

Contracts



Annual Report 2008-09

email: inquiries@provincial.court.nl.ca

The Honourable D. Mark. Pike Chief Judge (A)



Box 68, Atlantic Place 215 Water Street St. John's, NL A1C 6C9



PROVINCIAL COURT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

September 2009

The Honourable Tom Marshall Minister of Justice and Attorney General Confederation Building P.O. Box 8700 St. John's, NL A1B 4J6

Dear Minister:

A number of significant developments have taken place during the past year at the Provincial Court of Newfoundland and Labrador. They are detailed in this report. More changes will be forthcoming next year.

The revival of the judicial position of Associate Chief Judge has strengthened the administrative composition of the Court and further enhanced the leadership and operational support for the puisne Judges and support staff.

Next year the recommendations of the Task Force on Criminal Justice Efficiencies will be fully implemented. One particularly significant improvement to the functioning of the Court will be the enhanced use of electronic scheduling for trials and appearances. The new Case Assignment And Retrieval (CAAR) system will be implemented so that both judicial and physical resources will be better utilized. This will result in a substantial reduction in case processing times and more effective use of the time required of counsel, witnesses, staff and judges on even the most routine matters.

Through close cooperation with the Department of Justice and the participation of other government agencies and community groups, we have continued to develop and refine two specialty courts; Mental Health Court and Family Violence Intervention Court. In Labrador, the Innu Healing Path Treatment Initiative is underway with the assistance of representatives of the Public Prosecution Service, Legal Aid, as well as the Mushuau and Sheshatshiu Innu. Substantial improvements to the services to the public are being realized.

Training and performance coaching programs for our staff have begun to bear fruit. Professionalism and adherence to standards of excellence are imperative if we are to be successful.

This is an exciting time for the Provincial Court of Newfoundland and Labrador. We are committed to continuing to build a dynamic court system which can efficiently deliver the highest standards of justice to the people of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Yours sincerely,

MLPK, ACT

D. Mark Pike Chief Judge (A)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MISSION STATEMENT 1
A YEAR IN REVIEW
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND STAFFING LEVELS
LINES OF BUSINESS
STATISTICS
Five-Year Comparative
Combined Caseload Statistics
Total Overall Cases for Last 5 Years (Chart)
, ,
Total Adult Cases for Last 5 Years (Chart)
Total Youth Cases for Last 5 Years (Chart)
Total Civil Cases for Last 5 Years (Chart)
Total Family Cases for Last 4 Years (Chart)17
Appearances 5 Year Chart
Courtroom Appearances
Pending, Initiated, and Concluded Cases Adult/Youth
Requests for Criminal History Records
Video Conferencing
National Sex Offender Registry
÷ •
Ignition Interlock Applications
Ten Most Common Offences
Summary Offence Tickets
Number of Transcribed Pages
Weekend Arrests
Emergency Protection Orders
FINANCIAL
Budget Expenditures
TOIL
Judicial Exchange
Revenue Collected and Distributed
Fines Imposed
CIRCUIT COURTS
UPDATES
Training
Performance Coaching

 Information Management
 .30

 E-Filing
 .30

 Corner Brook Courthouse
 .31

 Association of Canadian Court Administrators (ACCA) 2008 Conference
 .31

 Update of Mental Health Court at St. John's
 .32

 Family Violence Intervention Court
 .33

 The Criminal Code Mental Disorder Review Board
 .34

TABLE OF CONTENTS

UPDATES cont'd	
Taskforce on Criminal Justice Efficiencies	
Strategic Plan	
Lunch With A Judge Program	
COMMITTEES	
New Employee Orientation Committee	
Respectful Workplace Committee	
Occupational Health and Safety Committee	
Court Reporters' Manual Committee	
INTERNATIONAL	
Judge R. Hyslop - Mexico	
Judge C. Flynn - University of Leicester England	
DEPARTURES/AU REVOIR	41
IN MEMORIAM	
Judge M. Monaghan	
JUDGES AND STAFF	
APPENDICES	
Total Appearances (5 years)	Appendix A
Ten Year Statistics	

PROVINCIAL COURT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Our Governing Values

Governed by the Constitution of Canada and the rule of law, we are in an independent, impartial, and accessible judicial system.

We are committed to the provision of quality service through the effective management of available resources and the continuous professional development of the Judiciary and Court Staff.

We are committed to integrity, ethical conduct, and the timely performance of duties.

We are committed to providing all litigants with reasoned judicial decisions.

Our Mission

The Provincial Court of Newfoundland and Labrador exists to uphold and preserve the fundamental values of society by judging legal disputes, conducting inquiries, and providing quality service to the public.

Our Vision

To recognize the value of our Staff and Judiciary in achieving our mission.

