that I -- that hadn't been argued to date. And, as I understood it, Mr. Bienvenu said that DM-3 total average compensation is a compensation measure rather than a comparator and, therefore, the appropriate compensation measure is up for discussion and debate while the comparator is, in his submission a settled matter of precedent.

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Our response, and with the greatest of respect, is that there is some inconsistency with Mr. Bienvenu's point here. He criticizes the government for relitigation of the CRA filters, which are all compensation measures, by the definition he uses. However, even though the Block and Rémillard Commission rejected these — the notional total average compensation of DM-3 the issue is once again raised before this Commission. So I think there's a bit of an inconsistency in terms of approach.

Before going any further I do want to bring up a passage from the Rémillard Commission's report that deals with DM-3 and deals specifically with block and with the total average. So I'm going to pull up paragraphs 47 through 50 of the Rémillard Commission's report. And 47 starts off:

"We agree that the position of a highly-ranked deputy minister is very different in a number of ways than the position of a judge, and that the DM-3 comparator should not be used in a 'formulaic benchmarking' fashion. We do not read previous Commission

reports as having done that. Rather, the DM-3 comparator has been used as a reference point against which to test whether judges' salaries have been advancing appropriately in relation to other public sector salaries.

Indeed, the Levitt Commission agreed with previous Commissions in calling the DM-3 comparator a 'rough equivalence'. The Levitt Commission found that, while a 7.3% gap 'tests the limits of rough equivalence', judicial salaries did not require adjustment in view of this comparator to remain adequate and respect the criteria in the Judges Act."

The Rémillard Commission then goes into what we would call the "new" comparator, total average compensation that has been -- was raised before the Rémillard Commission:

"The Association and Council raised a further issue in relation to the DM-3 comparator. They argued that the comparator should be changed from the midpoint of the DM-3 salary range

1 plus half of at-risk pay, to the total 2 average compensation of DM-3s. 3 difficulty with that proposal is that 4 DM-3s constitute a very small group -5 currently eight - the compensation of 6 which is subject to considerable 7 variation depending on the exact 8 composition of the group at any given 9 point in time. Previous Commissions 10 have used the DM-3 reference point as 11 'an objective, consistent measure of 12 year over year changes in DM-3 13 compensation policy'. Moving to the 14 total average compensation of a very 15 small group would not meet those 16 criteria. We agree with the Block 17 Commission, which rejected moving to 18 average pay and performance pay 19 because it would not 'provide a 2.0 consistent reflection of year over 21 year changes in compensation'." 22 I'd also note that further than just 23 suggesting the total average compensation, the 24 judiciary has also hinted at something further, 25 and they say they asked the Commission to keep

an eye on, and they use those words "keep an eye on" the DM-4 category, raising the possibility there would be a push away from the consistent approach taken since 1957 towards an even higher and higher comparator.

The government's position on this is as follows: The government does not contest the notion that the DM-3 midpoint, plus half at-risk, as the Rémillard Commission said, is a useful reference point against which to test whether judges' salaries have been advancing appropriately, and I'm going to underscore this, in relation to other public sector salaries. It's a relative test.

The government fully agrees with the Rémillard Commission that this should not be done in a formulaic -- it's not a formulaic benchmarking exercise. And, in our view, frankly, it is unfortunately that the judiciary's submissions at paragraphs 146 and following, there is what can only be described as a formulaic benchmarking exercise that is undertaken; ultimately concluding that there is -- excuse me, 4.62625 percent gap that needs to be filled via an increase to judicial salary,

and that begets the 2.3 percent over the two years. Surely we must consider a percentage to the 5th decimal place to be a formulaic benchmarking exercise.

Regarding the new total average compensation that's proposed for, this would once again involve calculating the average income of the eight, and it is still currently eight Deputy Ministers occupying the DM-3 position. I want to be clear, it's not the same eight. During the last quadrennial cycle between 2015 and 2020 there were as many as fourteen DM-3s and as few as 8 DM-3s.

So the concerns articulated by the Rémillard Commission at paragraph 50, which I just read, and by the Block Commission, are still applicable. We're speaking about the average pay to eight people who have short average periods of tenure and whose pay is individually targeted to the specific Deputy Minister.

And as we set out in our reply submission, salaries and at-risk pays of DMs, as I said, they are dictated individually.

One can easily imagine a year, for

1 instance, where several deputy DM-3's retire or 2 move on to other jobs and a number of new Deputy 3 Ministers are promoted and receive a salary at 4 the lower end of the range. And in this 5 hypothetical the total average compensation of 6 DM-3s would change significantly, because 7 you've lost some, presumably, from the top and gained some at the bottom, and there's a shift 8 9 in total average compensation. Total average 10 compensation is, therefore, subject to 11 considerable variation depending on the exact 12 composition of the group at any given point in 13 time. 14 By contrast, as the Block Commission 15 wrote, midpoint, plus half available at-risk 16 does not vary over time; and consistency is key. 17 And as the judiciary's expert, Ms. Haydon, 18 points out at page 2 of the report, and 19 Mr. Bienvenu quoted this passage this morning: 20 "One of the foundations of 21 compensation research is a degree of 22 consistency over time in the use of 23 comparators in order to maintain 24 confidence in the data collection and 25 related analytical process."

1 Now, Ms. Haydon is speaking about 2 another comparator but I think that statement 3 applies equally to the DM-3 comparator. 4 just for your reference, that report is at 5 Exhibit C of the joint reply of the Association 6 and Council. 7 MADAM CHAIR: Mr. Shannon, can you 8 help me, and you may want to do it later, just 9 on the data set two questions I have. And I'm 10 asking right now because just to understand the 11 We're past April 1, 2021, do you have the data. 12 current salary range for the DM-3s? And the 13 reason why I'm saying that is I notice that 14 every time you're close your average is within 15 2,000, or less even, than the high end of range. 16 So presumably you have either no room to move, 17 unless every changing in the mix. So I just 18 wondered if you to have that. You don't have to 19 answer me today but that's something that I just 20 want to understand because it does impact the 21 block comparator as well, right? 22 MR. SHANNON: Absolutely. 23 MADAM CHAIR: The second thing is I've 24 noticed, and don't take my comment as looking

for average compensation, but just so that I

1 understand, and it goes to your argument that 2 bonuses, paid performance and salaries are very 3 individualized, which I'm not disputing. only thing I realize is that the bonus average 4 5 itself is pretty much constant. 6 So prior to 2007 it was around 33,000 7 and it moved to 55,000. And in between 2007 and 8 2011 it was pretty constant, maybe 55 to 57, but 9 pretty constant. And it jumped in 2011 to 10 64,000 to 65,000. And, again, it stayed very 11 constant as an average until 2019 where it 12 jumped to 80,000, and then we have no data. 13 So I find that the bonus average stays 14 pretty much in the same realm. So I just want 15 to understand, because often I view salary plus 16 pay perform, target performance not the actual, 17 target bonus is often what you view as total 18 compensation and what the market is ready to 19 accept. 20 I just want to understand when you 21 say, well, it may change and it's 22 individualized, it hasn't changed so much. 23 what is it I'm not getting from those statistic 24 and that data? 25 So, Madam Chair, I would MR. SHANNON:

1 like the opportunity to come back to you on 2 those points briefly tomorrow. 3 MADAM CHAIR: That's fine. 4 MR. SHANNON: And especially the 5 current salary range, because I want to make sure that I get the numbers exact for you rather 6 7 than flipping through documents madly right now. 8 As to the bonus average, or rather the 9 at-risk average, I fully recognize that there's 10 been a consistency over time. My point is, and 11 the point of the Rémillard Commission's comments 12 in this regard, and the Block Commission's 13 comments, is there's no guarantee of consistency 14 there. That though that has been the case if 15 the make-up of the DM-3 group changes 16 significantly, which it can through promotions, 17 through retirement, given the short tenure of 18 the DM-3s, et cetera, it will adjust and it 19 will shift, and that necessarily has to be taken 20 into consideration. 21 When we consider the purpose of the 22 DM-3 of -- and the goal of consistency in the 23 DM-3 comparator, a midpoint plus half at-risk is 24 going to be consistent over time and not shift. 25 And that is -- was the goal of the original

creation of the DM-3 comparator, and have been the goal consistent, and have been the comments of both the Block and Rémillard Commissions in that regard.

So I think -- I'll come back to you on the specific numbers with respect to averages, but I -- my point still stands that the consistency may have been there at different points but it -- there's no guarantee that it will continue. And to the extent it does this it doesn't assist the Commission in performing an actual comparison.

MADAM CHAIR: Okay. Thank you very much.

MADAM COMMISSIONER: Mr. Shannon, perhaps I could just piggy-back on the data, and if you could come back with what the at-risk component is for fully satisfactory performance, and whether that is half of that risk? Or maybe over the same time period?

Because I think some of the variation may be related to changing of the amount of the at-risk, but I think the at-risk we should focus on is the kind of fully satisfactory one, or whatever they're calling the equivalent right

now.

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MR. SHANNON: And, Commissioner
Bloodworth, just so I'm clear, you're looking
for a percentage of where fully satisfactory
would be within that 33 percent range, is that
correct?

MADAM COMMISSIONER: Yes.

MR. SHANNON: Got it. I cannot speak as to whether that data is available, but to the extent we have it we will track it down and get it to you.

Two other brief points in response to issues raised by the judiciary. I note that the judiciary expressed concerns with our inclusions of data on or information on DM-3 tenure and the nature of the DM-3 job. But to understand why total average compensation is problematic this information is essential.

It's important to consider the short tenure, the highly individual nature of the compensation because they caused fluctuations in the compensation, and can cause fluctuations in the compensation to DM-3s and render this proposal problematic. So that's -- to a certain extent that is why that data is in there. And I

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wanted to note as much.

I also want to just take the

Commission to judiciary's table 7, which was
inserted at their paragraph 156 of their main
submissions. I have it here in the condensed
book at tab 15, and I'll bring it up now. So
this is a table which shows judicial salary,
obviously it's base salary which doesn't include
the annuity, which will be my next point.

But it shows judicial salary for these years, projected forward to 2023. It shows DM-3 total average compensation. And the only thing I would note here is that everything other than the first row is a projection. And obviously the second row of the second column is not a projection, but everything in gray is a projection and it assumes quite a bit. It assumes no change in the compensation of the It assumes also that the DM-3 range will group. change. And what I mean by that is currently, as things currently stand, a DM-3, top of the range, top of the performance pay or at-risk pay, gets you to 407,645. And here if you look at the April 1st, 2023, it's 413,725. So my point here is simply that there are a lot of

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1 assumptions built into this chart. 2. We don't know where the DM-3 range 3 That is not before this Commission in 4 terms of why the salaries to DMs are set in 5 the way they are. But this chart in and of 6 itself necessarily includes quite a bit of 7 projections going forward that may -- are 8 subject to shift, especially given the small 9 number of individuals, especially given that 10 we're talking about eight -- between eight and 11 fourteen, I would suggest, individuals. 12 My final point on DM-3 is, again, a 13 call for apples-to-apples comparison. Total 14 compensation must be considered in any 15 comparison. Like the judiciary DMs, of 16 course, have an annuity. But the DM annuity is 17 not as beneficial or as generous as the judicial 18 annuity. 19 According to the Gorham report at 20 paragraph 221 and 222 the DM pension is valued 21 at 17 percent, versus the judicial pension, 22 which we are accepting Mr. Newell's number at 23 34.1 percent.

We certainly took note of

Mr. Bienvenu's comments this morning regarding

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1 the table, which was included at page 14 of our 2 submissions. That's at tab M of the 3 judiciary's -- "M" as in Michael, of the judiciary's condensed book. And after review of 5 it we certainly acknowledge and apologize for 6 the error. Mr. Bienvenu is entirely right, that 7 the chart incorrectly adds the value of the 8 annuity to the top line but not to the others, 9 and we apologize for that. And before the ends 10 of the day we will provide a replacement chart 11 for that specific chart. 12 However, the error illustrates the 13 point I'm trying to make here quite nicely. We 14 can't fairly compare compensation without 15 considering annuities, and I'm going to list off 16 some numbers, and it's looking at 2019 numbers 17 specifically. So in 2019 we have the block 18 comparator, and if you adjust it to include 19 17 percent annuity that takes you to 386,498. 20 The judicial salary, adjusted to include the 21 34.1 percent annuity, takes you to 442,395. 22 And, interestingly, the total average 23 compensation of DM-3s, adjusted to include their 24 annuity, again 17 percent, takes you to 448,641. 25 So doing an apples-to-apples comparison judicial

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compensation measures up very well.

Before I turn it over to Mr. Rupar I want to briefly address the other professions as context not comparator. So you will see at paragraphs 130 to 135 of our main submissions we included a section on other professions and other judiciaries, and this morning you heard some submissions on those submission.

