



MINISTRY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Juries Review Implementation Committee is working to find innovative ways to address First Nation representation on Ontario juries. Its work will help to build a stronger, more accessible justice system for First Nation people.

The committee will address the implementation of the recommendations outlined in the Honourable Frank Iacobucci's report, *First Nations Representation on Ontario Juries*.

Meet the committee members:

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Alvin Fiddler, Co-Chair



A long-time First Nation community leader and tireless advocate for Aboriginal justice issues throughout his career, Alvin Fiddler was appointed Juries Review Implementation Committee Co-chair in June 2013.

Growing up in Muskrat Dam First Nation, Mr. Fiddler left home at age 13 to attend high school in Sioux Lookout and Thunder Bay. Mr. Fiddler went on to earn a degree in business management from the University of Lethbridge, Alberta. In the early 1990s, Mr. Fiddler returned to northwestern Ontario to take on a number of key leadership roles in the service of First Nation people. He served as the first Executive Director of the Tommy Beardy Memorial Family Treatment Centre, and later became Deputy Chief of Muskrat Dam. He served as Nishnawbe Aski Nation's Health Director from 1998 until he was first elected Deputy Grand Chief in 2003. Mr. Fiddler joined the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in 2010 as Manager of Regional Liaisons and Ontario Regional Liaisons. Re-elected Deputy Grand Chief in 2012, his current portfolios include health policy and planning, women's development, justice and policing, and a number of other special projects.

"I am looking forward to working collaboratively with both the Ministry of the Attorney General and the First Nation representatives on the Implementation Committee. We have gathered together a skilled, knowledgeable, and dedicated group of high caliber individuals. I am confident that together we can tackle the issues to address the crisis of First Nations in the justice system. Justice Iacobucci's recommendations will guide us in our work to ensure that all First Nations can exercise their right to serve on juries."

Irwin Glasberg, Co-Chair



Co-Chair Irwin Glasberg is a lawyer and public servant who has led a number of initiatives aimed at improving access to justice for First Nation people, as well as improving services for Aboriginal victims of crime.

During his time as Director of the Ministry of the Attorney General's Policy Branch, Mr. Glasberg had oversight of the Aboriginal Courtworker and Aboriginal Community Justice Programs.

Later, as Assistant Deputy Attorney General for Ontario Victim Services, he led the roll out of a grants program designed to address violence against Aboriginal women, and administered funding for under-served Aboriginal victims in remote northern areas. The key component of this initiative was a collaborative project with the Mushkegowuk Tribal Council to develop and fund community-based services for Aboriginal victims. Mr. Glasberg was also the Assistant Deputy Minister assigned to the Roots of Youth Violence Review.

In addition to his duties as co-chair, Mr. Glasberg will continue to serve as Assistant Deputy Attorney General of the ministry's Policy and Adjudicative Tribunals Division.

"It will be an honour to work with Co-Chair Deputy Grand Chief Fiddler and the committee members to find innovative and enduring approaches to address the Hon. Frank Iacobucci's recommended improvements to our jury system. The creation of a joint Aboriginal-provincial government implementation committee presents some unique opportunities to foster collaboration and open dialogue among members with different backgrounds and life experience."

Barney Batise



Barney Batise is a respected Nishnawbe Aski Nation Elder and former Chief of Matachewan First Nation who brings a vast amount of knowledge and wisdom to the Implementation Committee, as well as an eagerness to identify ways to make meaningful change to the justice system.

Beginning his career in the service of First Nations as an Executive Director of the North Bay Indian Friendship Centre in 1974, Mr. Batise went on to become president of the Ontario Federation of Indian Friendship Centres and later, the National Association of Friendship Centres. In 1988, Mr. Batise was elected Chief of Matachewan First Nation, a role he held for three consecutive terms. During this time, he was heavily involved in the development of Kunuwanimano Child and Family Services and had a leading role in the foundation of the Wabun Tribal Council.

Retiring in 2000, Mr. Batise continues to work to improve conditions for First Nation people by developing governance models for First Nations, acting as an Elder Advisor for the Nishnawbe Aski Police Service, and supporting Health Canada and Chiefs of Ontario in the development of e-Health models in support of First Nation needs.

The Honourable Regional Senior Justice Marc Bode



As the regional senior judge for northwestern Ontario, Justice Marc Bode supervises the sittings of the court and the assignment of the court's judicial duties across the region. One of the Ontario Court of Justice's goals is to provide an accessible and culturally-appropriate justice system throughout Ontario's north. Justice Bode oversees four base court locations and 38 satellite court sites, and is responsible for the court sittings in 23 First Nation communities that are only accessible by airplane. Before his appointment to the Ontario Court of Justice, Justice Bode practiced as a lawyer in Thunder Bay, and served for 13 years as the area director of Legal Aid Ontario for the Thunder Bay area.