To operate the Court with highly qualified personnel and judiciary.

To provide access to justice to everyone and be sensitive to social and cultural diversity.

To encourage the use of dispute resolution alternatives that respond to the changing needs of society.

To emphasize the effective use of technology and decentralized administrative decision making.

2008/09: A YEAR IN REVIEW

by: Pamela Ryder Lahey



The effect of the baby boomer generation exiting the workforce was felt by the Provincial Court during fiscal year 2008/09. Two judges, three court administrators, and two clerks retired. Combine this with extended sick leave, unpaid education leave, maternity leave and the delayed recruitment for judicial and staff positions, it all led to

some significant human resource issues. Kudos must be given to the remaining judges and staff for their personal dedication and commitment to doing their own workload and then helping cover the workload of their colleagues. The Court thanks you very much for your work ethic.

A significant milestone was reached in 2008/09 with the appointment of an Associate Chief Judge. The Provincial Court has not had an Associate Chief Judge since former Associate Chief Judge Ed Langdon retired in 1991. Mark Pike was sworn in on December 16th, 2008. Associate Chief Judge Pike came to the bench from the law firm Benson Myles.

Total caseload increased by 4% in 08/09. It is interesting to note that it increased overall by 4% in 07/08 as well. The increase is attributable to a +6% increase in Adult cases, with Youth, Civil and Family all showing decreases of -2%, -3% and -8% respectively. Summary Offence Tickets increased by 11% or 14, 966 tickets.

There was a 443% increase in the number of video conference sessions in 08/09. In 07/08 there had been 129 sessions and in 08/09 there were 710 sessions. The number of hours increased from 200 in 07/08 to 947 hours in 08/09. More lawyers and participants are getting comfortable with the technology as demonstrated by the increased usage.

The Small Claims E-filing project slowed during 2008/09 as some issues arose with the developer, which caused the implementation date to move back. However, the implementation of the E-filing system will be a positive addition to services that are offered by the Court and will benefit, in particular, those who use the Small Claims Court. It is also hoped that this technology will be a backbone for other E-filing initiatives in the Court.

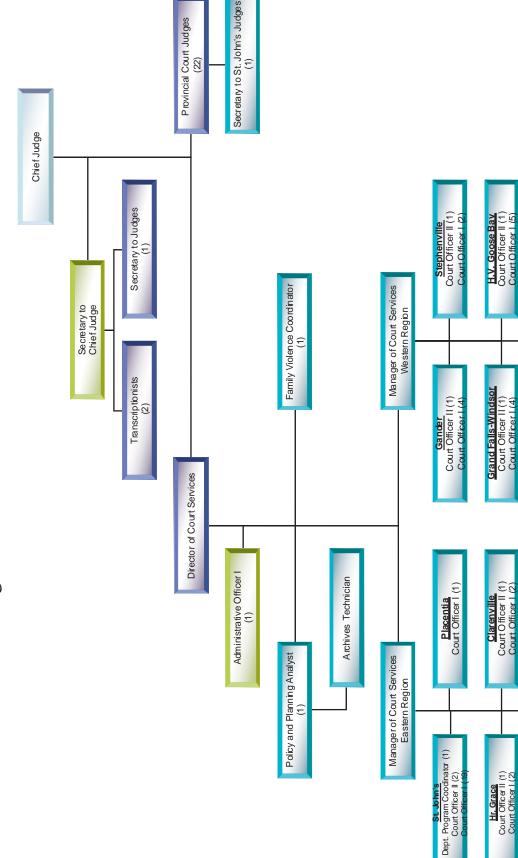
The Adult Criminal Records Retention Schedule was

finalized and approved during 2008/09. Work continues on the Small Claims Retention Schedule. The Information Management Division of the Court grew by one position. An Archives Technician joined the Court and works with the half-time Records Analyst (who is shared between both the Provincial and Supreme Courts). Both these individuals visited several court centres over the year and inventoried court records. In particular, their assistance was welcomed by the retiring clerk in Placentia, as upon her retirement the courthouse closed. All of these records had to be labeled and packaged for transmittal to Archives, as well as the ongoing files to the Harbour Grace Court. The Harbour Grace Court took over the Placentia district workload upon its closure. The Corner Brook records were inventoried in preparation for the move to the new courthouse. Culling and refoldering of the Corner Brook files will be done during the summer of 2009.

The Provincial Court's Family Violence Intervention Court held its first court hearing on March 25th, 2009. Delays in the classification of positions and the subsequent recruitment for dedicated positions to this Court by all stakeholders (Court, Crown, Legal Aid, Victim Services, and Probation) delayed the much anticipated opening of this Court. It is too early to tell what the workload of this Court will be.