Just to be clear, as Mr. Rupar already said, the government is not proposing new comparators. We're providing context to understand where judicial compensation fits in with the broader societal picture. And, in our view, it is essential to understand not only the legal and public service context but the broader context.

So we've noted that in 2018 family doctors made approximately \$204,000, and general surgery specialists made an average of approximately \$347,000. And this is not including annuities, et cetera, but this is in terms of income, that's what's listed. So judicial-based compensation in 2018, which is the year I quoted for those other professions, was 321,600 without annuity. So are we saying

- that these jobs are directly comparable?

 Certainly not, but we believe they assist the

 Commission to fit the judicial compensation

 within the broader context of high-level

 professionals in Canada.
 - As for other commonwealth and common law judges perhaps there is more direct comparison that can done but, yet again, we don't propose them as comparator in the strict sense, it's context. And as you'll see at paragraph 134 of our main submission, Canadian federally appointed judges make slightly more than their counterparts in Australia and the U.S. and the U.K. as well, but slightly less than other counterparts in the U.K., Australia and New Zealand.

The conclusion is simply this, the Canadian judicial base salary is in the same range as other commonwealth and common law judges. That is the submission we're putting forward.

Subject to any questions I will turn the microphone back to Mr. Rupar.

MADAM CHAIR: We probably will have other questions for you tomorrow after we hear

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   all the replies, but we just wanted to get that.
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              Unless, Peter and Margaret, there is
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   any specific questions that might be useful for
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   Mr. Shannon to get back to us?
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              MR. COMMISSIONER: I don't have
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   anything else.
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              MADAM COMMISSIONER: No, I'm fine.
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              MADAM CHAIR: Perfect. Thank you,
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   Mr. Shannon.
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              Mr. Rupar
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                          Thank you, Madam Chair.
              MR. RUPAR:
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   I'm happy to report I will be brief, this late
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   in the day for everybody.
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              With respect to the allowances for the
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   judiciary that Mr. Bienvenu spoke of this
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   morning, I've reviewed out position and our
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   submissions were -- the point I was going to
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   make is we've reviewed our written submissions
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   and we don't really have anything to add with
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   respect to the allowances that are not found in
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   our written submissions so we'll stand by those.
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              And with respect to Prothonotaries, I
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   take what Mr. Lokan said this morning, a number
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   of the issues raised by the Prothonotaries have
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   been, to use the general term, agreed with by
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1 the government. We have agreed with the 2 creation of a supernumerary office and with the 3 increase in the allowances, and those 4 discussions are ongoing and matters are 5 pressing. 6 With respect to compensation, 7 Mr. Lokan went on a bit, to some degree, about 8 professional corporations and taxation. 9 dealt with that in our main submissions and we 10 don't see a significant, if any, difference 11 between how the judiciary and the Prothonotaries 12 will be treated, as the Prothonotariesies is 13 based -- the compensation is based on that of 14 the Judiciary. So I'll just say that what we 15 said this afternoon applies to them as well. 16 The last point that I raise, and it's 17 not that we are disagreeing here I just want to 18 clarify a couple of points that Mr. Lokan raised 19 with respect the change of title to Associate 20 Judge. The government has committed to making 21 this change and has given its intention to bring 22 the necessary legislative changes to do this. 23 Mr. Lokan has suggested that it's still 24 necessary for this Commission to make a 25 recommendation. And we are of the view that it

1 is beyond the jurisdiction of this Commission, 2 dealing with compensation and benefits, to deal 3 with the matter of process and legislation, 4 which is what the title of "Prothonotary" deals 5 So although we agree there should be a with. 6 change, and we have signalled our very clear 7 intention to make the necessary changes, we do 8 not agree it's something that the 9 recommendations of this Commission should be 10 dealing with. 11 And subject to that those would be our 12 submissions until tomorrow. 13 MADAM CHAIR: Thank you very much. 14 Mr. Rupar. 15 Peter and Margaret, anything else? Do 16 you want to probe a bit on professional 17 corporations or wait until tomorrow? 18 MR. COMMISSIONER: We do have a little 19 bit of time. Mr. Rupar, could I ask you this 20 question, it's troubling to me that we have a 21 lacuna in the data with respect to professional 22 corporations where we have a crossover now of 23 17,000 versus the 15,000 of self-employed 24 lawyers. 25 And I take it from your submission

1 that what you're telling this Commission to do is to only rely on the self-employed lawyer 3 data, because we have data there, and not to, 4 for want of a prettier way of saying it, not to 5 pay any attention to the professional 6 corporation side of the equation. First off, is 7 that your position? 8 MR. RUPAR: I wouldn't quite put it 9 that way, but at the end of the day it is our 10 position that there is not enough evidence, 11 enough specific evidence before the Commission 12 for it to make conclusions and recommendations 13 based on professional corporations. Because we 14 have the theory, we have the general approach 15 that would be taken but we don't have any data 16 to apply to. And that's where we run into the 17 problem where the lacuna, as you describe it, 18 Mr. Griffin. 19 MR. COMMISSIONER: Okay. But do you 20 accept at least this much, that it is likely 21 that the higher-earner category, leaving aside 22 the significance of that component of the 23 criteria under section 26, that the higher 24 earning category may be found within that data 25 if it was available to us?

1 MR. RUPAR: Well that's why we need to 2 see the data, Mr. Griffin. I'll check today, 3 but I don't think we're prepared to make that 4 assumption because until we see the data, until 5 we see what stratuses of categories of -- or 6 levels of income are using the professional 7 corporations, to what degree, it would be 8 difficult for us to agree that it would be the 9 higher end strata. 10 MR. COMMISSIONER: Do you accept that 11 it would be earners in the 200 to \$300,000 12 category would begin to use the alternative of a 13 professional corporation? 14 MR. RUPAR: We'll agree with what 15 Messrs. Leblanc and Pickler have said in their 16 evidence, that it would generally be a starting 17 point. But we're not excluding, and I should be 18 clear that we're not wish to exclude that 19 earners who make less than \$200,000 may be able 20 to take advantage of that as well. 21 Much like Mr. Shannon talked about, 22 the exclusion of the lower end of the CRA data. 23 At this point we simply see no basis for 24 excluding -- if professional corporations are to 25 be applied it should be across the Board.

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don't see a reason for excluding below 200,000.

Right now you have the general propositions that have been set out by the gentlemen I described, Mr. Leblanc and Mr. Pickler, but we don't -- it comes down to the point of we just don't have the data set that we can put the experts' focus on and come up with numbers.

It may very well be that the propositions you have put to us, Mr. Griffin, are accurate. We just don't know because we don't have the data. And I wouldn't want to tie the hands of the government, and necessarily the Commission, to a proposition where we cannot support it.

MR. COMMISSIONER: No, I appreciate that point. But it leaves the Commission in a position where it has, at worst, anecdotal evidence of a higher earning category that is not reflected in the data we have in front of us.

Perhaps you can help me with this, I appreciate that there seem to be impediments to being able to reach the data that presumably would tell us which professional corporations

are lawyer professional corporations, but we seem to have that data in the 17,000 professional corporation numbers so we know we've got that much information.

Presumably within the cohort of professional corporations' line items distinguished between professional income and passive income, which seems to be the other area that is described as an advantage of a professional corporation, and so are we to understand that there is no potential to have that greater granularity now for this Commission or in the future for successive Commissions? Because that is something we need to grapple with.

MR. RUPAR: Correct. And I can't speak to future Commissions because circumstances may change in two, four years or eight years. I can say that requests were made and efforts were made to work with the CRA to retrieve this data, because we learned from the Rémillard Commission it was a trend and it was something that would be of interest.

And I don't think I'm speaking out of turn here, correct me if I am, but both parties

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were invested in trying to get this sort of data, and it simply wasn't available for the reasons that Mr. Shannon said.

We can -- Mr. Bienvenu and I can speak, and our teams can speak maybe tonight or tomorrow, or even after the completion of the Commission tomorrow to see if there's any further material that we can provide to you which would provide objective information. But as it stands now we did make joint efforts to -- and we did co-operate with each other to make efforts with the CRA to get this material and we were unsuccessful for this Commission.

MR. COMMISSIONER: And was it a question of time or cost? Because you were able to distill out the information as to the number that were legal professional corporations. So I'm just trying to understand what the limitation are in this data?

MR. RUPAR: Right. That information came from -- as I understood it came from the Federation of Law Societies and not the CRA. When we went to the CRA, as Mr. Shannon set out, there were issues of privacy and ability to extract that type of data from the information

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they had available to them.

MR. COMMISSIONER: Well, I can understand the Federation of Law Societies because you have to register a professional corporation with the provincial regulator, so that would give us some indication that that number is likely accurate as to number. It just leaves us in even more of a quandary, right?

MR. RUPAR: It does. I don't have anything further to offer you right now. As I say, we've made the efforts. We can speak again.

But I believe the last time, the last Commission, the Rémillard Commission, they were post-hearing discussions with respect to the actuaries discussing numbers with each other. So this may be a situation where we have to speak with Mr. Bienvenu and his team to see what if anything we can provide to you.

I'm not hopeful. I don't want to raise hopes because we have gone down this road with the CRA over the last number of months and these road blocks -- I won't say road blocks, these difficulties in extraction were explained to us and we were not able to get the material.

1 But given the issues raised today by the 2 Commission we will see what, if anything, in 3 addition we can do about that. 4 MR. COMMISSIONER: I think it would be 5 a help. And I don't think I speak just for 6 myself, but others are better able to express it 7 for themselves. And it is something that is 8 incumbent on us to have the best information we 9 can possibly have. 10 MR. RUPAR: Absolutely. And if we had 11 the information available, as I said, if we had 12 the data, the granular level data then we could 13 have our various experts look at it, reports 14 made and we'd have the sort of discussion we've 15 had with the CRA data over the last number of 16 the Commissions. So we're not at all 17 unwelcoming this change. We have to deal with 18 the reality of how the profession operates. 19 We are saying that we cannot give you 20 the sort of representations and quidance, if you 21 will, in making recommendations that you need 22 based on the information that we have now 23 available to us. 24 MADAM COMMISSIONER: What I would --25 just to piggyback on what Mr. Griffin was

1 asking, I would like to know whether this is a 2 time issue. Because if CRA had been asked in 3 last couple of months and they're simply saying, 4 this would take us too much time and cost us too 5 much to do that. Then I think it's incumbent on 6 us as a Commission to say, well, this is 7 something that should be done for the next 8 Commission, if that's the only option. And I 9 didn't quite understand your answer about time, 10 but maybe you could try and confirm for us 11 tomorrow? Are they saying no, they could never 12 do it? Or are they saying it would take them 13 some time and perhaps some money to be able to 14 do it? 15 MR. RUPAR: Well, it was a bit more 16 than time, as I understood it, Ms. Bloodworth, 17 as Mr. Shannon pointed out. There were 18 significant privacy issues raised by the CRA and 19 extraction ability, is the way to put it, of the 20 data. 21 So we'll go back and we'll look at 22 this again and provide some of that information 23 I don't think it was simply a time and 24 money issue. There were other issues that were 25 involved as well.

But since the Commission has now raised it it would be incumbent on both of the main parties to go back to you, either tomorrow or within a reasonably short period after the close out of the hearing tomorrow, with what we have, what we can reasonably ask for now and what possibilities there may be in the future.

Let me put it to you this way, we're not -- on the government side we're not trying to avoid professional corporations, it's a reality. What we're saying is we have to do it in a fulsome manner. And we just don't have the information now so that we can have that discussion between us, the judiciary and other interested parties, as to where this fits within the recommendations you need to make, with respect comparators and ultimately a recommendation on salaries going forward, and compensation.

MADAM COMMISSIONER: But you do understand that if the trends continue there will be a point at which, I don't know in the next Commission or the Commission after that, where the self-employed lawyers will be such a small percentage compared to the professional

corporations that their data will become less and less useful as well.

MADAM CHAIR: And also the use of filters. For example, just the simple fact of saying, filter, no matter which one, reduces the data pool, as you correctly point out, is unfortunately a big function of us missing 50 percent of the data through the professional corporations; so that exacerbates the issues.

MR. RUPAR: I hear you, Madam Chair, and I would invite Mr. Bienvenu to jump in if he has anything to add.

The parties did recognize this issue well in advance of this hearing and did make significant efforts to try and get that sort of information for you. We were cognizant of what the Rémillard Commission said. We did work to try to get it. We were unable to get it.

