



Marion J. Allan

Associate Counsel - Retirement
Mediation & Arbitration
Estates & Trusts
Business Litigation

Profile

The Honourable Marion J. Allan is a mediator and arbitrator who serves as Associate Counsel to the firm. She is a member of the Mediation & Arbitration, Franchising, Estates, Trust & Tax and Business Litigation groups.

Marion offers a wealth of strategic advice, insight and dispute resolution assistance to our clients and lawyers. She has a particular interest in helping clients resolve disputes in the areas of wills and estates, family law, insurance coverage, personal injury and employment, as well as in connection with strata property, real estate and construction matters. She has completed mediation and conflict resolution training at Pepperdine University, the Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia (CLEBC) and the Justice Institute of BC (JIBC).

Marion practiced civil litigation for 10 years. She was an adjunct professor of civil litigation from 1984-1988 prior to her appointment to the County Court of Vancouver in 1988 and elevation to the Supreme Court of BC in 1990. She retired from the Supreme Court in April 2012.

Long regarded as a hard-working and highly respected member of the judiciary, Marion earned praise for her decisions in response to complex legal issues, presiding as a justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia and a Deputy Judge of the Supreme Court of the Yukon Territory. She elected supernumerary status in August 2007.

During her time on the bench, she participated in many educational programs for judges and lawyers for the National Judicial Institute, Canadian Bar Association, Continuing Legal Education and Trial Lawyers Association, on topics such as evidence, family law, civil procedure, fiduciary obligations, personal injuries and elder law. Marion chaired the Supreme Court Rules Revision Committee from 1994-1999. She has devoted considerable attention to elder law issues and has been engaged in research with the Canadian Centre for Elder Law Studies. Marion was awarded the Trial Lawyers Association of BC Judge of the Year Award in 2012, was appointed to the BC Law Institute's Board of Directors in August 2013 and was also admitted to the Civil Roster of Mediate BC in September 2014.

Marion obtained her Bachelor of Arts from the University of British Columbia in 1967, a Master of Arts in International Relations from the University of Alberta in 1970 and a Bachelor of Laws from UBC in 1977. She was called to the Bar of British Columbia in 1978

Credentials

Industry Involvement

- > Canadian Bar Association
- > Board of Directors, BC Law Institute
- > Distinguished Fellow, Canadian Centre for Elder Law
- > Mediate BC Society (admitted to the Civil Roster)
- > Member, Board of Directors, BC Law Institute, 2013-present
- > Chair, the Supreme Court Rules Revision Committee, 1994-1999
- > Judge, County Court of Vancouver, 1988-1990
- > Justice, Supreme Court of British Columbia, 1990-2012
- > Deputy Judge of the Supreme Court of the Yukon Territory, 1990-2012

Education & Call to Bar

- > Mediation and Conflict Resolution Training, Pepperdine University, 2015
- > Mediation and Conflict Resolution Training, Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia, 2013-present
- > Mediation and Conflict Resolution Training, Justice Institute of BC, 2013
- > Call to Bar: British Columbia, 1978
- > Bachelor of Laws, University of British Columbia, 1977
- > Masters of Arts, University of Alberta, 1970
- > Bachelor of Arts, University of British Columbia, 1967

External Publications & Presentations

- > "What is Elder Law and What do you Need to Know about it?", Lions Gate Women's Probus Club of North Shore Vancouver (October 24, 2016)
- > "When is the Best Time to Mediate? When is it Necessary to Litigate?", TLABC Women Lawyers Retreat, Whistler (October, 21, 2016)
- > "Ten Tactical Tips to Avoid Tripping up in Chambers: Musings of a Retired Judge", The Advocate (January 2016)
- > "Dementia and Client Competency - Practice Tips, Communications Strategies, and Ethical Issues", Canadian Elder Law Conference, CLEBC (November 2015)

- > "Expert Evidence and Mediations", Expert Evidence in British Columbia Civil Proceedings, 4th edition, CLEBC (September 2015)
- > "Advocacy outside the Courtroom-A better deal for you your clients?", The Verdict (July 2015)
- > Panel speaker, "Aging Clients: Client Competency & Elder Law for Everyone", CBABC Ninth Annual Branch Conference (November 15, 2014)
- > "BC Cases Interpreting the Property Division Provisions of the Family Law Act", The Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia (April 25, 2014)
- > "Estate Litigation: Navigating the New Probate Rules", The Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia (February 13, 2014 in Vancouver and February 27, 2014 in Kelowna)
- > "Ethical Minefields in the Gift Planning Terrain", Canadian Association of Gift Planners (February 20, 2014)
- > "Preparing Expert Reports on the issue of Capacity", Canadian Bar Association, Wills and Trusts and Elder Law subsections (February 4, 2014)
- > "Reflections of a Deputy Judge of the Yukon Sitting in Watson Lake, August 1994", The Advocate (January 2014)
- > "A Rambling Look from the Bench at Juries, Mostly Civil, Between 1988 and 2012", The Verdict (Fall 2013)
- > Maximizing the Impact of Expert Medical Evidence", TLA Medical Legal Conference (January 24, 2013)
- > "Women Presenting in Court", CBABC Women's Legal Forum Education Day (May 4, 2012)
- > Book review of "Blood & Money: Why families fight over inheritance & what to do about it", The Advocate (Vol. 70 Part 1, Jan 2012)
- > Keynote speaker, Canadian Centre for Elder Law Conference (2012)
- > "The Role of the Doctor in Assessing Legal Competence: Patient's Advocate or Neutral Expert?" UBC Geriatric Medicine and Geriatric Psychiatry Rounds (October 25, 2011)
- > "Will you still need me, will you still feed me, when I'm 94? The scary demographic reality of aging baby boomers and their children's liability under criminal and family law", The Advocate (Vol. 66 Part 4, Jul 2008, p. 501)
- > "I don't do Measuring Cups: Tales from the Bench", Women & the Law Dinner, hosted by the UBC Law Women's Caucus (March 16, 2006)
- > Keynote speaker, Canadian Centre for Elder Law Conference (2005)
- > Co-author of "A Comparative Analysis of Adult Guardianship Laws in BC, New Zealand and Ontario", Canadian Centre for Elder Law (2005) (prepared in connection with the Aging with Challenges Project considering key issues essential to meaningful reform of the Patients Property Act in BC)