During 2008/09 preliminary work was done for an automated court scheduling project. By March 31st, 2009, the business requirements had been gathered and presented to both the Provincial and Supreme Courts in a written report. The next stage is to seek Cabinet approval to send out a Request for Proposal for an off-the-shelf solution. If no such solution exists, then the Courts will have to consider a customized solution.

The progress of the new courthouse in Corner Brook continued throughout the year, albeit at times progress was slower than desired. Nevertheless the move to the new building is expected to occur during late 2009/10.



Organizational Chart for F/Y 2008-09

Provincial Court of Newfoundland and Labrador

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Wabush Court Officer I (2)

Corner Brook Court Manager (1) Court Officer II (1) Court Officer I (7.5)

Grand Bank Court Officer II (1) Court Officer I (2)

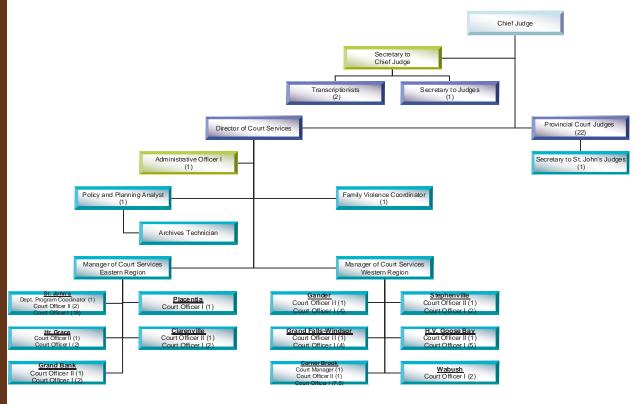
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND STAFFING LEVELS

uring 08/09 the Provincial Court experienced a significant turnover in staff. The Manager of Court Services Eastern spent greater than 50% of the fiscal year recruiting for various positions throughout the courts. Such turnover this year is attributed to employees retiring, leaving for other positions in government, on education leave, on special leave without pay, and on long-term sick leave. Out of the 69 permanent and several temporary positions, 25 competitions were held. On January 30th two Court Administrators (Gander and Grand Bank) and the Court Clerk in Placentia retired. Steve Burt is the new Court Administrator for Grand Bank and Rob Dwyer for Gander. The position in Placentia was transferred to HVGB as the Placentia Court is now a circuit and not a full-time court.

Shelley Organ has continued performing the full duties of the Manager of Court Services Western, who has been on extended leave since March 2007. Having one Manager oversee all the courts has brought consistency in the application of policies, procedures and practices. Monthly teleconferences are held between the Manager and the Court Administrator, which keeps management informed about the administrative workload and any emerging issues at each centre. In addition, the Manager visits each court centre on a quarterly basis.

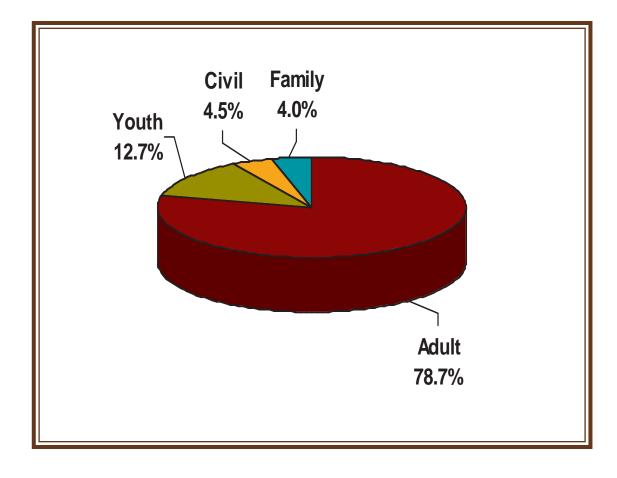
In addition to the staffing turnover this past year, three judicial vacancies occurred. The first with the appointment of Judge David Peddle to the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador, Trial Division; then Judge Robert Smith retired from the St. John's Court, followed a month later by the retirement of Judge Joseph Woodrow, also of the St. John's Court. A new position of Associate Chief Judge was created and Mark Pike was appointed to this position in November 2008. In effect, this means that at the end of the fiscal year, the Provincial Court had two judicial vacancies on its bench out of the approved 23 judicial positions.

Provincial Court of Newfoundland and Labrador Organizational Chart for F/Y 2008-09



LINES OF BUSINESS





The jurisdiction of the Provincial Court extends to criminal, civil, traffic, family, and youth matters. More specifically:

CRIMINAL: all summary convictions offences under federal and provincial statutes; indictable offences, except where excluded under the Criminal Code, e.g., murder.

YOUTH: the Court hears all criminal matters involving young offenders.