We understand the position that places the Commission in now and the concerns the Commission is raising about that now. And I don't want to get -- I don't want to overpromise and say we're going to come up with something that we didn't come up with over the last number of months, when we worked together with CRA to

1 try to get this information. But we will try 2 and get some answers for you, if that is 3 satisfactory. 4 MADAM CHAIR: That is fair enough. 5 Thank you very much, Mr. Rupar. 6 MADAM COMMISSIONER: On another --7 MADAM CHAIR: Mr. Bienvenu? 8 I was just going to say MR. BIENVENU: 9 that perhaps we can work with our friends from 10 the government to describe the position, in so 11 far as the limitations faced with CRA, in a 12 joint submission to the Commission. And you 13 will know what the issues are and what prospect 14 there may be in the future of getting 15 information about PCs. 16 I can certainly say that one of the 17 big issue, as I understand it, was the ability 18 of CRA to identify, within the broader group of 19 professional corporations, which were legal 20 corporations. And just identifying the correct 21 universe posed challenges. 22 But my suggestion would be that we get 23 together with our friends and we'll describe the 24 position in a joint submission so you will know 25 what are the issues and what prospect there is

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of getting them solved at one point.

MR. COMMISSIONER: Can I add one other In some circumstances lawyers, perhaps other professionals, have used two professional corporations in the structure. And so when you address it with CRA you may have one actual income earner but two corporations. So that's another factor that if they're in any position to provide the information which isolates it by single lawyer taxpayer, if you like, lawyer taxpayer as opposed to corporation. There may need to be some additional granularity. I understand it that advantage went away with a budget a couple of years ago. But if we're looking at historical data we still may have an overlay with respect that. So that's another factor when you're asking questions just to keep in the back of your mind.

MR. BIENVENU: And the situation we are facing today, with respect to the impact of professional corporations on the reliability of the CRA data, the exact same issue that we faced twelve years ago when we were at the high water mark of the use of family trusts within the profession. And none of that was captured by

1 Then there was a change in policy on the CRA. 2 the part of the federal government and the 3 family trust disappeared, but the other 4 professional corporation gained favour and 5 prevalence. 6 I just add, Madam Chair, MR. RUPAR: 7 given the scope of the questions raised by the 8 Commission today I agree fully with 9 Mr. Bienvenu's position that we should work 10 together to bring this information to you. Ι 11 don't think we're going to be able to do it by 12 the end of tomorrow. What I would suggest is 13 that we get it to you as quickly as we can 14 within the next number of days. Because we'll 15 have -- we'll go back to CRA and just clarify 16 some of these issues. 17 MADAM CHAIR: That's fair. 18 MR. RUPAR: We understand you're under 19 a legislative time constraint as well so we 20 understand the need to get it to you as quickly 21 as possible. 22 Thank you, Mr. Rupar. MADAM CHAIR: 23 Mr. Bienvenu, yes we would -- at least 24 if we can't get any form of reliable data, as it 25 looks like, understanding the difficulties and

the obstacles would at least be useful for us, 1 2 as Commissioners, in developing where we end. 3 So that would be very useful as well. 4 Margaret, you have I believe another 5 question? 6 MADAM COMMISSIONER: Yeah, another 7 data related question, Madam Chair, and that was 8 about applicants for the judiciary. We have a 9 table we looked at today and I remembered it 10 from the submissions, where it talks about 11 applicants by province. I'm wondering if there 12 is data available for a further breakdown of 13 applicants? 14 Now, I realize in a place like PEI it 15 may be difficult to break down further because 16 it's smaller, but a place like Ontario it might 17 be relevant for us to know how many of those 18 applicants are coming from the Toronto area as 19 opposed to northern Ontario, for example. 20 don't know whether that data is available but 21 perhaps you can look for that? 22 MR. RUPAR: We have to inquire at the 23 CGFA for that, that's the source, the 24 independent office. But we can inquire to see 25 if they have that sort of breakdown, yes.

1 MADAM COMMISSIONER: Thank you. 2 MADAM CHAIR: Any other things? 3 So thank you very much everybody. Sorry we had 4 a few technological glitches but hopeful they 5 are gone for tomorrow. 6 Again we start at 9:30 tomorrow 7 morning and I'm more than happy to give my ten 8 minutes away to Chief Justice Richard Bell, not 9 to add to your time but to basically make sure 10 we have more time for the questions in the end. 11 I would ask everybody to please sign 12 on around 9:00 a.m. so we can again test all 13 your microphones and cameras and then shift you 14 into the breakout rooms, and that allows to 15 start on time effectively. 16 Gabriel, am I forgetting anything? 17 MR. LAVOIE: No I think you covered 18 everything, Madam Chair. I wanted to say thank 19 you everyone for the few technical difficulties 20 we had earlier in the day. 21 JUSTICE J. CHAMBERLAND: That being 22 said I have no reply so I feel a little bit 23 isolated in the group who don't have right of 24 reply, but I can live with that. 25 But my question is the following, are

1 you expecting me to take advantage of my right 2 to speak to comment on the government's reply, 3 for example, with regard to what the appellate 4 judges are proposing? 5 MADAM CHAIR: Yes, and if you need a 6 right of reply, because we've seen what the 7 government has submitted, but if afterwards the 8 government comes back to us and if would like to 9 intervene quickly we can probably find you some 10 time in our question period, if that suits out. 11 JUSTICE J. CHAMBERLAND: Yes, that's 12 Thank you very much. good. 13 Anything else? MADAM CHAIR: 14 Thank you. Please place us in breakout rooms 15 and people can leave from there. 16 Meeting adjourned at 4:22 p.m. 17 18 19 2.0 21 22 23 24 25

1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
2	
3	I, HELEN MARTINEAU, CSR, Certified
4	Shorthand Reporter, certify;
5	That the foregoing public hearing was
6	taken before me at the time and date therein set
7	forth;
8	All discussions had by the
9	participants were recorded stenographically by
10	me and were thereafter transcribed;
11	That the foregoing is a true and
12	accurate transcript of my shorthand notes so
13	taken. Dated this 12th day of May, 2021.
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18	CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER
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Military Judges Compensation Committee

31 JANUARY 2024

Report of the Military Judges Compensation Committee

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Military Judges Compensation Committee (MJCC) is established as a matter of constitutional imperative relating to the independence of the judiciary. Sections 165.33 and 165.34 of the *National Defence Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. N-5 (*NDA*), which establish the composition of the MJCC and its mandate, were enacted to comply with the constitutional requirement for an independent advisory body to "inquire into the adequacy of remuneration of military judges" (s-s. 165.34(1) *NDA*) and advise the Government of its findings and conclusions. Pursuant to the jurisprudence of the Supreme Court of Canada, the purpose of this process is to take judicial compensation out of the political sphere and avoid unseemly conflict between Parliament and the judges. While the Supreme Court's vision was that this process would be effective, the Committee observes that this vision has unfortunately not been realized. The Government of Canada (the Government) has rejected the compensation recommendations of the last two Committees, and this raises legitimate concerns about the effectiveness of the process.

Under section 165.34 of the *NDA*, we are required to consider four statutory factors in our inquiry into the adequacy of judicial compensation: economic conditions, financial security securing judicial independence, attracting outstanding candidates, and other objective criteria the Committee considers relevant. We have done so, as we will explain in detail in the pages that follow.

For reasons that we will set out at length, our consideration of all the relevant factors leads us to share the views of two previous Committees that the military judges should receive the same remuneration as all other federally appointed judges.

The economics of remunerating four federally appointed judges around 15% more to gain parity with the other approximately 1200 federally appointed judges do not, we conclude, impair the overall economic and current financial position of the Government, and takes account of the prevailing economic conditions in Canada. The role of financial security in ensuring judicial independence favours parity, given the risk of perception that the military judges are not of the same quality or value as other federally appointed judges. The necessity of attracting the best

candidates also favours parity lest some of the best candidates for an appointment as a military judge opt instead for appointments to other branches of the federally appointed judiciary on the basis of the higher remuneration of those other posts. In short, we conclude that the same remuneration that has been considered adequate for all other federally appointed judges is also the adequate remuneration for the military judges.

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. The Constitutional Basis for the Committee's Work

Military judges are federally appointed members of a federal judiciary by an Order-in-Council who are also commissioned officers in His Majesty's Canadian Armed Forces (CAF). They devote their full-time work and attention to their service as military judges.

Parliament established the Military Judges Compensation Committee to provide independent, impartial advice to the Government on military judges' remuneration. The role of the independent MJCC is to inquire into the adequacy of the remuneration for military judges and to recommend remuneration for the period of its review – in this case, 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2023. The establishment of an independent Committee to recommend remuneration is a direct result of the decision of the Court Martial Appeal Court in *R. v Lauzon* (1998) 6 CMAR 19, which stipulated that judicial independence and depoliticization of the salary determination process must be ensured. In *Lauzon*, the court also stipulated that the remuneration must be fair and reasonable, objective, and guided by the public interest. The court followed the earlier decision of the Supreme Court of Canada in *Reference re Remuneration of Judges of the Provincial Court of Prince Edward Island*, [1997] 3 SCR 3, which established that there must be an independent committee which must make a recommendation to the governing authority, and that negotiations between Government and the judges are prohibited. Most importantly, it established that the salary level of judges must not be one that risks putting a judge in a situation where they may be subject to financial manipulation.

The process for salary determination of military judges parallels the process for federally appointed judges where, pursuant to the *Judges Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. J-1 (*Judges Act*), an independent Commission recommends appropriate remuneration to the governing authority. It is notable that the statutory language Parliament used in creating the Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission (JCBC) is almost identical to that which establishes the MJCC.

The central task of the Committee is to "inquire into the adequacy of the remuneration of military judges" (s. 165.34 *NDA*). This focus on "adequacy" is also found in the mandate of the JCBC under the *Judges Act* which is to "inquire into the adequacy" of the salaries and other amounts

payable to other federally appointed judges. It follows that the jurisprudence about "adequacy" within the meaning of the *Judges Act* provides a useful guide to how to approach that same term in the *NDA*.

The Supreme Court of Canada jurisprudence teaches that the process by which judicial remuneration is established must be independent, effective, and objective and that the Committee's work must have a "meaningful effect" on the determination of compensation (*Bodner v. Alberta*, 2005 SCC 44). The Committee is a vehicle to help assure that these objectives are attained. With respect to the amount of remuneration, the Supreme Court of Canada has held that the mandate to determine adequate remuneration "is neither to determine the minimum remuneration nor to achieve maximal conditions." Rather, the mandate is to recommend "an appropriate level or remuneration" (*Bodner* at para. 67). This is done considering the constitutional requirement of judicial independence, including financial security, and having regard to the factors set out in the statute. Adequacy is, therefore, neither the bare minimum amount necessary to meet the constitutional requirement of financial security nor the ideal maximum amount. Adequacy must be assessed by placing remuneration somewhere between these two polls guided by the statutory factors.

B. The Statutory Scheme

When the *NDA* was amended to include sections 165.33 through 165.37 establishing the MJCC's mandate and procedure, Parliament's aspirations appeared to be both clear and efficient: every four years, the MJCC would make recommendations to the Government on military judges' salaries, focused on prevailing economic conditions, the financial security of the judiciary that ensures judicial independence, and the need to attract outstanding candidates. While the Committee's mandate was limited to recommending to Government rather than making binding decisions, the Committee's mandate and procedure as a core part of the *NDA* establishes the importance of the MJCC's role in the overall administration of the "the Canadian Forces and of all matters relating to national defence" as specified in section 4 of the *NDA* under the Minister's responsibilities.

Unfortunately, we observe that the process established by Parliament has neither been followed with vigour nor proved to be effective. This is the sixth Committee to be convened under *NDA* authority. As we will describe in more detail, the long delay in appointment of the members of the Committee and the Government's rejection of the key remuneration recommendation of the past two Committees have undermined the intended effectiveness of the process.

II. COMMITTEE'S COMPOSITION, APPOINTMENT AND CONSIDERATION PROCESS

A. Purpose and Object of the Report

The Committee is mandated by Parliament in s. 165.33 of the *NDA* to enquire into the adequacy of the remuneration of military judges in Canada. Its governing legislation specifies:

Military Judges Compensation Committee

Composition of Committee

165.33 (1) There is established a Military Judges Compensation Committee consisting of three part-time members to be appointed by the Governor in Council as follows:

- (a) one person nominated by the military judges;
- (b) one person nominated by the Minister; and
- (c) one person, who shall act as chairperson, nominated by the members who are nominated under paragraphs (a) and (b).

Tenure and removal

(2) Each member holds office during good behaviour for a term of four years, and may be removed for cause at any time by the Governor in Council.

Reappointment

(3) A member is eligible to be reappointed for one further term.

Absence or incapacity

(4) In the event of the absence or incapacity of a member, the Governor in Council may appoint, as a substitute temporary member, a person nominated in accordance with subsection (1).

Vacancy

(5) If the office of a member becomes vacant during the member's term, the Governor in Council shall appoint a person nominated in accordance with subsection (1) to hold office for the remainder of the term.

Quorum

(6) All three members of the compensation committee together constitute a quorum.

Remuneration

(7) The members of the compensation committee shall be paid the remuneration fixed by the Governor in Council and, subject to any applicable Treasury Board directives, the reasonable travel and living expenses incurred

Comité d'examen de la rémunération des juges militaires

Constitution du comité

165.33 (1) Est constitué le comité d'examen de la rémunération des juges militaires, composé de trois membres à temps partiel nommés par le gouverneur en conseil sur le fondement des propositions suivantes :

- a) un membre proposé par les juges militaires;
- b) un membre proposé par le ministre;
- c) un membre proposé à titre de président par les membres nommés conformément aux alinéas a) et b).