In 2012-2013, Regional Senior Justice Bode co-chaired a working group that looked at how the Ontario Court of Justice court system functions in each of the fly-in court communities in the far north. The working group's final report contains concrete recommendations that seek to improve the accessibility, safety and overall effectiveness of fly-in courts across northern Ontario.

"I am excited by the opportunity to work with leaders of our First Nations and our justice system to address the issues raised in the *Report on First Nations Representation on Ontario Juries* authored by The Honourable Frank Iacobucci."

Sheila Bristo



Currently serving as Acting Director, Divisional Support with the Ministry of the Attorney General's Court Services Division, Sheila Bristo oversees the administration of Ontario's jury selection system, including the Provincial Jury Centre. With extensive experience in court operations, Ms. Bristo recently participated in a Ministry of the Attorney General and Ontario Court of Justice joint working group that looked for ways to improve the delivery of justice services, and to improve access to justice, for fly-in communities. The working group's final [report](#) contains concrete recommendations that seek to improve the accessibility, safety and overall effectiveness of fly-in courts across northern Ontario.

An accomplished public service leader, Ms. Bristo has received numerous honours in recognition of her contribution to various innovative justice initiatives, as well as her commitment to public service and improving access to justice.

"It is an honour to be a member of the Jury Review Implementation Committee and to work with such esteemed individuals who are committed to the justice system and the participation of First Nation individuals on juries. I look forward to the committee providing thoughtful advice to the Deputy Attorney General and advancing the recommendations of the Honourable Frank Iacobucci."

Margaret Froh



Margaret Froh is a Métis lawyer and educator whose work focuses on promoting and supporting strong and healthy First Nation, Métis and Inuit organizations and communities through effective governance, law, policy, boards/committees and reconciliation processes.

A former president of the Indigenous Bar Association in Canada and former board member and president of Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto, Ms. Froh continues to promote access to justice for indigenous peoples in Canada through her community-based work. Having served as legal counsel for the Chippewas of Rama First Nation for eight years, Ms. Froh now works with a diverse range of clients as Director of Strategic Policy, Law and Compliance for the Métis Nation of Ontario, as faculty member for the Banff Centre's Indigenous Leadership and Management Program, and as founder and lead consultant for Turquoise Buffalo Consulting in Barrie, Ontario. Through her ongoing volunteer work with the Indigenous Bar Association, Ms. Froh leads projects and helps coordinate events that bring together indigenous and non-indigenous legal professionals to promote access to justice for First Nations, Métis and Inuit in Canada, and promotes respect and recognition of indigenous laws and legal traditions within the Canadian legal system.

"Justice Iacobucci's report considered the lack of representation of First Nations people on Ontario juries and, like so many other reports before it, has identified systemic discrimination against Indigenous Peoples within the Canadian justice system. Now is the time for action. I am honoured to have been appointed to this committee and look forward to doing my part in guiding the report's implementation. Access to justice for First Nations, Métis and Inuit people in Canada should be every citizen's concern, for a justice system that denies access to its most vulnerable citizens is a failing justice system."

Diane Kelly



Diane M. Kelly is an experienced leader and visionary known for her strong commitment to empowering individuals and communities by understanding and overcoming systemic barriers.

Earning her law degree in 1995, Ms. Kelly was admitted to the Manitoba and Ontario law societies in 1996, and 1998, respectively, becoming the first Anishinaabe woman lawyer from the Treaty #3 Nation. As a practicing lawyer in northwestern Ontario, she

observed and experienced many instances of systemic barriers confronting Anishinaabe people within the justice system.

Ms. Kelly has extensive experience in Anishinaabe governance, community development and institution building; traditional Anishinaabe legal paradigms and implementation; facilitating conflict resolution through the creative strategies and empowerment; and has taught at the University of Manitoba and Yellowquill College.

Through her leadership and diplomacy as the first Ogichidaakwe (female Grand Chief) of Grand Council Treaty #3, from 2008 until 2012, she asserted treaty rights through government-to-government negotiations and built nation-to-nation alliances, undertaking legal action when necessary. She advocated strongly for change and justice for Anishinaabe people in many forums, including insisting that Frank Iacobucci attend in the Kenora area to hear directly the challenges faced by Treaty #3 leadership and community members within the criminal justice system.

"I am honoured to accept the appointment to the Jury Roll Implementation Committee and will utilize this important vehicle as a means to advocate strongly for positive and lasting change. Although the work of the committee will be challenging, Mr. Iacobucci's recommendations through his study to improve First Nations participation on jury rolls are clear and sound.

Through this commitment to greater understanding of the systemic barriers and renewed efforts at relationship building between Ontario's First Nations and representatives throughout the criminal justice system I will work diligently to seek solutions so that the obstacles outlined in Mr. Iacobucci's report will be overcome."