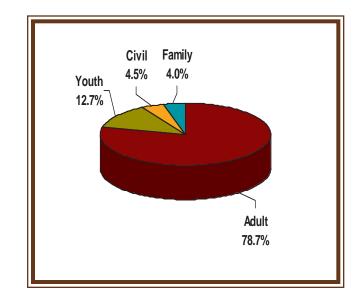
TRAFFIC: all highway traffic matters

CIVIL: all civil actions where the amount does not exceed \$5,000. The court has no jurisdiction over cases in which title to land is brought into question or malicious prosecution, false imprisonment and defamation, or against a justice or other public official for anything done while executing the duties of office.

FAMILY: outside the St. John's area, the court has jurisdiction over custody, support maintenance, child welfare, legitimacy, paternity, adoption, and inter-spousal Criminal Code offences. It does not deal with divorce or division of property under the Family Law Act. Family Justice Services Division, a division of both Provincial and Supreme Courts, provides parent education sessions, mediation and counselling, to all family applications filed in either level of court.

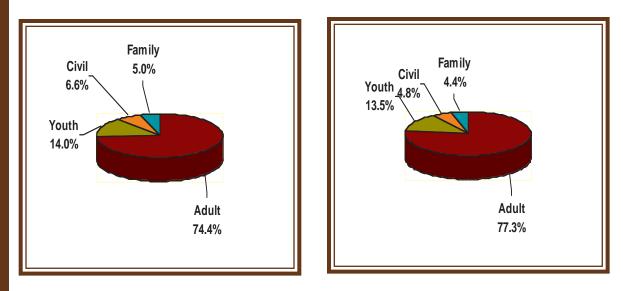
FIVE YEAR COMPARATIVE FY 2008-09











COMBINED CASELOAD STATISTICS FY 2008-09

Court Centre	Total Adult	Total Youth	New Civil	New Family	Total Cases
Clarenville	770	163	44	44	1021
Corner Brook	2654	353	174	188	3369
Gander	1260	126	69	153	1608
Grand Bank	789	139	57	51	1036
Grand Falls-Windsor	1121	245	88	220	1674
H. V. Goose Bay	2460	569	32	197	3258
Hr. Grace	958	102	82	103	1245
Placentia	120	31	6	14	171
Stephenville	1285	149	44	122	1600
St. John's	10693	1704	674	0	13071
Wabush	428	71	28	64	591
OVERALL TOTAL	22,538	3,652	1,298	1,156	28,644

Statistical data is extracted from the Provincial Court Information System, Civil Case Management System, Family Case Management System, and monthly reports submitted by the courts to Court Services.

In terms of total caseload numbers, there were 28,644 cases initiated in 2008/2009 compared to 27,576 cases in the previous year 2007/08. The Provincial Court experienced an annual increase of 4 % or 1,068 more cases. It is noteworthy that the previous year also recorded a 4% annual increase in total caseload.

CHANGES FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR

The above table provides the detailed case numbers for each of the individual court centres. If one examines the 2008/2009 figures in contrast to the 2007/2008 figures the 4% increase in caseload was primarily the result of +6% increase in the Adult Criminal caseload, that is 1,231 additional cases. The increase was offset by slight decline in Youth cases by -2% or 72 cases. Civil cases decreased by -3% or 28 cases; however, the greatest decrease -8% or 91 cases occurred in Family.

There were 149,472 Summary Offence Tickets

(SOTs) processed in 2008/2009 compared to 135,942 the previous year, an increase of 11%, an additional 14,966 tickets. There was also an increase in Summary Offence Trials from 895 in 2007/2008 to 929 in 2008/2009.

With respect to individual court centres as compared to the previous year, the following courts experienced increased caseloads: St. John's (+1291 cases, +11%); Corner Brook (+262 cases, +9%); Grand Falls/Windsor (+180 cases, +12%); Wabush (+161 cases, +38%); Harbour Grace (+150 cases, +14%); and Gander (+84 cases, +6%).

The 11% increase in caseload for St. John's can largely be attributed to increases in Adult Criminal and Youth cases. Corner Brook's increased caseload (+9%) was primarily the result of increases in Adult Criminal cases and to a much lesser extent increases in Civil cases and Family cases. Grand Falls/Windsor's increased caseload (+12%) can be attributed to a marked increased in Youth cases and to a lesser extent Civil cases and Family cases. In Wabush increased caseload (+38%) can be explained by an increased number of Adult Criminal cases and to a much lesser extent Civil cases. Harbour Grace's increased caseload (+14%) is the result of an increased number of Adult Criminal cases and to a

*Note: Additional statistical data is found in the Appendix.