Durée du mandat et révocation

(2) Les membres sont nommés à titre inamovible pour un mandat de quatre ans, sous réserve de révocation motivée du gouverneur en conseil.

Mandat renouvelable

(3) Leur mandat est renouvelable une fois.

Remplacement

(4) En cas d'absence ou d'empêchement d'un membre, le gouverneur en conseil peut lui nommer un remplaçant suivant la procédure prévue au paragraphe (1).

Vacance à combler

(5) Le gouverneur en conseil comble toute vacance suivant la procédure prévue au paragraphe (1). Le mandat du nouveau membre prend fin à la date prévue pour la fin du mandat de l'ancien.

Quorum

(6) Le quorum est de trois membres.

Rémunération et frais

(7) Les membres ont droit à la rémunération fixée par le gouverneur en conseil et sont indemnisés, en conformité avec les instructions du Conseil du Trésor, des frais de by them in the course of their duties while absent from their ordinary place of residence.

2013, c. 24, s. 45.

Mandate

165.34 (1) The Military Judges Compensation Committee shall inquire into the adequacy of the remuneration of military judges.

Factors to be considered

- (2) In conducting its inquiry, the compensation committee shall consider
 - (a) the prevailing economic conditions in Canada, including the cost of living, and the overall economic and current financial position of the federal government;
 - (b) the role of financial security of the judiciary in ensuring judicial independence;
 - (c) the need to attract outstanding candidates to the judiciary; and
 - (d) any other objective criteria that the committee considers relevant.

Quadrennial inquiry

(3) The compensation committee shall commence an inquiry on September 1, 2015, and on September 1 of every fourth year after 2015, and shall submit a report containing its recommendations to the Minister within nine months after the day on which the inquiry commenced.

Postponement

(4) The compensation committee may, with the consent of the Minister and the military judges, postpone the commencement of a quadrennial inquiry.

2013, c. 24, s. 45.

déplacement et de séjour entraînés par l'accomplissement de leurs fonctions hors de leur lieu habituel de résidence.

2013, ch. 24, art. 45.

Fonctions

165.34 (1) Le comité d'examen de la rémunération des juges militaires est chargé d'examiner la question de savoir si la rémunération des juges militaires est satisfaisante.

Facteurs à prendre en considération

- (2) Le comité fait son examen en tenant compte des facteurs suivants :
 - a) l'état de l'économie au Canada, y compris le coût de la vie, ainsi que la situation économique et financière globale de l'administration fédérale;
 - b) le rôle de la sécurité financière des juges militaires dans la préservation de l'indépendance judiciaire;
 - e) le besoin de recruter les meilleurs officiers pour la magistrature militaire;
 - d) tout autre facteur objectif qu'il considère comme important.

Examen quadriennal

(3) Il commence ses travaux le 1^{er} septembre 2015 et remet un rapport faisant état de ses recommandations au ministre dans les neuf mois qui suivent. Il refait le même exercice, dans le même délai, à partir du 1^{er} septembre tous les quatre ans par la suite.

Report

(4) Il peut, avec le consentement du ministre et des juges militaires, reporter le début de ses travaux. 2013, ch. 24, art. 45.

B. Composition of the Committee, Members and Administrative Support

The Committee was composed of one Chairperson and two Members. The Chair of the Committee was the Honourable Clément Gascon, C.C., Ad. É. The Members were the Honourable Thomas A. Cromwell, C.C., and Mr. James E. Lockyer, O.N.B., C.D., K.C. The Committee was administratively supported by Gordon S. Campbell as Executive Secretary.

C. Military Judges: Who They Are, How Many, Where They Sit and Nature of Their Work

There is a roster of four military judges appointed in Canada who sit throughout Canada and as required around the world wherever His Majesty's Canadian Armed Forces are deployed. Their

duties are established by the *NDA*. They are federally appointed judges having a specialized role, as is the case with other federally appointed judges in specialized roles such as those who have been appointed to the Tax Court of Canada. Military judges are commissioned military officers within the Canadian Armed Forces.

D. Counsel for Military Judges and Counsel for the Government

Counsel for the Military Judges were Me Michel Jolin, Me Sean Griffin, Me Catherine Martel and Me Jean-Philippe Dionne. Counsel for the Government were Me Jean-Robert Noiseux and Me Sara Gauthier. They all most ably represented their respective clients and advocated for their positions.

E. Written Submissions Received by the Committee and Expert Testimony

The Committee received voluminous well-drafted written argument and supporting documentation from both the Government and military judges. The submissions for the Government and their dates of receipt by the Committee were:

- a) 2 December 2022, the "Memorandum";
- b) 30 March 2023, the "CV of Yann Bernard";
- c) 17 February 2023, the "Mémoire du Gouvernement";
- d) 17 February 2023, the "Cahier de Documents" (Volumes 1 through 4);
- e) 3 March 2023, the "Réplique";
- f) 3 March 2023, the "Cahier de Documents" (Volume 5);
- g) 29 March 2023, the "Cahier d'autorités"; and
- h) 29 March 2023, the "Cahier de Documents" (Volume 6).

The submissions for the military judges and their dates of receipt were:

- a) 13 January 2023, the "Lettre de M. André Sauvé";
- b) 17 February 2023, the "Mémoire des juges militaries";

- c) 17 February 2023, the "Cahier d'autorités";
- d) 17 February 2023, the "Cahier d'annexes";
- e) 3 March 2023, the "Réplique:;
- f) 3 March 2023, the "Cahier d'annexes supplémentaires"; and
- g) 29 May 2023, the "Documents additionels."

Mr. Yann Bernard was presented as an expert witness for the Government, who the Committee duly recognized as a qualified expert in his field. He is the Director of the Office of the Chief Actuary. He presented an analysis of the compensation of the Military Judges of Canada as of 2 December 2022. In his analysis, Mr. Bernard explained the results of his calculation on determining the value of compensation for the military judges compared to the other federally appointed judges of Canada.

Mr. André Sauvé is a consulting actuary and was presented as the expert for the military judges. He was likewise duly recognized by the Committee as an expert. He presented and explained his 13 January 2023 report, in which he sought to rebut several of Mr. Bernard's findings, such as the rank available after Lieutenant-Colonel. He also calculated the value of military judges' pension benefits and proposed some economic and demographic hypotheses. The experts especially diverged over whether total remuneration of salary and pension values resulted in military judges or other federally appointed judges being more highly remunerated.

F. In-Person Hearing

An oral in-person hearing took place in Gatineau, Quebec on the 14th and 15th of June, 2023, which proceeded in three parts:

- 1) the presentations of the expert witnesses Mr. Sauvé and Mr. Bernard by way of sworn *viva voce* testimony before the Committee;
- 2) the presentation of military judge Pelletier J. before the Committee;
- 3) oral argument made by counsel for the Government and the military judges.

At the end of the hearing, the Committee indicated that it would take the matter under consideration. This report is the result of the deliberations of the Committee, based upon all of the evidence and argument presented by the parties.

G. Acknowledgment of Contributions and Assistance to the Committee

The Committee wishes to thank Mr. Campbell for his skilled and dedicated assistance.

H. Effectiveness of the Committee Process

The Military Judges noted the long and unexplained delay in appointing the Committee. Their factum presented to this Commission at paras. 100-104 sets out the relevant facts:

[translation] This Committee should have been set up shortly after 1 September 2019. Yet, it was only on 20 June 2022, after the military judges had sent a draft application for mandamus to the Federal Court, that the members of this Committee were appointed by Order in Council.

The military judges do not understand and furthermore condemn the considerable time the Minister has taken in establishing this Committee, despite the clear and express terms of the NDA and the QR&O regarding the required deadlines.

The legislative intent is for the Compensation Committee to operate on a permanent basis. However, the failure to respect the applicable deadlines and process has left the military judges without a formal process for determining their compensation, thereby undermining the independence of the military judiciary.

That forces the Committee to engage in an essentially retroactive exercise, which affects public confidence in the independence and effectiveness of a process that is required pursuant to constitutional principles and the NDA.

The military judges deplore the fact that this Committee was not set up until almost two years after all the administrative steps and documentation required by the Governor in Council for the appointment of the three Committee members had been completed...

The Committee notes that such delays are not consistent with the constitutional imperative that it be effective and converts our role into recommending remuneration retrospectively rather than prospectively. We urge the Government to appoint future Committees in a timely way so that they

may report their recommendations before the beginning of period to which they relate rather than after that period has passed.

The Government's recent consistent rejections of the MJCC's core recommendations also undermine the effectiveness of the Committee's process as envisaged by the Supreme Court of Canada. While the Government is not bound by the recommendations, consistent refusal to implement independent recommendations saps confidence in the process.

The two most recent Committees recommended parity of remuneration for the military judges with other federally appointed judges. It is instructive to consider their views.

a. 2012 MJCC Report Majority Recommend Remuneration Parity with Other Federally Appointed Judges

The 2012 MJCC Report emphasized the following at pages 12 and 14:

It is quite stunning to realize that only four of more than a thousand judges are singled out for much lesser remuneration if one accepts that they are indeed just as qualified as the others and paid from the same sources.

••

judges who would qualify for military appointments and are selected according to a similar process as members of another superior court are paid 31% more than military judges, from the same public purse ... We agree that **the rationale of the government does not stand up to scrutiny**. [emphasis added]

•••

b. 2019 Report Unanimous in Recommending Remuneration Parity with Other Federally Appointed Judges

The 2019 MJCC Report noted at pages 8 and 9:

If the Government of Canada is fine with equal remuneration for judges working in different provinces or for specialized courts, it is difficult to understand why, as a matter of principle, it would be any different for the military Courts ...

The 2019 MJCC Report concluded at pages 10 and 11:

- 1. economic conditions are not the primary factor for the Committee to consider as they are "not an obstacle to setting adequate remuneration; this was admitted by the government."
- 2. financial security in preserving judicial independence should not simply aspire to the absolute bare minimum: "we should not be satisfied with the minimum requirement and that it is impossible to set adequate remuneration on the basis of this standard alone."
- 3. for attracting outstanding candidates "When one considers appointments to the superior courts ... It has already been established that many candidates will earn much more than what they earned previously. There is no need to make a distinction for military judges. Our finding on this criteria is simply to accept that an adequate salary is one that allows for reasonable and stable recruitment."
- 4. "military judges' salaries should be increased with a view to equating their salaries with those of those of other federally appointed judges ... there is nothing to justify paying military judges less when they have equivalent training."

We note that the Government's responses to these reports were concerned that the Committees appeared to focus only one benchmark or criterion, namely parity, rather than inquiring into the adequacy of the remuneration having regard to all the statutory factors. In our deliberations, we have taken those concerns to heart and carefully and fully considered all the statutory factors in coming to our conclusions.

c Government's Consistent Acceptance of JCBC Reports Recommendations

The Government's treatment of the JCBC recommendations relating to other federally appointed judges stands in sharp contrast to that given by the Government to the previous MJCC reports. The Committee notes that the "Response of the Government of Canada to the Report of the 2021 Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission" (11 May 2022) accepted 100% of the eight recommendations made by the Commission: "The Government will take steps to ensure the timely implementation the Commission's recommendations "This included improvements to judicial allowances such as a 50% increase in the annual "incidental allowance" (from \$5,000 to \$7,500). There the Commission rejected the Government's proposal for "a 10 percent limit on salary increases attributable to IAI above the salary payable as of April 1, 2020" notwithstanding an

"unusually large increase at April 1, 2021," while also rejecting "proposals put forward by ... the judiciary (i.e. 2.3 percent increases in salary in the third and fourth years of the Commission's inquiry period, in addition to indexation)."

The Committee notes that the Government likewise accepted 100% of the recommendations of the Rémillard Commission in its "Response of The Government of Canada to the Report of the 2015 Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission," even finding that "The Government agrees that it is appropriate that the Chief Justice of the Court Martial Appeal Court receive a salary equal to that of other superior court chief justices, and that the step-down provisions also be extended to that office." The Government's responses to the last two Judicial Benefits and Compensation Commissions thus stand in stark contrast to the Government's response to the last two MJCCs.

The Government noted in its response to the Sixth Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission (Turcotte Commission) that the Commission is "a manifestation of one of the protections constructed around the constitutional principle of judicial independence, which the Supreme Court of Canada has found to be the lifeblood of constitutionalism in democratic societies and a principle that is fundamental to maintaining public confidence in the administration of justice." This is equally true for the MJCC, which is statutorily governed by precisely the same principles as direct the JCBC.

III. STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION OF GOVERNING LEGISLATION

We must address two points of interpretation in relation to our statutory mandate. The first concerns the meaning of "adequacy" of the remuneration. The English term "adequacy" - the adjective form of the noun "adequate" - in some definitions has the sense of bare minimum, but in others it does not, leading to some ambiguity in Parliament's intentions in using the English term. The *Concise Oxford Dictionary*, 8th ed. (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1990) at p. 14 defines "adequate" as "sufficient, satisfactory" (often with the implication of being barely so). *Black's Law Dictionary*, 6th ed (St. Paul: West Publishing, 1990) at p. 39 defines "adequate" as "sufficient, commensurate, equally efficient; equal to what is required; suitable to a case or occasion; satisfactory." We find the term "satisfaisant" in French used in the French statutory text of both the *NDA* and the *Judge's Act* has a more precise and broader meaning, with an equivalency in

English of "satisfactory." See *Provincial Court Judges' Assn. of New Brunswick v. New Brunswick* (Minister of Justice); Ontario Judge's Assn. v. Ontario (Management Board); Bodner v. Alberta; Conférence des juges du Québec v. Quebec (Attorney General); Minc v. Quebec (Attorney General), 2005 SCC 44 at paras. 65-67,

R. Sullivan, *Sullivan and Driedger on the Construction of Statutes*, 4th ed. (Toronto: Butterworth, 2002), at pp. 80-81, notes:

The basic rule governing the interpretation of bilingual legislation is known as the shared or common meaning rule. Where the two versions of bilingual legislation do not say the same thing, the meaning that is shared by both ought to be adopted unless the meaning is for some reason unacceptable ... The law is the abstract rule or provision that the legislature 'intends' to enact. The words in which the law is expressed may or may not be well chosen; they may be well chosen in one language version but not in the other. The court's job is to construct, or reconstruct, the rule relying on the meaning of both language versions ..."

Here, we find the French meaning is more precise than the English meaning, but the English meaning overlaps the French meaning. As such, they can each have a shared meaning of "satisfactory" in the context of compensation for military judges as mandated by the *NDA*, which is quite different than merely the bare minimum.

A statutory comparison of the *NDA*'s provisions in establishing the Committee and the *Judges Act* provisions in establishing the Commission is also useful, as we observe that Parliament's drafting of the *Judges Act* contains the same key English-French version issue at s-s. 26(1) as does the *NDA* at s. 165.34. Thus, what the JCBC has found to be satisfactory for the approximately 1200 other federally appointed judges is highly relevant to this Committee's determination of what will be satisfactory for four federally appointed military judges. It is helpful to apply the golden rule of modern statutory construction as endorsed numerous times by the Supreme Court of Canada, such as in *R. v. Ulybel Enterprises Ltd.*, 2001 SCC 56 at paras. 28-19:

In numerous cases, this Court has endorsed the approach to the construction of statutes set out in the following passage from Driedger's *Construction of Statutes* (2nd ed. 1983), at p. 87:

Today there is only one principle or approach, namely, the words of an Act are to be read in their entire context and in their grammatical and ordinary sense harmoniously with the scheme of the Act, the object of the Act, and the intention of Parliament.

This famous passage from Driedger "best encapsulates" our Court's preferred approach to statutory interpretation: *Rizzo & Rizzo Shoes Ltd.* (*Re*) , [1998] 1 S.C.R. 27, at paras. 21 and 23. Driedger's passage has been cited with approval by our Court on frequent occasions in many different interpretive settings which need not be mentioned here.

Here, the Committee determines that the intention of Parliament in establishing both the JCBC and MJCC was to provide for independent advisory bodies in compliance with Parliament's constitutional obligations on the remuneration that should be provided to the federal judiciary. The object of both the *NDA* and the *Judges Act* in respect of establishing a judiciary was in part to guarantee "judicial independence" as confirmed in s-s. 165.34(2)(b) of the *NDA*, where "outstanding" judges would preside, having "financial security" by way of "adequate" remuneration. We therefore find that the JCBC's findings - and the Government's responses to them - although not binding, are relevant to our work in assessing the adequacy of compensation of military judges, on the basis that Parliament's intention in establishing the scheme of both Acts was the same.

The second interpretative point concerns the third statutory criterion of attracting "outstanding candidates" in s-s. 165.34(2)(c) of the *NDA*. The statutory language in both official languages can be harmonized by giving them a common meaning of "the best" in English. We elaborate on the implications of these statutory construction findings below, in analyzing the application of the evidence to the third criterion.

IV. OVERVIEW OF 2023 PARTIES' POSITIONS

A. The Military Judges

The military judges, as summarized especially at paragraphs 8 and 204 of their factum, took the position that:

• the Government misconceives the roles of the military judges, who are in fact and law judges first who happen to also be military officers, and not the other way around;

- military judges are part of the federal justice system where there is no reason to treat the four of them any different from the other approximately 1200 federally appointed judges;
- parity of remuneration with other federally appointed judges has been recommended since 2012 by the Committee, but consistently ignored by the Government;
- there is no reason to depart from parity for military judges (see judges' brief at paras. 154-166);
- the pension plan of military judges is not relevant to the assessment of remuneration, and even if there is relevance it should not be given the value attributed to it by the Government.

The military judges have long argued, before successive remuneration committees, that their remuneration should be the same as for other federally appointed judges. They argue that their current salary is fifteen percent less. They argue strenuously that this disparity, which has been condemned by the previous committees, impinges on the independence of military judges. They maintain the disparity is not experienced by other federally appointed judges. Those judges are treated differently, from a salary point of view, and that lessens judicial independence.

The military judges argue that to ensure public confidence in the independence of the military judiciary they should be paid a salary commensurate with the other federally appointed judges. They argue that the criteria set out in section 165.34 of the *NDA* would allow for salary parity with other federally appointed judges and that the section does not prohibit "parity."

B. The Government

The Government, as summarized especially at paragraphs 1 to 3 of their factum, took the position that:

- military judges already receive satisfactory treatment;
- adequacy of remuneration should be assessed globally, taking into account particularly the value of the pension plan (paras. 140-159), workload (paras. 122-139), and a comparison with provincially appointed judges' remuneration (paras. 160 and following);
- parity with federally appointed judges is not justified, as they are governed by a different statute, their remuneration recommendations come from a different Commission, and different factors are involved.

The position of the Government is that the current salary structure is adequate. The salaries of military judges are increased each year on April 1st based on the CIAI (Canada Industrial Aggregate Index), as is the case with other federally appointed judges. That provision will bring military judges' salaries to \$339,183.00 for the year 2023-2024, which constitutes a 19.4% increase over the four-year period of this review. The Government also relies heavily on the assertion that military judges will benefit from their CAF pensions as military officers, which it is claimed by the government's expert witness will bring the global value of their remuneration package to \$545,034.00. The Government argues these figures assure that the criteria for an increase in salary as set out in the legislation (s. 165.34 NDA) is fully respected and that no increase to their salary apart from this feature is necessary. The Government argues that military judges receive this salary through the existing process, and therefore there is no need to link their salary to that of other federally appointed judges. The current process is supposedly quite adequate.

The parties take a common position on the issues of CIAI and Chief Justice differential remuneration, but diverge on remuneration and the incidental allowance.

V. ANALYSIS OF THE STATUTORY FACTORS

A. The Statutory Framework for the Committee's Work

For military judges, the determination of remuneration is a process founded in the *NDA*. Section 165.34(2) of the *Act* sets out the criteria which the Committee must consider in determining the adequacy of the remuneration of military judges for the period under review.

Succinctly put, the four factors the Committee must consider are as follows:

- The Prevailing Economic Conditions in Canada;
- The Role of Financial Security;
- The Need to Attract Outstanding Candidates to the Military Judiciary;
- Other objective criteria that the committee considers relevant.

The Committee heard representations from both the Government and the military judges on each of these criteria.

a. The Prevailing Economic Conditions in Canada

i. The position and argument of the Government on economics

The Government argues that any increase in the remuneration of military judges must reflect the current economy and the financial situation of Canadians. The pandemic caused a distortion in the CIAI in 2021 when 2.9 million Canadian workers lost their employment in the spring of 2020. Most who lost their work during the pandemic occupied positions that were subject to lower remuneration rates. At the same time, inflation was projected for 2023 at 4.3% and approximately 2.9% annually until 2027.

The Government argues that throughout this period military judges' salaries benefited from an increase in the CIAI at 6.6%. Therefore, and contrary to most Canadians, the salary of military judges increased considerably during this period. The Government argues, consistent with the *PEI* case, that the reputation of the judiciary would be damaged if the public perception was that judges, including military judges, were not carrying their fair share of the burden of the economic difficulties. The Government points out that consistent with the Turcotte Commission, which set the increase for the other federally appointed judges as a function of the CIAI, military judges received the very same increase as the other federally appointed judges.

The Government argues that during the period from 2020 to 2022, there was a fall in GDP and CPI, as well as a recession and exploding budget deficits. There was also a recovery, with rising inflation and CPI, falling unemployment and high debt producing, at a minimum, uncertainty in the marketplace and in the economy. In these circumstances, the increase in the cost of living was largely offset by the increase (CIAI) in the salaries of military judges. Accordingly, the military judges have been insulated from the economic pressures through the increase in salary provided by the annual increase based on the CIAI.

The Government argues that the uncertainty in the economy, which will be experienced at least until 2027, requires caution in any determination of salary; meaning the existing formula provides a sufficient salary and the formula should be maintained. The Government argues that a salary increase to that of the other federally nominated judges is not warranted, given the present economic circumstances.

ii. The position and argument of the military judges on economics

The military judges maintain that the percentage increases brought about by the CIAI are not an increase in salary but simply a provision to ensure that military judges do not lose the value of their existing salary. They argue that the three and four-year delay in which the Government has addressed the issue of military judicial salaries is a violation of the spirit of Section 164.34 of the NDA. They maintain that the Act requires a prospective approach to the issue and is not one to recommend salaries retroactively. They argue that this is a blatant and unjustifiable disregard of the structure put forward in the NDA. The military judges point out that this exercise should have begun in September 2019. This inordinate and unacceptable delay risks impinging upon the independence of the military judiciary and is sufficient to negatively impact the confidence of the public in the efficacy of the process to recommend military judicial remuneration. In other words, the Government is not following the relevant legislation, and this disrespect of the governing legislation is therefore an impingement of judicial independence.

The military judges argue that the issue of the strength, or weakness, of the economy was discussed by the Turcotte Commission in its report of 2021. They maintain that the Turcotte Commission concluded that the state of the economy should not constitute a restrictive factor in the establishment of judicial remuneration notwithstanding the economic difficulties presented by COVID-19. They point out that the Commission stressed that temporary budget deficits have the goal to stimulate the economy. They are not structural deficits and that the legislative criteria (Sec.165.34 *NDA*) should not be interpreted as a restriction on what should be considered as a satisfactory remuneration for judges. The Turcotte Commission concluded that the state of the economy could not be a limiting factor in setting the remuneration of federally appointed judges, despite the turmoil caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The military judges maintain that the effects of the uncertainty of the Canadian economy are temporary. They point out that during 2019 and 2020, which forms part of this review period, the Government of Canada was indicating publicly that Canada would be the leader in economic activity amongst the G7 group of nations. The four military judges maintain that the Government cannot reasonably suggest that the requested increase in salary to parity with other federal nominated judges would seriously prejudice the state of Canadian public finances. They say that

the Government cannot credibly claim that the implementation of their proposal, for four judges, is financially harmful to the Canadian economy.

The military judges submit that the Turcotte Commission's conclusions are perfectly applicable in this matter. On the one hand, the effects of the pandemic on the Canadian economy are of a temporary nature, and on the other, the Government has presented no evidence of the adoption or implementation of a policy of general application to reduce the deficits generated during the pandemic period.

iii. Analysis of the economic factor

The prevailing economic conditions in Canada appear to have stabilized after the COVID pandemic. The 2019 Budget of the Government of Canada foresaw the strengthening of the Canadian economy through 2019 and estimated that Canada would become the leader of economic growth in 2019 and into 2020 amongst the G7 Group of Nations.

As the military judges have argued that the determination of the salary for the period of the mandate of this committee (2019 to 2023) should have been undertaken by September 2019 and completed shortly thereafter, as is required by the *NDA* and KR&Os (King's Regulations and Orders). Had that determination been completed, as it was supposed to have been, it would have fallen within the time frame set out in 2019 and 2020 precisely when Canada was projected to be a leader in economic growth amongst the world's most developed nations. That economic projection was current through to 2021 because, as was pointed out by the Turcotte Commission, the 2021 Federal Budget, which is a statement reflective of the Canadian economy, was not an austerity budget and did not impose measures to limit discretionary spending of departments and federal agencies.

As was pointed out by the military judges, the Turcotte Commission concluded in their analysis of the state of the Canadian economy in 2021, that the "state of the economy" should not be considered a restrictive factor in the determination of the remuneration of federally appointed

judges notwithstanding the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The JCBC concluded at paras. 78-79 (footnotes omitted):

1. As argued by the Canadian Bar Association, section 26(1.1) "does not give dominance to any criterion. It suggests that each one must be given due weight and consideration."