Megan Logan



Megan Logan belongs to the Turtle Clan from Delaware Nation Moravian of the Thames. She is currently enrolled in her first year of studies at Georgian College in the Aboriginal Community and Social Development program.

Ms. Logan has long maintained a passion for working with other First Nations towards the betterment of the people and future generations.

Outside of school, she is very active in her role as a youth representative, acting as a voice for youth in her region. Ms. Logan holds a position on the Association of Iroquois and Allied Indians Youth Council and has been chosen to represent them on the Ontario First Nations Young People's Council.

"I think this committee will be a great step to ensure we are equally represented in the justice system."

Alison Pilla



Alison Pilla has been with the public sector for over twenty years and, through her work in advancing the government's Aboriginal agenda, has extensive aboriginal strategic policy and planning, and negotiation expertise spanning areas such as health, economic development, education and jurisdiction.

In 2005, as the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Integrated Policy and Planning Division, Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, she was the provincial co-chair of the *Blueprint on Aboriginal Health — a 10-year Transformative Plan.*

In her current role as Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, Strategic Policy and Planning Division, Dr. Pilla leads several key ministry initiatives including a strategic framework for Aboriginal Affairs, Resource Benefits Sharing, Economic Development and Urban Aboriginal Strategies. Dr. Pilla is also responsible for leading the implementation of Ipperwash Inquiry recommendations, including the creation of the New Relationship Fund, as well as performance measurement and progress reporting. With the introduction of the HST, she was the ministry lead for a successful negotiation that resulted in the preservation of the point of sale exemption for First Nations.

In 2011-2012 Dr. Pilla was the Ontario Public Service Visiting Fellow in Residence at the University of Toronto in the School of Public Policy and Governance.

"The work of the Implementation Committee will be an effective and powerful tool for addressing First Nations' concerns about jury representation directly, identifying possible solutions, and supporting confidence in the administration of justice in Ontario. I look forward to being a part of this initiative."

Jenny Restoule-Mallozzi



A member of Dokis First Nation, Jenny Restoule-Mallozzi is from the Muskrat Clan and holds the name Jiin Keens Kwe (Little Roots Woman).

As legal counsel for the Union of Ontario Indians, Ms. Restoule-Mallozzi provides legal assistance to the Anishinabek Nation on a variety of matters, such as dispute resolution, Aboriginal and treaty rights and land claims, and has facilitated numerous workshops and retreats and coordinated the Indian residential school commemoration project for Anishinabek survivors and families. In this role, Ms. Restoule-Mallozzi also led the design of a dispute-resolution system for the Anishinabek Nation as part of its self-government negotiations, which was recently highlighted in the Canadian Human Rights Commission's *A Toolkit for Developing Community-Based Dispute Resolution Processes in First Nations Communities*. She was also responsible for facilitating and reporting on the Ontario Jury Information Forums conducted between the Anishinabek Nation and the Ministry of the Attorney General in 2009 and 2010.

An active member of the Law Society of Upper Canada and the Canadian Bar Association, Ms. Restoule-Mallozzi holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from McMaster University and a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of British Columbia. "As an Anishinabek person, and as a legal professional, I am confident that the work of the Implementation Committee will be vital to changing the relationship between Aboriginal people and the Ontario justice system as it is charged with exploring both the problem and creating solutions. The problems have been well documented in the *First Nations Representation On Ontario Juries* report, as others; now it is time to work together to develop the necessary changes to ensure that fair, positive, and long-term solutions are made to ensure that justice for all is achieved. I welcome this responsibility and am honoured to be a member of the Implementation Committee."

The Honourable Erwin Stach



The Honourable Erwin Stach retired from the Ontario Superior Court of Justice in 2013. Later the same year he was re-appointed as a deputy judge on the Supreme Court of Yukon. Justice Stach spent most of his 42-year law career in northwestern Ontario, first as a practising lawyer and then as a judge, presiding over courts in the City of Kenora and throughout Ontario. He travelled to many First Nation communities.

During this time, Justice Stach became familiar with the many factors which he feels have made access to justice more difficult for First Nation people, such as logistical and travel hurdles, as well as cultural practices and beliefs. In addition, after more than two decades of presiding over jury trials, Justice Stach developed an abiding respect for the enormous value of the jury process. He believes that the jury process will benefit immensely from a greater infusion of the knowledge and life experience of First Nations residents.

"Substantive amendment to the *Juries Act* in Ontario is long overdue. Participation on this committee offers the opportunity of recommending positive changes both large and small, changes that will improve the jury experience for generations still to come. Some proposals in the Iacobucci report lend themselves to prompt implementation. Others will require meaningful dialogue with First Nation leaders and other major stakeholders, or more extensive study.

All in all, it stands to be an engaging and exciting process that will bring lasting improvements to one of the most important components of our justice system. How could I say no to that?"