STATISTICS

cont'd

lesser extent Civil and Family cases. Gander's increased caseload (+6%) resulted from increases in Adult Criminal cases, Civil and Family cases. Interestingly, of all the court centres that showed increased caseload compared to the previous year, only Grand Falls Windsor recorded an increase in Youth cases, and the increase was significant (+113 cases, +86%).

Courts reporting declining caseloads in 2008/2009 as compared to the previous year include: Stephenville (-592 cases, -27%); Clarenville (-197 cases, -17%); Grand Bank (-149 cases, -13%); Happy Valley-Goose Bay (-107 cases, -4%); and Placentia (-15 cases, -8%). Stephenville (-27%) experienced significant declines in Adult Criminal, Youth, and Family cases in 2008/2009. Clarenville's caseload reduction was the result of declining Adult Criminal cases and Civil cases. Grand Bank's decrease of 13% solely reflects a reduced number of Adult Criminal cases. Happy Valley-Goose Bay's reduced caseload is primarily the result of decreased Adult Criminal caseload and to a much lesser extent decreased Family cases and Civil cases. Placentia's declining caseload has been an ongoing trend and this court centre officially closed as of January 31, 2009. It is now considered a circuit court of Harbour Grace.

Five-Year Trends

The following charts show general trends over the past five years for each court centre in terms of overall caseload and the charts are then further broken down by case type by each court centre.

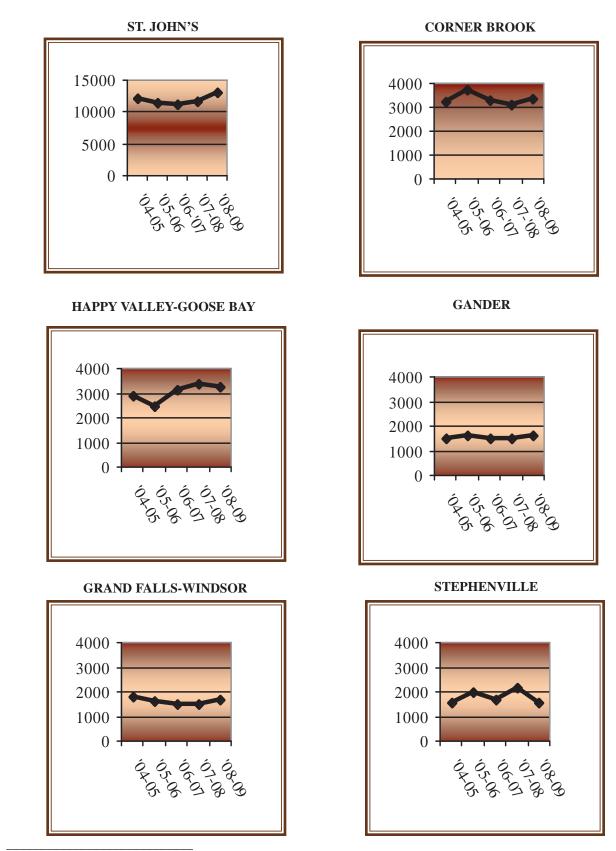
Since 2004/2005 when total caseload stood at 28,383, the court experienced an initial period of declining caseload up to and including 2006/2007 followed by a rebound in 2007/2008 and 2008/2009 (28,644 cases) with total caseload slightly exceeding (+261 cases: +1%) the 2004/2005 level. The Adult Criminal caseload since 2004/2005 (21,116 cases) has mirrored the overall caseload trend with initial declines from 2004/2005 up to and including 2006/2007, followed by a rebound in 2007/2008 and 2008/2009 (22,538 cases) which surpassed the 2004/2005 figure by 1,422 cases, or +7%. Youth caseload since 2004/2005 (3,969) has shown a decline, up to and including 2008/2009 (3,652), with the exception of a small increase in 2006/2007. Similarly, Civil caseload has recorded a steady and significant decline since 2004/2005 (1882). For 2008/2009 the total number of new civil cases stood at 1,298 cases. As the graph shows, since 2004/2005 Family cases showed an initial period of increase from 976 cases in 2004/2005 to 1268 in 2005/2006 followed by two years of decline. In 2008/2009 the caseload had rebounded to 1,156 cases.

The primary focus of the Provincial Court's work has evolved to focus more directly upon Adult Criminal and Youth matters. Ten years ago, 1999/2000, the combined Adult Criminal and Youth caseload accounted for 76% of the total caseload for the Court. By 2004/2005 the combined Adult Criminal and Youth caseload represented 89% of the total caseload. For 2008/2009 Adult Criminal and Youth caseload accounted for 92% of the Provincial Court's total caseload.