2. Given that,

- a. the temporary fiscal deficits were meant to stimulate the economy rather than being structural deficits;
- b. the Budget 2021 is not an austerity budget. Unlike Budget 2009, it did not "outline measures to manage expenditures, including actions to limit discretionary spending by federal departments and agencies";
- c. the Government presented no evidence of deficit reduction policies of general application; and
- d. statutory indexing was maintained by the Government following each of the Block and Levitt Commissions despite the prevailing economic conditions;⁵¹

We are of the view that the first criterion under section 26(1.1) of the *Judges Act* should not inhibit or restrain us from making recommendations we would otherwise consider necessary to ensure the adequacy of judicial compensation.

The same would be true of the evidence presented to the MJCC in 2023. If anything, the economy has been slowly recovering since the pandemic, which was at its height in 2021 for the JCBC Turcotte Committee. Thus, for the MJCC in 2023, the first factor should not inhibit or restrain the MJCC from making recommendations we would otherwise consider necessary to ensure the adequacy of military judicial compensation. Finally, the salary increase requested by the military judges, which is parity with other federally appointed judges, cannot be credibly or reasonably said to compromise in any realistic manner Canadian public finances.

b. The Role of Financial Security

i. The position and argument of the Government on financial security

The Government accepts that financial security is an essential condition of judicial independence and is designed to ensure that judges do not succumb to interference in their decision-making process through the exercise of financial manipulation. The Government agrees with the *PEI* case

which states that public confidence in the independence of the judiciary requires salaries that ensure that judges do not become vulnerable to pressures brought about by financial manipulation. The Government agrees military judicial salaries should be maintained at a level that insulates judges from such pressures.

The Government argues that while the current salary is eighty-five percent of that paid to other federally nominated judges, the value of the pension adds another \$219,835 to the annual value of the salary providing an overall value of \$545,034. The Government asserts that the current value of the salary and pension of military judges is such that a reasonable well-informed person would conclude that the salary and benefits of military judges is far superior to that which would make them susceptible to bias through economic manipulation. We note that the military judges have advanced their own expert evidence which disputes the Government's pension numbers, which are based on several assumptions.

ii. The Position and Argument of the Military Judges on Financial Security

A military judge is both a federally appointed judge and an officer of the Canadian Armed Forces. The *Report of the Third Independent Review Authority to the Minister of National Defence Pursuant to subsection 273.601(1) of the* National Defence Act, *RSC 1985, c N-5* (30 April 2022) authored by the Honourable Morris J. Fish indicated that this fact could erode confidence in the independence of military judges because of the public perception of their inclusion as an officer in the CAF and their proximity to both the decision-making process inherent in the chain of command and to the Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Branch which provides prosecution and defence services to members of the CAF. The military judges argue that one factor in dispelling this perception is to equate the remuneration of military judges to that of other federally appointed judges. In other words, treat military judges equally to superior court judges.

The military judges also argue that the systematic refusal of the Government to follow the salary recommendations of "parity" found in the decisions of this Committee of 2008, 2012 and 2019 is ministerial confirmation that military judges are not equal in stature to other federally appointed judges. This, they argue, amounts to a statement from the Government that federally appointed military judges do not have the same judicial standing, status, and independence of other federally

appointed judges. They argue that members of the CAF and potentially civilians who appear before them would have the perception military judges are judges of a lesser stature. They stress that the problem of financial security and independence, taken together, is exacerbated by the refusal of the Government to accept the principal recommendations of the Military Judges Compensation Committees of 2008, 2012, 2019 with respect to remuneration.

The military judges say that the disparity between the salaries of military judges and other federally appointed judges undermines the independence of military judges. The remuneration of current military judges is fifteen percent lower than that of other federally appointed judges with no explanation given by the Government to justify the existence of this disparity. The military judges argue that they are fulfilling the same responsibilities, following the same training, attending the same conferences and workshops as their federally appointed counterparts. And yet, amongst approximately 1200 federally appointed, four military judges have been singled out to receive a lesser remuneration than their federally appointed colleagues. Finally, the military judges argue that the Committee should recommend, consistent with the committees that preceded it, that "parity" in the financial treatment of military judges as other federally appointed judges is required.

iii. Analysis of the Financial Security Factor

The Government and the military judges appear to agree on one aspect – that the current salary should not make military judges susceptible to bias through economic manipulation. The military judges stress that the eighty-five percent remuneration of other federally appointed judges is a minimum to ensure the independence of the military judiciary. But their argument goes further. Within the context of a federally appointed judiciary, no one has explained to them, or others, why military judges should be treated differently than other appointees in the federally appointed judiciary. Currently, that difference is approximately fifteen percent.

The Government asserts at para. 81 of its factum that: [translation] "The current salary ... is far above the minimum level required to protect the military judiciary from political interference through economic manipulation." However, this Committee believes that the three criteria statutorily mandated by Parliament must be considered in their totality, and not in isolation from each other, or from the overall mandate of the Committee.

The Government appears to be advocating for a "bare minimum" interpretation of s. 165.34 of the *NDA*. For the reasons noted above, we have come to the conclusion that application of proper principles of statutory interpretation lead to the conclusion that Parliament in creating s. 165.34 of the *NDA* was not tasking the Committee with a bare minimum model, but rather with determining what satisfactory remuneration would be. We determine that satisfactory financial security would be parity with the remuneration of other federally appointed judges.

We agree with the submission of the military judges at paras. 117 of their factum: [translation] "Therefore, in order to meet the constitutional standard, the Committee's recommendations take on additional importance. These recommendations must be expressed in such a way as to foster the perception that military judges enjoy full judicial independence despite the fact that they belong to the CAF."

"Judicial independence" as articulated by Parliament in s. 165.34(1)(2) NDA has both an objective and subjective component to it. The judiciary must not only remain independent but be perceived to be independent. The salary differential between military judges and other federally appointed judges promotes a perception of difference to the disadvantage of the perception of the independence and impartiality of the military judges. We believe that public perception of independence is especially important within a hierarchical organization like the CAF, where clearly military judges remain integral parts of the CAF, unlike other federally appointed judges.

c. The Need to Attract Outstanding Candidates to the Military Judiciary

i. The position and argument of the Government on outstanding candidates

The Government states that the current remuneration of military judges does not deter the recruitment of the best candidates for appointment to the military judiciary. Since 2005, for each of the five appointments between 7 and 10 candidates were classified as either "recommended" or "highly recommended" for appointments to the military judiciary. The Government maintains that these figures are certainly comparable or superior to those of federally appointed judges working in the civilian system. The Government maintains that the results of the processes for appointing military judges have achieved success overall.

By comparative analysis, the salary of a military judge is certainly attractive to CAF members who are regular force or reserve lawyers working in the military justice system. The comparison of military judge salaries with JAG officer salaries displays an attractive advantage to pursuing an appointment as a military judge.

Comparing the available information, the Government argues there is nothing to suggest that the remuneration of a military judge is dissuasive for applications from reserve force lawyers. The Government points out that in 2018 there were candidates from the reserve force who applied for military judicial positions. The Government indicates thirty percent of officers who applied for military judicial positions were reservists and seventy percent were members of the regular force – a proportion which has remained stable across the years. The Government maintains that while there could be other factors which may dissuade reservists from applying to be a military judge, salary would not be one of them.

ii. The position and argument of the military judges on outstanding candidates

The military judges argue that the Government has adopted an unjustifiably restrictive view of the pool of candidates for the military judiciary. The military judges stress that it is essential the best possible candidates be attracted to service in the federally appointed military judiciary. They state that remuneration is a major factor in promoting this attractiveness. They maintain the converse is also very true: low remuneration must not become an obstacle to the attraction of the best candidates. The salary must not be sufficiently low as to dissuade potential candidates from applying for a federal appointment as a military judge. This must be true for military lawyers working in the JAG Branch, as well as other officers in the regular force who may be lawyers not practicing military law as their daily responsibility, and finally for members of the reserve force who practice law in their civilian occupation. The military judges say this salary must be such that members of the CAF are attracted to the call for service as a military judge. The salary must be attractive to a broad spectrum of potential candidates including satisfying the requirements for diversity and inclusion.

The military judges say that given the salary disparity between other federally appointed judges and military judges, the best candidates are more attracted to a federal appointment in the civil judicial system than service in the military justice system. They point out that any qualified lawyer of the CAF, regular or reserve, is eligible to be a federally appointed judge in the civilian justice system. As an example, the military judges maintain that CAF reservists who practice law as their civilian occupation would be far more attracted to a superior court appointment rather than a military judicial appointment. This preference could be largely due to the discrepancy in remuneration.

The military judges argue that salary "parity" with federally appointed judges in the civil system would negate that disadvantage, thereby ensuring that for all military judicial appointments the very best candidates from the Canadian Armed Forces, and the private sector, would be assured. It might also have the added benefit of having a non-member of the Canadian Armed Forces who is a specialist in military law make an application for a military judicial position.

iii. Analysis of the outstanding candidates factor

The Government, as noted, argues that there are plenty of qualified candidates for the posts of military judges and it follows that remuneration must already be adequate: [translation] "The current remuneration of military judges has no deterrent effect on the recruitment of the best candidates for the military judiciary" (factum para. 86). But as we explained above, our statutory interpretation is that Parliament intended in drafting s. 165.34 to attract "the best" candidates, not just well- qualified candidates. The "best" means that the top candidates will not be diverted to higher-paying judicial positions elsewhere. With the current salary differential in place between military judges and all other federally appointed judges, the best candidates are likely to seek appointment to other parts of the federal judiciary.

We conclude that this criterion favours remuneration parity with other federally appointed judges.

d. Other Relevant Factors

Under s. 165.34(2)(d), the Committee "shall consider ... any other objective criteria that the committee considers relevant" to its mandate to inquire into "the adequacy of the remuneration of

military judges." The military judges submitted that we ought to consider the remuneration of other federally appointed judges under the heading of other objective criteria. As part of the comparison with federally appointed judges, the Government invites us to consider the pension scheme for the military judges as compared with the annuity for other federally appointed judges. The Government also invites us to consider the increases in remuneration of others in the federal public service, the role of the military judges and their workload.

i. Pension scheme comparisons

There was disagreement between the parties over whether the Committee has the authority to consider pension/annuity provisions in its inquiry into the remuneration of military judges. We find that we do have authority to examine the adequacy of "remuneration" and should not be blind to the reality of the totality of that remuneration in making our recommendation as to its adequacy. However we do not have authority to make recommendations dealing with the pension scheme.

The Committee has considered the Government's argument that including their pensions, the remuneration of military judges is in fact more than that of other federally appointed judges. In our view, the evidence does not bear this out.

The Government has insisted during the hearings of the Committee that the salaries of military judges are \$545,034 when their pensions are accounted for, according to the evidence presented by their actuary who claims they receive an additional 67.6% of their salary by way of pension benefits. It is also argued by the Government that military judge pensions have a greater value than other federal judges because they retire 14 to 16 years earlier than other judges, and that provincial judges only receive \$287,136 per year and Superior Court Associate Judges \$297,700 by way of annual salary.

The Committee was presented with dueling expert evidence from the military judges and the Government concerning pension comparisons. By comparison, there was no debate over what the actual salaries of military judges and other federally appointed judges are. We do not believe it necessary to choose a winner in the war of experts over pension valuations. That military judges may retire with greater pensions than other federally appointed judges may simply be a function of most military judges having devoted themselves to a career life of public service prior to being

appointed to the judiciary, rather than federal judges where a significant proportion of other federally appointed judges came from the private sector where if in private practice, they may have had not been benefitting from any pension regime, and thus be starting their pension contributions at a much later age than military judges did.

However, this ignores the fact that other federally appointed judges may have been earning much higher salaries in the private sector prior to being appointed a judge, and some might be taking pay cuts upon appointment to the bench, which would help offset their fewer pensionable years, particularly if they were setting aside significant portions of their incomes as investments for retirement. There are too many variables in pension values for there to be apt comparisons between the pension values of military judges and other federally appointed judges.

It is not disputed that both military judges and other federally appointed judges benefit from significant indexed retirement schemes. Military judge pension amounts payable upon retirement could be greater than other federally appointed judges if they had contributed longer to pension schemes, but then again, they might not be. Military judges might also retire at much younger ages than other federally appointed judges. A variety of life factors can affect pension values including taking early retirement for reasons of health.

The calculations of both experts involved several assumptions to advance the arguments that either military judges including pensions were already paid more or less than other federally appointed judges. Pension values are not an obligatory factor we must consider according to our mandate from Parliament. We do not find the comparison of the pension schemes useful for several reasons:

- the retirement regimes are completely different (counting of years of service, retirement ages, accumulation of benefits);
- the value of the benefit swings wildly depending on the assumptions used in the calculations;
- some of the pension value is based on subjective factors, such as choice of retirement date or the choice to elect supernumerary status.

