

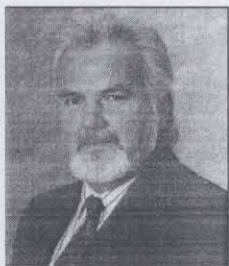
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## CHIEF COMMISSIONER

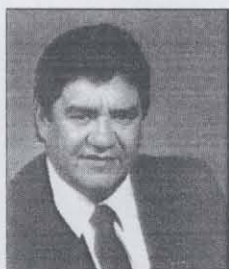


**Harry S. LaForme** is an Anishinabe from the Mississaugas of New Credit First Nation in southern Ontario. A lawyer, he specialized in the area of aboriginal rights law and has extensive experience in the area of Indian land claims. As the Indian commissioner of Ontario from 1989 to 1991, Mr. LaForme submitted a discussion paper to the governments of Canada, Ontario, and First Nations on native claims. He subsequently served as co-chair to the national Chiefs Committee on Claims.

## COMMISSIONERS



**Roger J. Augustine**, a MicMac, has been chief of the Eel Ground First Nation of New Brunswick since 1980. In 1982 Chief Augustine became a member of the National Native Advisory Council on Drug Abuse and served as its chair from 1984 to 1986. He served as president of the Union of New Brunswick Indians from October 1990 to January 1994.



**Daniel J. Bellegarde** is an Assiniboine/Cree from the Little Black Bear First Nation situated in southern Saskatchewan. From 1981 to 1984, Mr. Bellegarde worked with the Meadow Lake District Chiefs Joint Venture as a socio-economic planner. From 1984 to 1987, he was president of the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies. Since 1988 he has held the position of first vice-chief of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations.

THE COMMISSIONERS

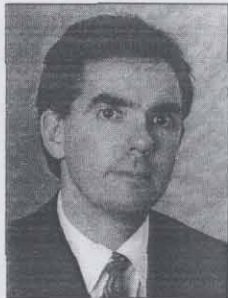
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**Carole T. Corcoran** is a Dene from the Fort Nelson Indian Band in northern British Columbia. Mrs. Corcoran has extensive experience in aboriginal government and politics at the local, regional, and provincial levels. She also served as a commissioner on the Spicer Commission in 1990. In April 1993 she was appointed to a two-year term as commissioner on the BC Treaty Commission. Mrs. Corcoran was called to the BC bar in 1992.



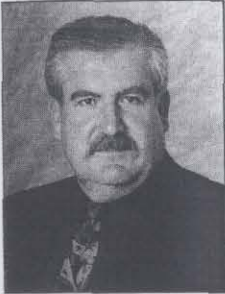
**Carol A. Dutchshen** is a lawyer who serves as legal counsel to The North West Company Inc. in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Ms Dutchshen has experience in the legal aspects of commercial development on Indian reserve land and extensive experience in real property law. Ms Dutchshen serves on the council of the Manitoba and Canadian Bar Associations and has been actively involved in public legal education.



**P.E. James Prentice, QC**, is a lawyer with the Calgary firm of Rooney Prentice. He has an extensive background in native land claim matters, including his work as legal counsel and negotiator for the Province of Alberta in the tripartite negotiations that resulted in the Sturgeon Lake Indian Claim Settlement of 1989.

## THE COMMISSIONERS

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**Charles-André Hamelin**, of Baie-Saint-Paul, died suddenly in Montreal on July 29, 1993. Mr Hamelin was a member of Parliament for Charlevoix from 1984 to 1988, a member of the National Parole Board, a commissioner with the Indian Claims Commission, and a consultant on international business development.

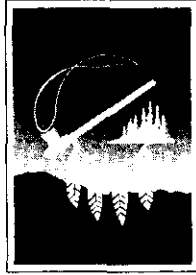
*We note with sadness the untimely death of our colleague, Charles Hamelin, who served with us as a Commissioner for only one year. Charles was working in our Ottawa offices on communication matters in the days preceding his sudden, and fatal, heart attack. He was 46 years old. His knowledge of issues relating to his native province, his personal style, and his general joie de vivre will be missed by us and by the staff who had the opportunity to work with him.*

*— The Commissioners*

## UPDATE

On March 17, 1994, Commissioners Dan Bellegarde and Jim Prentice were appointed Co-Chairs of the Indian Claims Commission. Harry S. LaForme was named Chief Commissioner of the Commission in 1991, but left that position in February 1994 when he was sworn in as a judge of the Ontario Court, General Division. Of the six commissioners appointed in July 1992, Carol Dutchshen has accepted a full-time position with Ontario Hydro in Toronto.





*I have heard the elders say that when the terms of the treaties were deliberated the smoke from the pipe carried that agreement to the Creator binding it forever. An agreement can be written in stone, stone can be chipped away, but the smoke from the sacred pipe signified to the First Nation peoples that the treaties could not be undone.*

*Ernest Benedict, Mohawk Elder  
Akwasasne, Ontario, June 1992*

Traditionally, the pipe was smoked to bring a spiritual dimension to human affairs, to seal an agreement, to bind the smokers to a common task or to signal a willingness to discuss an issue. It is still being used today for the same reasons. For this reason, the pipe was chosen as the centre of the Indian Claims Commission logo. The wisps of smoke rising upward to the Creator lead to a tree-covered island representing Canada, where claims are being negotiated. The four eagle feathers, symbolizing the races of the earth, represent all parties involved in the claims process. Elements of water, land, and sky etched in blue and green indicate a period of growth and healing.

Centre figure design by Kirk Brant  
Background design by David Beyer