Over a five-year period from 2004/2005 Summary Offence Tickets (SOT's) processed have increased from 139,967 to 149,472 in 2008/2009. This represents an increase of 7%. However, SOT trials have decreased over the same five-year period, standing at 1289 in 2004/2005 and dipping to 929 in 2008/2009; however, 08/09 did record a slight increase from the previous year in the number of SOT trials heard.



TOTAL (OVERALL CASES) for Last Five Years (2004-2009)



Annual Report 2008-09

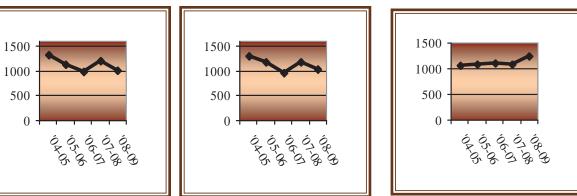
STATISTICS

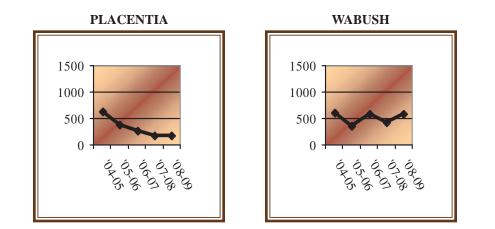
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TOTAL (OVERALL CASES) for Last Five Years (2004-2009)

CLARENVILLE

GRAND BANK



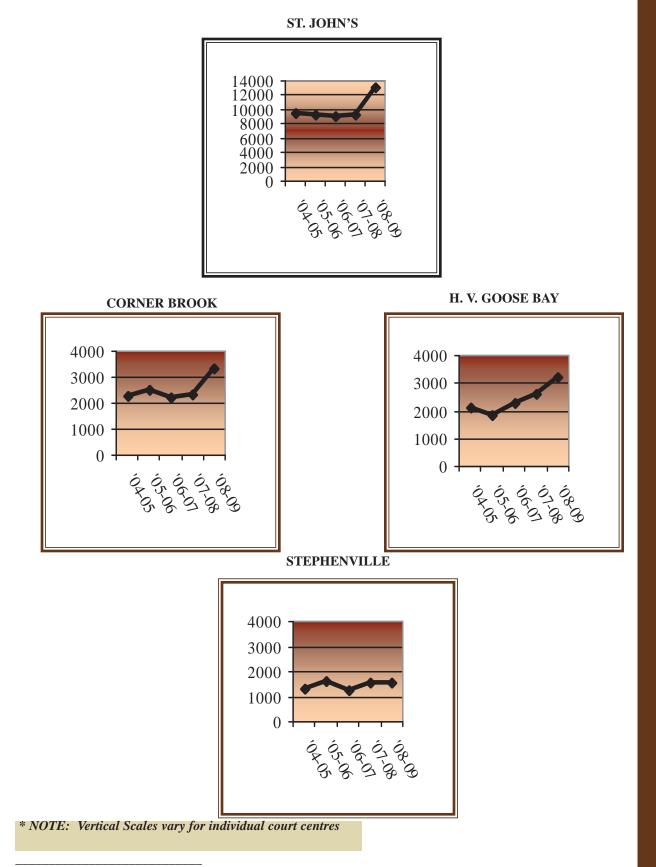


Note: Placentia became a circuit of Harbour Grace January 2009.

Annual Report 2008-09

HARBOUR GRACE

TOTAL (ADULT CASES) for Last Five Years (2004-2009)



TOTAL (ADULT CASES) for Last Five Years (2004-2009)



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GRAND BANK

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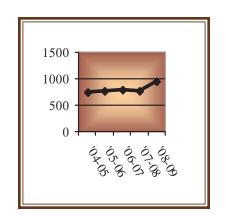
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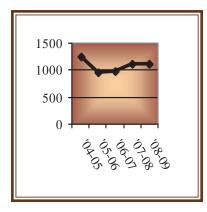
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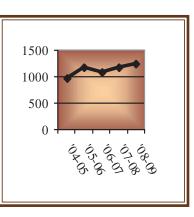


GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR

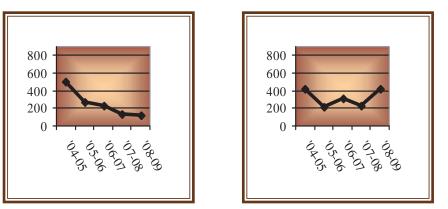






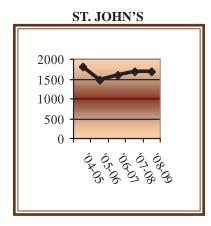


WABUSH

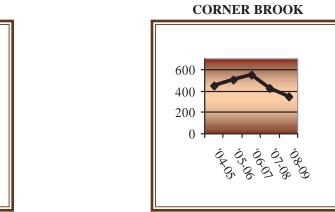


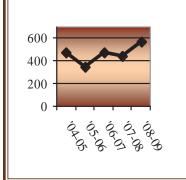
* NOTE: Vertical Scales vary for individual court centres.

