



His Honour Mr. Justice Ian Crawford Meiklem



Ian Crawford Meiklem is one of those rare exceptions to the "i" before "e" except after "c" Rule. He is also an exception in many other ways.

He was born in Scunthorpe, England on March 14, 1946 of Scots-Irish parents who immigrated to Canada in 1951. His parents soon took up the task of wresting farmland from the wilderness at Quick, B.C. It is to these stump-farm roots that he endearingly refers in those times when the conversation turns to the "let's compare our humble beginnings" theme. No doubt this environment contributed to his determined nature and rugged manner.

Ian took his early education (Grades 1 to 8) in the rural oneroom schoolhouse at Quick, an unincorporated community near Telkwa. He took his grades 8 and 9 at Telkwa and his grades 11 and 12 at Smithers, graduating at age 16 in 1962. He began his university education in UBC's faculty of agriculture switching to English and economics and then to law after taking out some time to earn his way. He graduated from UBC Faculty of Law in 1971. While at UBC he was active on the wrestling team and played intra-mural hockey. He plays "Oldtimers" hockey to this date! Ian was President of the Law Students Association and was on the Dean's Selection Committee that appointed Bertie McLean as Dean of UBC's Law School.

Ian has practised law in Prince George for the entire period of his legal career. He was the first articulated student of the newly formed partnership of Heather Sadler Jenkins in 1971-72 and practised at that firm as a student, associate and partner until 1977. From 1977 to 1991 he practiced as Meiklem and Harrison, and as Meiklem, Fletcher & Repstock, until returning to Heather Sadler Jenkins in June of 1991.

Ian reads three or four books at the same time — primarily biographies. He is a keen outdoorsman. He enjoys hunting, particularly on horseback. He is a conservationist and has an intimate environmental understanding of the order of things. He is an accomplished photographer. His hunting expeditions produce spectacular photographic evidence of his contact with the wilderness.

Ian is a founding and continuing member of Ducks Unlimited Canada (Prince George Committee) and until his appointment he was on the B.C. Selection Committee of the Environmental Partners Fund and a member of the Sports Fishing Advisory Board.

Mr. Justice Meiklem brings to the Supreme Court Bench of the Province of British Columbia values, vision and temperament that will produce good judgments. The Bar regrets his loss, applauds his appointment and looks forward to appearing before him.