

**Remarks of Chief Justice Deborah E. Fry  
On the passing of Roland C. Snelgrove Q.C.  
A Senior Member of the Law Society  
Court of Appeal, Duckworth St., St. John's, NL**

**The Chief Justice of Newfoundland and Labrador:**

I would like to take the opportunity to recognize the passing of **Roland C. Snelgrove Q.C.**, a senior member of the Bar who passed away on March 4, 2020 at the age of 67, following a lengthy illness. Mr. Snelgrove, born on March 14, 1952, was originally from Grates Cove in Trinity Bay.

Mr. Snelgrove received his Bachelor of Arts from Memorial University in 1974 and his LL.B. from Dalhousie University in 1977. He was called to the Bar on April 12, 1978 and entered on the Barrister's Roll as # 444.

Snelgrove Q.C. was a partner with Cox and Palmer for many years and most recently was Counsel to the firm. His practice, of more than 40 years, was one of the largest real estate practices in the Province. Mr. Snelgrove focused extensively in the area of commercial and residential real estate and bank financing. His peers recognized him as a leading practitioner in property law and development. His expertise was widely known and he was generous with his time and advice. As one colleague pointed out: "Roland was an absolute master in the area of law that he chose to practice. Many a lawyer, including myself, would often call upon Roland for advice particularly with respect to title and title issues. He never refused a call. Many a dispute between lawyers over real estate matters in our area was resolved with a call to him."

He was known for his unassuming nature and quiet demeanor; "a man that walked softly but spoke with conviction and truth. A rock that could be counted on." Despite his calm and quiet personality, he also had a sharp wit and ability to find humor in the smallest places and brighten the days of those around him with a funny little joke followed by his laugh. He was approachable and displayed an unwavering willingness to help those around him. Snelgrove Q.C. provided counsel and encouragement to many a young lawyer. His firm said "his strength of character, perseverance through adversity, and respect for those around him was an inspiration to us all."

Mr. Snelgrove was involved in his community and especially known for his long time contribution to the Newfoundland and Labrador Special Olympics, including his service as its President. In addition to being a committed and involved husband, father and grandfather, he stood as a role model to someone who noted that without a father figure, Mr. Snelgrove was a person he would hope to emulate.

He will be remembered by his wife, Dr. Christine; his children: Dr. Tara (Steven Smolinski) and Dr. Ryan (Dr. Sarah Morrissey); and his four grandchildren: Hank Snelgrove, Max Smolinski, Rusty Snelgrove and Veronica Smolinski as well as his brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews and a large circle of friends and extended family.

On behalf of my colleagues at the Court of Appeal, I wish to extend our sincere condolences to the family on their loss of Roland C. Snelgrove Q.C. The Bench and the Bar will miss him.