TOTAL (YOUTH CASES) for Last Five Years (2004-2009)

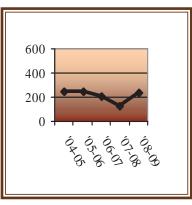


H.V. GOOSE BAY



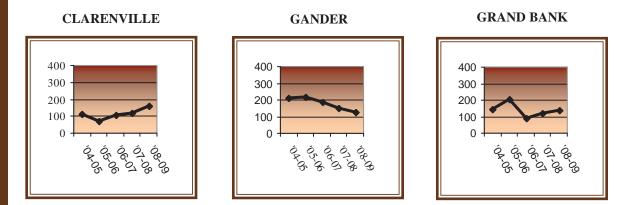


GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR



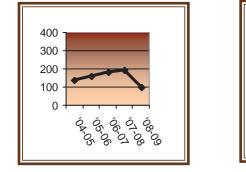
* NOTE: Vertical Scales vary for individual court centres.

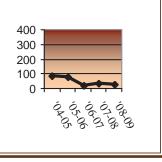
TOTAL (YOUTH CASES) for Last Five Years (2004-2009)

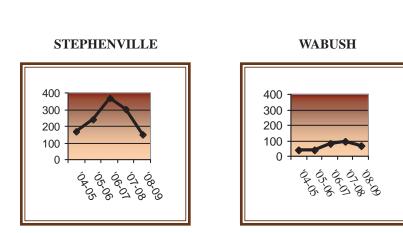


HARBOUR GRACE

PLACENTIA



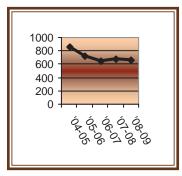




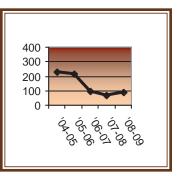
NOTE: Placentia became a circuit of Harbour Grace January 2009.

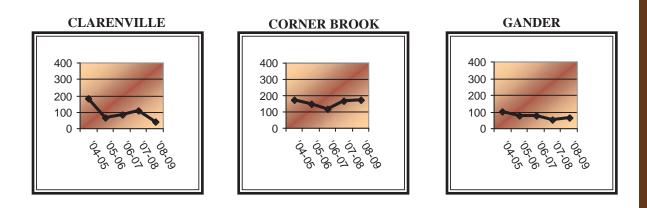
TOTAL (FAMILY CASES) for Last Five Years (2004-2009)

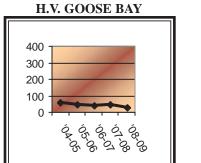
ST. JOHN'S



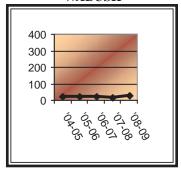
GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR*





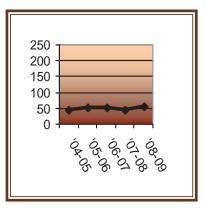


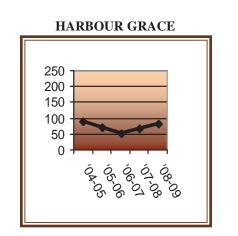
WABUSH



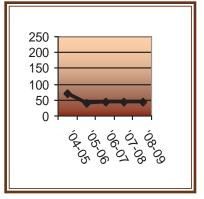
TOTAL (CIVIL CASES) for Last Five Years (2004-2009)