Thus, while we concluded that the comparative value of pension schemes is a relevant factor, the evidence presented before us does not materially assist in applying this factor in investigating the adequacy of the military judges' remuneration.

ii. Comparisons with other federally appointed judges

The Government asserts at paras. 121 of its factum: [translation] "Tying the salaries of military judges to those of federally appointed judges or provincial court judges would run counter to the mandate and requirements of the NDA." The sole authority cited for that assertion is the Committee's 2008 Report at p. 15. However, when one examines the wording the 2008 Report used, it does not support the Government's submission:

The parties have both agreed that the previous Committees' determination that the salary of military judges should not be tied directly to that of the average of provincial court judges was not an appropriate approach to or method for the determination of adequate compensation of military judges. This Committee agrees. Among other problems, this would constitute an abdication of the responsibility of this Committee to make its own determination, by linking the outcome to the conclusions of the various other judicial compensation committees in Canada. This would also entail a degree of circularity. It is up to each judicial compensation committee to make its own assessment, rather than to predicate its conclusion on those of others. Furthermore, the salary of military judges cannot be determined in reference to any one single comparator.

Thus, the Committee was talking about avoiding abdicating its statutory responsibilities in favour of other committees, not that the remuneration of other federally appointed judges was irrelevant. As the 2008 Committee said, and we agree one and a half decades later, it falls to each Committee to come to its own conclusions, and those conclusions must be based on the evidence and consideration of all statutory factors. From the evidence presented before us, we conclude that the remuneration of military judges is less advantageous than that of other federally appointed judges. This may give rise to the impression that military judges are "second-class" judges. As we have noted above, we do not consider parity with other federally appointed judges to be a "factor" under s-s. 165.34(2)(d) of the *NDA*, rather, it is a conclusion under s-s. 165.34(1) of the *NDA*.

iii. Comparisons with provincial court judges and federally appointed associate judges

We do not believe that the remuneration of federally appointed Associate Judges is a useful comparison for determining the adequacy of the remuneration of military judges. This comparison, if anything, suggests that military judges should be compared with judicial officers who, like the Associate Judges, are not judges but rather have more limited jurisdiction and authority than judges. That would mean classing military judges effectively as judicial officers who are not full-fledged judges, which is neither legally nor factually correct. Similarly, we find the comparison of provincial court judge remuneration throughout Canada to be of limited value, given the differing economic situations of the various jurisdictions.

If one is to take provincial court judges' salaries presiding over more than 38% of Canada's population in the province of Ontario, Schedule A - Order in Council 1273/2018, "Salaries for Judges of the Ontario Court of Justice," they are already tied to 95.27% of federal Superior Court judge's salaries:

In respect of service from April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2022, the annual salary of a provincial judge set out in subsection 1(3), following the adjustment in Section 3, shall also be increased to align with a percentage of the salary rate of judges of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice set out in Part I of the Judges Act (Canada), R.S.C., 1985, c. J-1, ("Superior Court Judge salary rate") as follows:

•••

From April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022, to equal 95.27% of the Superior Court Judge salary rate for that period.

By comparison, military judges' salaries rest at 85% of federal judges' salaries, over 10 percent below provincial court judge salaries in Canada's largest province. We particularly caution against comparing the remuneration of civil servants to that of judges. While it is true that both are paid with tax dollars, judges occupy constitutionally vital positions in Canadian society which places them differently than civil servants. As the Supreme Court of Canada said in *British Columbia* (Attorney General) v. Provincial Court Judge's Association of British Columbia, 2020 SCC 20 at para. 85: "a government that does not take into account the distinctive nature of judicial office and treats judges simply as a class of civil servant will fail to engage with the principle of judicial independence."

We do not give workload significant weight as an additional factor. Workload varies tremendously among other federally appointed judges. We do not find days of sitting a useful point of comparison. For example, the Supreme Court of Canada sat for 35 days in 2020 and issued 45 decisions (Supreme Court of Canada Year in Review 2020, online: https://www.scc-csc.ca/review-revue/2020/index-eng.aspx).

VI. THE INCIDENTAL ALLOWANCE

The military judges' position at para. 203 of their factum is that considering that military judges receive certain reimbursements from the budget allocated to the Office of the Chief Military Judge, it is appropriate to grant them a lesser incidental allowance in the amount of \$3,000 as compared to the \$7,500 incidental allowance granted to other federally appointed judges. Whereas the Government is of the view at para. 148 of their brief that it is not necessary, nor justified, to change entirely the manner in which the operating expenses of military judges are reimbursed. Just as the Chief Military Judge may refuse to reimburse military judges for certain costs, the Government asserts that other federally appointed judges may be denied certain costs under the line directors.

This Committee finds that currently all incidental funds payable to the military judges are under the control of the Department of National Defence chain of command, whereas the military judges in order to preserve their independence require an independent guaranteed source for an incidental allowance. Therefore, this Committee agrees that fixing an annual incidental allowance of \$3,000 for the military judges would be most appropriate.

VII. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

It is the Committee's conclusion that only parity of remuneration between military judges and other federally appointed judges will comply with Parliament's direction to us to determine what adequate remuneration for military judges would be. The conclusions of this sixth Committee are based in constitutional imperatives reflected through proper statutory construction which reflect Parliament's intent in enacting s. 165.34 of the *NDA*. This Committee's conclusions are not based on a "single factor." Indeed, it is a global consideration of all the factors mandated by Parliament in s-s. 165.34(2) of the *NDA* that leads the Committee to its conclusions.

To sum up, parity of remuneration with other federally appointed judges is not just a "factor" under s-s. 165.3(2)(d), rather it is a product of the Committee's careful analysis under s-s. 165.34(2) which takes into account all factors to be considered pursuant to s-s. 165.34(2). There is nothing philosophical about our conclusions, we considered the evidence and arguments before us, applied the test established for us by Parliament, and arrived at a conclusion. This is not an exercise of attempting to compare apples to oranges, to somehow find a judicial position outside the military that most closely fits the duties of military judges, and then seize upon that remuneration as what the Committee should recommend, rather the Committee must consider all evidence, arguments and statutory direction in their totality in coming to conclusions.

- 1 ListSheets
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individual_top_cma_90k_ni

year	partner_type	variable	income_90k	Calgary	Edmonton	Halifax	KCWH	Montreal	Ottawa-Gatineau	Quebec	Toronto	Vancouver	Winnipeg	other_cma
2018	3 1	Partner Count	above_90	Χ	340	Χ	Χ	1050	690	Χ	4630	Χ	250	1030
2019	9 1	Partner Count	above_90	Χ	Χ	200	Χ	930	Χ	Χ	4350	Χ	260	1040
2020	0 1	Partner Count	above_90	Χ	Χ	210	Χ	910	680	Χ	4260	Χ	Χ	1000
2021	1 1	Partner Count	above_90	Χ	Χ	210	Χ	910	660	Χ	4260	Χ	260	1010
2022	2 1	Partner Count	above_90	Χ	Χ	210	Χ	880	650	Χ	4150	Χ	270	930
2018	3 1	Total Net Income	above_90	Χ	114762000	Χ	Χ	278541000	226202000	Χ	1779773000	Χ	39672000	230589000
2019	9 1	Total Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	55418000	Χ	249035000	Χ	Χ	1763633000	Χ	44962000	229473000
2020	0 1	Total Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	64512000	Χ	262396000	233697000	Χ	1914862000	Χ	Χ	232759000
2021	1 1	Total Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	66960000	Χ	301893000	262841000	Χ	2085756000	Χ	52810000	246911000
2022	2 1	Total Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	66056000	Χ	288713000	221908000	Χ	1933925000	Χ	42667000	211289000
2018	3 1	Average Net Income	above_90	Χ	376000	Χ	Χ	286000	348000	Χ	421000	Χ	185000	241000
2019	9 1	Average Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	281000	Χ	294000	Χ	Χ	437000	Χ	207000	237000
2020	0 1	Average Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	323000	Χ	324000	378000	Χ	482000	Χ	Χ	252000
2021	1 1	Average Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	343000	Χ	374000	420000	Χ	530000	Χ	255000	265000
2022	2 1	Average Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	330000	Χ	367000	372000	Χ	503000	Χ	225000	248000
2018	3 1	SD Net Income	above_90	Χ	322000	Χ	Χ	255000	331000	Χ	418000	Χ	173000	247000
2019	9 1	SD Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	212000	Χ	271000	Χ	Χ	425000	Χ	185000	248000
2020	0 1	SD Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	193000	Χ	291000	304000	Χ	487000	Χ	Χ	304000
2021	1 1	SD Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	216000	Χ	347000	411000	Χ	555000	Χ	207000	288000
2022	2 1	SD Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	205000	Χ	338000	286000	Χ	530000	Χ	261000	241000
2018	3 1	Median Net Income	above_90	Χ	298000	Χ	Χ	227000	271000	Χ	298000	Χ	166000	194000
2019	9 1	Median Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	244000	Χ	239000	Χ	Χ	314000	Χ	174000	194000
2020	0 1	Median Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	293000	Χ	264000	302000	Χ	341000	Χ	Χ	199000
2021	1 1	Median Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	308000	Χ	292000	334000	Χ	362000	Χ	225000	215000
2022	2 1	Median Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	291000	Χ	283000	326000	Χ	335000	Χ	178000	207000
2018	3 1	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	Χ	474000	Χ	Χ	375000	486000	Χ	580000	Χ	257000	303000
2019	9 1	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	329000	Χ	377000	Χ	Χ	586000	Χ	292000	287000
2020	0 1	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	396000	Χ	429000	521000	Χ	656000	Χ	Χ	318000
2021	1 1	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	423000	Χ	492000	572000	Χ	688000	Χ	365000	340000
2022	2 1	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	403000	Χ	483000	522000	Χ	655000	Χ	314000	322000

corporations_top_cma_90k_ni

year	partner_type	variable	income_90k	Calgary	Edmonton	Halifax	KCWH	Montreal	Ottawa-Gatineau	Quebec	Toronto	Vancouver	Winnipeg	other_cma
2018	2	Partner Count	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	390	250	Χ	2140	Χ	90	1310
2019	2	Partner Count	above_90	Χ	X	160	Χ	390	X	Χ	2260	Χ	Χ	1360
2020	2	Partner Count	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	400	280	Χ	2360	Χ	90	1440
2021	2	Partner Count	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	420	300	Χ	2560	Χ	100	1470
2022	2	Partner Count	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	450	320	Χ	2780	Χ	130	1510
2018	2	Total Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	205824000	115855000	Χ	1622149000	Χ	32397000	479128000
2019	2	Total Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	50888000	Χ	189174000	X	Χ	1730874000	Χ	Χ	462400000
2020	2	Total Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	207990000	133170000	Χ	2005103000	Χ	35096000	544284000
2021	2	Total Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	232068000	153341000	Χ	2454839000	Χ	37390000	611094000
2022	2	Total Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	224020000	152051000	Χ	2514489000	Χ	57827000	583101000
2018	2	Average Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	547000	497000	Χ	802000	Χ	395000	380000
2019	2	Average Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	349000	Χ	497000	Χ	Χ	795000	Χ	Χ	355000
2020	2	Average Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	561000	499000	Χ	880000	Χ	413000	398000
2021	2	Average Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	598000	544000	Χ	1000000	Χ	440000	432000
2022	2	Average Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	540000	512000	Χ	939000	Χ	466000	404000
2018	2	SD Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	564000	436000	Χ	777000	Χ	283000	408000
2019	2	SD Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	208000	Χ	573000	Χ	Χ	732000	Χ	Χ	366000
2020	2	SD Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	692000	421000	Χ	821000	Χ	312000	404000
2021	2	SD Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	728000	490000	Χ	985000	Χ	338000	383000
2022	2	SD Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	583000	580000	Χ	918000	Χ	380000	401000
2018	2	Median Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	404000	405000	Χ	621000	Χ	348000	280000
2019	2	Median Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	309000	Χ	368000	X	Χ	612000	Χ	Χ	283000
2020	2	Median Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	411000	417000	Χ	658000	Χ	372000	304000
2021	2	Median Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	423000	448000	Χ	730000	Χ	344000	353000
2022	2	Median Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	401000	392000	Χ	678000	Χ	382000	332000
2018	2	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	702000	625000	Χ	1090000	Χ	505000	435000
2019	2	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	470000	Χ	653000	X	Χ	1078000	Χ	Χ	426000
2020	2	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	728000	661000	Χ	1163000	Χ	549000	467000
2021	2	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	762000	737000	Χ	1350000	X	602000	537000
2022	2	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	Χ	X	Χ	Χ	703000	679000	Χ	1227000	Χ	632000	497000

