

cases, family law, criminal law and other legal themes that are now more relevant than they were to his busy commercial practice.

Jack can be counted on to be a fair, knowledgeable, humorous and compassionate judge — just as he was as a partner. His appointment is our loss but, as those who appear before him will find, a great gain for the citizens of British Columbia.



The Honourable Mr. Justice Jon Sigurdson

Mr. Justice Sigurdson was born June 5, 1948 in Winnipeg and spent some of his young years in Thunder Bay. He developed a passion for hockey which has left him with an incurable enthusiasm for the Montreal Canadiens. His family found its way to Vancouver when he was 12, and he graduated in 1965 from Prince of Wales Secondary School. It is little known but true that Jon was the second-shortest young man in his grade 12 class. Perhaps this helped Jon, who now stands at 6'2", to see problems from both sides.

Jon earned a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from U.B.C. in 1969. True to his generation, he spent the following year travelling in Central America and Europe while his mother filled out law school application forms for him. Jon returned to U.B.C. to attend law school, where he met Lynn Smith, who is now his wife and U.B.C.'s Dean of Law. His picture in the photo of the U.B.C. Class of 1973 is remarkable and warrants a special trip to the University — it shows a side of Jon that few may have seen.

He article at Bull, Housser & Tupper and was called to the Bar in 1974. He spent his first year of practice at Bull, Housser & Tupper working in particular with the future Chief Justice Esson. He then became a partner in Munroe, Fraser, Kelleher & Sigurdson (later known as Fraser, Kelleher, Sigurdson, Wats and Gudmundseth), where he practised general litigation until the firm disbanded in 1980.

Jon returned to Bull, Housser & Tupper in 1981 as a member of the General Litigation Group led by Bud Hollmrake (as he then was). When Bud became Mr. Justice Hollmrake, Jon became leader of the group. Jon was much loved by his colleagues for his irrepressible and irreverent sense of humour. For many years, he played the role of "the amazing Karnak" at firm parties, developing the important judicial talent of knowing the answer before even hearing the question. In later years, Jon pursued his ambition to become a rock star by playing lead and rhythm guitar (and sometimes "singing") in a lawyers' rock band which has played at benefits and events such as the Family Law Bar Dinner.

His primary joy in life is family. His close-knit family includes his wife Lynn, his daughters Elin (17) and Krista (14), his parents, and his three sisters and their families. Jon's father is the Honorary Icelandic Consul in British Columbia and Jon is

proud of his Icelandic-Canadian heritage. His sister Thora practises at Russell & DuMoulin.

Jon's partners and associates grew accustomed to Jon's annual bets that he could abstain for three months from particular vices, some of which led to permanent lifestyle changes. Over the years, Jon gave up smoking, drinking and chocolate bars, but his partners had hoped he would wait a little longer to give up practising law.

Mr. Justice Sigurdson brings to the Bench sound legal judgment. He has uncanny insight into people and their motivations, which served him well as a lawyer and will be a tremendous asset on the trial bench. Even those litigants who lose before Mr. Justice Sigurdson will realize that they have had a fair hearing. His colleagues miss him and wish him an interesting and satisfying judicial career. He will serve the public well.



The Honourable Madam Justice Mary Humphries

Mary (now Madam Justice) Humphries first showed a liking for black robes at about 10 years old, when she and her siblings and friends would play "wedding". In a demonstration of assertiveness that was, at that time in her life, rare, Mary would insist that she be allowed to play the minister. Her playmates always gave in, and you might say that Mary married off many of the neighbourhood children without a hitch. Mary no longer has to resort to artifice to don her robes — as of February 4, 1994, when she was sworn in as a Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, she has been able to wear them to work every day.

Born on March 5, 1951 in Jasper, Alberta, the first child of John (an ex-R.C.A.F. pilot/law school graduate/teacher turned principal) and Kathryn (an aspiring artist/radio copywriter/legal secretary/basketball player) Humphries, Mary landed in 1956 with her family in the village of Kaslo, British Columbia, where she spent her childhood and teen years. When she was 17, Mary went to the University of Victoria, obtaining her B.A. in English and History (with distinction) in 1972. She went on to law school at the University of British Columbia for one year, then completed her LL.B. at Queen's in 1977. A true Westerner, Mary trudged back to Vancouver and clerked for Mr. Justice Taggart of the British Columbia Court of Appeal in 1977-78, and article at the Department of Justice in 1978-79, after which she was called to the Bar of British Columbia.

Those years don't really add up. The reason for that is that, true to Mary's form, she was not just going to school all those years — she was having fun, too. Her self-proclaimed sabbaticals generally found her wandering the globe with her sister Patti in search of such diverse pursuits as the perfect way to celebrate Christmas in Madrid or the perfect way to get sick in Nepal.