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Jury roll committee revealed at Toronto news conference

By tbnewswatch.com

The province has taken a step toward ensuring First Nations people are equally represented on Ontario's jury rolls.

At a news conference in Toronto Thursday afternoon, Attorney General John Gerretsen announced the 11 members of a new Jury Roll implementation committee.

The panel is co-chaired by Nishnawbe-Aski Nation Deputy Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler, and includes Ontario Court Justice Marc Bode and former Treaty 3 Grand Chief Diane Kelly.

Their goal is to implement the recommendations of former Supreme Court Justice Frank Iacobucci, who found glaring problems and omissions from the jury rolls in Northwestern Ontario.

The under-representation of First Nations on jury rolls came to light during the coroner's inquests into the 2007 deaths of two aboriginal people.