individual_top_cma_all_ni

year	partner_type	variable	income_90k	Calgary	Edmonton	Halifax	KCWH	Montreal	Ottawa-Gatineau	Quebec	Toronto	Vancouver	Winnipeg	other_cma
2018	1	Partner Count	all	230	340	250	170	1250	700	350	4710	350	250	1090
2019	1	Partner Count	all	230	350	260	150	1150	710	310	4550	350	260	1080
2020	1	Partner Count	all	200	340	210	120	1120	710	300	4380	330	260	1060
2021	1	Partner Count	all	210	340	210	Χ	1100	680	Χ	4370	310	260	1040
2022	1	Partner Count	all	200	270	210	130	1080	670	270	4300	390	270	970
2018	1	Total Net Income	all	54484000	114762000	43304000	34837000	278584000	226431000	55787000	1780947000	111603000	39672000	231101000
2019	1	Total Net Income	all	54181000	122212000	55439000	26632000	249358000	267271000	59401000	1762916000	105805000	44962000	230729000
2020	1	Total Net Income	all	60180000	125339000	64512000	28431000	262246000	234102000	50639000	1914753000	110400000	50463000	233279000
2021	1	Total Net Income	all	62469000	135261000	66960000	Χ	301901000	262472000	Χ	2086480000	111423000	52810000	246373000
2022	1	Total Net Income	all	55132000	69811000	66056000	23581000	288608000	220981000	55277000	1943580000	161822000	42667000	217332000
2018	1	Average Net Income	all	264000	376000	185000	237000	245000	342000	173000	416000	355000	185000	227000
2019	1	Average Net Income	all	281000	387000	214000	211000	247000	414000	203000	427000	344000	207000	230000
2020	1	Average Net Income	all	340000	393000	323000	231000	270000	365000	190000	471000	367000	235000	241000
2021	1	Average Net Income	all	376000	425000	343000	Χ	314000	410000	Χ	521000	417000	255000	256000
2022	1	Average Net Income	all	338000	280000	330000	209000	303000	362000	214000	493000	473000	225000	245000
2018	1	SD Net Income	all	245000	322000	193000	208000	257000	331000	190000	418000	415000	173000	245000
2019	1	SD Net Income	all	262000	336000	221000	205000	270000	569000	195000	425000	322000	185000	247000
2020	1	SD Net Income	all	313000	372000	193000	209000	292000	306000	144000	488000	325000	193000	302000
2021	1	SD Net Income	all	384000	430000	216000	Χ	347000	412000	Χ	554000	357000	207000	288000
2022	1	SD Net Income	all	361000	185000	205000	187000	337000	291000	154000	561000	529000	261000	280000
2018	1	Median Net Income	all	248000	298000	178000	200000	194000	263000	143000	293000	269000	166000	185000
2019	1	Median Net Income	all	261000	295000	209000	172000	192000	300000	177000	302000	271000	174000	190000
2020	1	Median Net Income	all	292000	290000	293000	211000	213000	287000	166000	333000	292000	203000	192000
2021	1	Median Net Income	all	272000	314000	308000	Χ	242000	326000	Χ	351000	340000	225000	209000
2022	1	Median Net Income	all	260000	253000	291000	170000	224000	317000	182000	325000	334000	178000	201000
2018	1	75th ptile Net Income	all	411000	474000	267000	303000	339000	485000	232000	576000	461000	257000	295000
2019	1	75th ptile Net Income	all	443000	498000	296000	283000	346000	548000	249000	574000	445000	292000	285000
2020	1	75th ptile Net Income	all	531000	490000	396000	296000	387000	520000	262000	644000	479000	313000	311000
2021	1	75th ptile Net Income	all	608000	540000	423000	Χ	439000	571000	Χ	680000	525000	365000	332000
2022	1	75th ptile Net Income	all	514000	375000	403000	297000	424000	519000	276000	642000	589000	314000	317000

corporations_top_cma_all_ni

year	partner_ty variable	income_90k	Calgary	Edmonton	Halifax	KCWH	Montreal	Ottawa-Gatineau	Quebec	Toronto	Vancouver	Winnipeg	other_cma
2018	2 Partner Count	all	250	370	170	90	420	250	90	2170	720	90	1360
2019	2 Partner Count	all	270	410	170	110	450	270	100	2310	740	90	1400
2020	2 Partner Count	all	280	400	150	100	440	280	90	2400	730	90	1490
2021	2 Partner Count	all	300	400	160	Χ	450	300	Χ	2580	760	100	1530
2022	2 Partner Count	all	320	370	150	110	490	320	90	2850	920	130	1560
2018	2 Total Net Income	all	130405000	171440000	50848000	29434000	205988000	115855000	24613000	1621899000	361085000	32397000	479616000
2019	2 Total Net Income	all	111274000	177635000	50362000	29769000	189068000	140067000	28085000	1730974000	363726000	33423000	461731000
2020	2 Total Net Income	all	130184000	228293000	58335000	34325000	207969000	133170000	27994000	2003249000	407372000	35096000	544776000
2021	2 Total Net Income	all	145809000	221468000	63945000	Χ	232481000	153341000	Χ	2454945000	475891000	37390000	611472000
2022	2 Total Net Income	all	158778000	163652000	62162000	36656000	223989000	152051000	29934000	2514677000	547023000	57827000	582953000
2018	2 Average Net Income	all	548000	475000	318000	334000	511000	497000	300000	795000	533000	395000	368000
2019	2 Average Net Income	all	484000	449000	323000	278000	452000	567000	327000	788000	541000	408000	346000
2020	2 Average Net Income	all	515000	610000	392000	343000	516000	499000	326000	867000	588000	413000	388000
2021	2 Average Net Income	all	524000	580000	435000	Χ	560000	544000	X	993000	652000	440000	417000
2022	2 Average Net Income	all	553000	474000	420000	378000	501000	512000	361000	928000	634000	466000	392000
2018	2 SD Net Income	all	583000	424000	214000	320000	561000	436000	489000	778000	613000	283000	407000
2019	2 SD Net Income	all	477000	407000	225000	245000	565000	518000	295000	733000	800000	271000	368000
2020	2 SD Net Income	all	488000	1762000	263000	303000	681000	421000	439000	824000	592000	312000	404000
2021	2 SD Net Income	all	451000	741000	282000	Χ	718000	490000	X	985000	607000	338000	384000
2022	2 SD Net Income	all	748000	647000	273000	281000	579000	580000	421000	918000	690000	380000	401000
2018	2 Median Net Income	all	418000	373000	284000	242000	386000	405000	198000	614000	401000	348000	273000
2019	2 Median Net Income	all	379000	361000	282000	245000	325000	457000	284000	605000	376000	388000	274000
2020	2 Median Net Income	all	400000	392000	367000	285000	380000	417000	215000	649000	449000	372000	299000
2021		all	406000	422000	398000	X	390000	448000	X	717000	492000	344000	344000
2022		all	416000	372000	369000	333000	373000	392000	260000	664000	455000	382000	319000
2018	•	all	663000	616000	456000	400000	652000	625000	290000	1078000	688000	505000	429000
2019	•	all	623000	602000	462000	355000	618000	722000	439000	1076000	652000	572000	420000
2020	'	all	657000	664000	555000	419000	673000	661000	424000	1145000	721000	549000	459000
2021	•	all	676000	709000	602000	Χ	706000	737000	X	1344000	801000	602000	525000
2022	2 75th ptile Net Income	all	707000	601000	570000	480000	681000	679000	498000	1206000	786000	632000	489000

year	partner_type	variable	income_90k	all
201	8 1	Partner Count	above_90	9210
201	9 1	Partner Count	above_90	8760
202	0 1	Partner Count	above_90	8590
202	1 1	Partner Count	above_90	8520
202	2 1	Partner Count	above_90	8300
201	8 1	Total Net Income	above_90	2969192000
201	9 1	Total Net Income	above_90	2977818000
202	0 1	Total Net Income	above_90	3133583000
202	1 1	Total Net Income	above_90	3408975000
202	2 1	Total Net Income	above_90	3125540000
201	8 1	Average Net Income	above_90	351000
201	9 1	Average Net Income	above_90	368000
202	0 1	Average Net Income	above_90	396000
202	1 1	Average Net Income	above_90	437000
202	2 1	Average Net Income	above_90	413000
201	8 1	SD Net Income	above_90	363000
201	9 1	SD Net Income	above_90	389000
202	0 1	SD Net Income	above_90	413000
202	1 1	SD Net Income	above_90	470000
202	2 1	SD Net Income	above_90	446000
201	8 1	Median Net Income	above_90	253000
201	9 1	Median Net Income	above_90	262000
202	0 1	Median Net Income	above_90	283000
202	1 1	Median Net Income	above_90	305000
202	2 1	Median Net Income	above_90	287000
201	8 1	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	461000
201	9 1	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	467000
202	0 1	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	512000
202	1 1	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	558000
202	2 1	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	516000

year		partner_ty	variable	income_90k	all
	2018	2	Partner Count	above_90	5800
	2019	2	Partner Count	above_90	6000
	2020	2	Partner Count	above_90	6240
	2021	2	Partner Count	above_90	6590
	2022	2	Partner Count	above_90	7050
	2018	2	Total Net Income	above_90	3226929000
	2019	2	Total Net Income	above_90	3318361000
	2020	2	Total Net Income	above_90	3812308000
	2021	2	Total Net Income	above_90	4706339000
	2022	2	Total Net Income	above_90	4528738000
	2018	2	Average Net Income	above_90	583000
	2019	2	Average Net Income	above_90	577000
	2020	2	Average Net Income	above_90	640000
	2021	2	Average Net Income	above_90	747000
	2022	2	Average Net Income	above_90	675000
	2018	2	SD Net Income	above_90	627000
	2019	2	SD Net Income	above_90	630000
	2020	2	SD Net Income	above_90	790000
	2021	2	SD Net Income	above_90	3114000
	2022	2	SD Net Income	above_90	754000
	2018	2	Median Net Income	above_90	395000
	2019	2	Median Net Income	above_90	395000
	2020	2	Median Net Income	above_90	433000
	2021	2	Median Net Income	above_90	478000
	2022	2	Median Net Income	above_90	454000
	2018	2	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	740000
	2019	2	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	723000
	2020	2	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	803000
	2021	2	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	891000
	2022	2	75th ptile Net Income	above_90	830000

year	partner_type	variable	income_90k	all
2018	1	Partner Count	all	9690
2019	1	Partner Count	all	9400
2020	1	Partner Count	all	9030
2021	1	Partner Count	all	8910
2022	1	Partner Count	all	8750
2018	1	Total Net Income	all	2971511000
2019	1	Total Net Income	all	2978906000
2020	1	Total Net Income	all	3134343000
2021	1	Total Net Income	all	3414106000
2022	1	Total Net Income	all	3144847000
2018	1	Average Net Income	all	336000
2019	1	Average Net Income	all	350000
2020	1	Average Net Income	all	380000
2021	1	Average Net Income	all	422000
2022	1	Average Net Income	all	398000
2018	1	SD Net Income	all	362000
2019	1	SD Net Income	all	388000
2020	1	SD Net Income	all	412000
2021	1	SD Net Income	all	469000
2022	1	SD Net Income	all	466000
2018	1	Median Net Income	all	240000
2019	1	Median Net Income	all	251000
2020	1	Median Net Income	all	270000
2021	1	Median Net Income	all	296000
2022	1	Median Net Income	all	275000
2018	1	75th ptile Net Income	all	448000
2019	1	75th ptile Net Income	all	454000
2020	1	75th ptile Net Income	all	494000
2021	1	75th ptile Net Income	all	543000
2022	1	75th ptile Net Income	all	496000

year	partner_type	variable	income_90k	all
2018	3 2	Partner Count	all	5990
2019	2	Partner Count	all	6310
2020	2	Partner Count	all	6450
2021	. 2	Partner Count	all	6760
2022	2	Partner Count	all	7300
2018	3 2	Total Net Income	all	3223582000
2019	2	Total Net Income	all	3316116000
2020	2	Total Net Income	all	3810765000
2021	. 2	Total Net Income	all	4707596000
2022	2	Total Net Income	all	4529703000
2018	3 2	Average Net Income	all	569000
2019	2	Average Net Income	all	560000
2020	2	Average Net Income	all	622000
2021	. 2	Average Net Income	all	732000
2022	2	Average Net Income	all	658000
2018	3 2	SD Net Income	all	630000
2019	2	SD Net Income	all	629000
2020	2	SD Net Income	all	787000
2021	. 2	SD Net Income	all	3083000
2022	2	SD Net Income	all	752000
2018	3 2	Median Net Income	all	386000
2019	2	Median Net Income	all	382000
2020	2	Median Net Income	all	423000
2021	. 2	Median Net Income	all	468000
2022	2	Median Net Income	all	441000
2018	3 2	75th ptile Net Income	all	726000
2019	2	75th ptile Net Income	all	710000
2020	2	75th ptile Net Income	all	785000
2021	. 2	75th ptile Net Income	all	877000
2022	2	75th ptile Net Income	all	815000