GRAND BANK

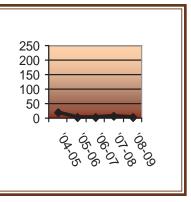








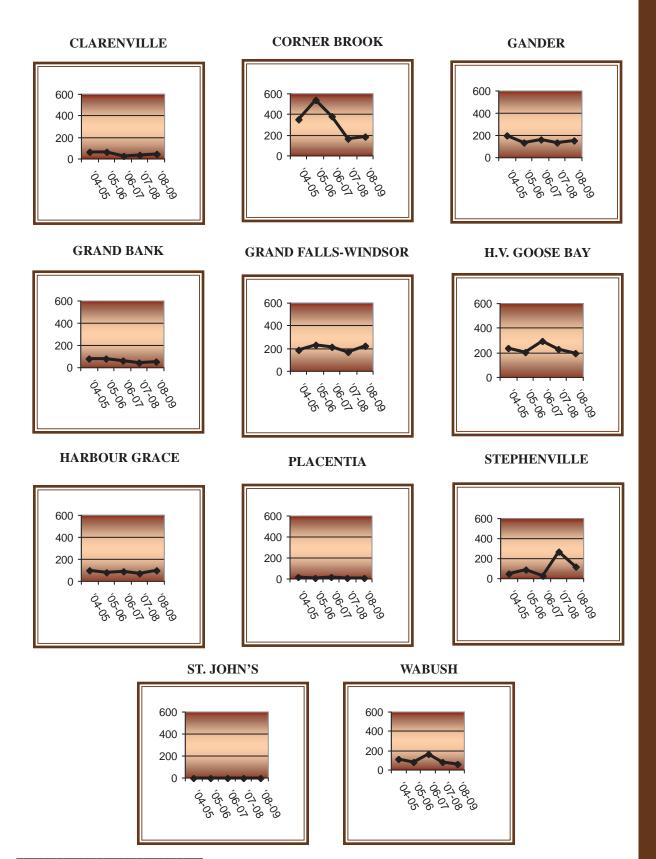
PLACENTIA



NOTE: Placentia became a circuit of Harbour Grace January 2009.

Annual Report 2008-09

TOTAL (FAMILY CASES) for Last Five Years (2004-09)



Annual Report 2008-09

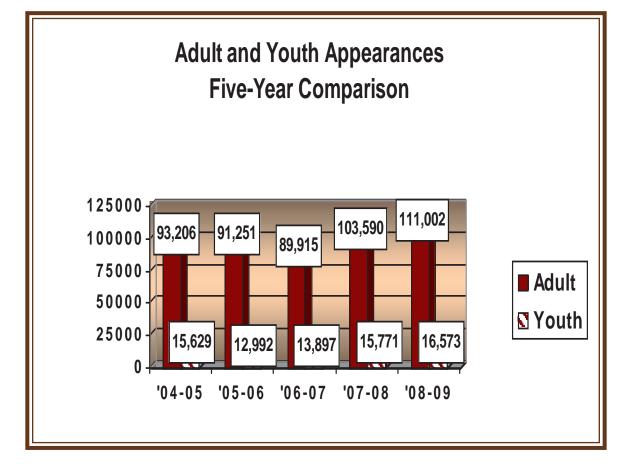
STATISTICS

APPEARANCES FY 2008-09

In 2008/2009 there were a total of 127,575 appearances involving adult criminal and youth matters. Additionally, there were 2,137 family related appearances and 1,334 civil related appearances. This computes to a combined total of 131,046 appearances for 2008/2009. This represents an increase of +7% (+7,874 appearances) over the previous year in which 123,172 appearances were recorded. Compared to 2007/2008, in 2008/2009 adult criminal appearances and youth appearances were up 7% (8,214 appearances) and 8% (982 appearances) respectively. In contrast, civil appearances and family appearances decreased by 6% (84 appearances) and 11% (256 appearances) respectively.

In terms of five-year trends, Adult Criminal appearances increased from 93,206 in 2004/2005 to 111,002 in 2008/2009, a significant increase of 19% in just five years. If one examines the past five years on an annual basis, both appearances and caseload have fluctuated up and down. Following 2004/2005 adult criminal appearances decreased for a period of two years and then rebounded in 2007/2008 and 2008/2009. Adult criminal caseload followed the same year-to-year pattern.

With respect to youth appearances the trend was somewhat similar, with 2004/2005 followed by decline in 2005/2006 with rebound occurring over the next three-year period culminating in 2008/2009 with 16,573 appearances. However, youth caseload does not mirror this pattern over the same period. Youth caseload has decreased since 2004/2005 from 3,969 cases in 2004/2005 to 3,652 cases in 2008/2009.



STATISTICS

COURTROOM APPEARANCES FY 2008-09

COURT	ADULT*	YOUTH*	CIVIL	FAMILY
Clarenville	2537	462	34	61
Corner Brook**	10857	1385	184	396
Gander	5219	610	88	172
Grand Bank	2005	533	36	43
Grand Falls-Windsor**	5432	1271	89	406
H.V. Goose Bay**	14142	3213	23	587
Harbour Grace	4082	324	23	77
Placentia**	469	103	5	6
St. John's**	57073	7516	758	0
Stephenville	6181	667	47	223
Wabush**	3004	489	47	166
TOTAL	111,001	16,573	1,334	2,137

*Note: A court hearing on two charges is counted as two appearances as per the methodology of the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

**Note: Statistics for these Court Centres are taken from IPCIS and do not include appearances on applications. Applications are requests before the Court that do not flow directly from a statute of law, but are made under a statute, such as the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, or from the formal rules of court.

PENDING, INITIATED, AND CONCLUDED CASES ADULT COURT

	U		Concluded Cases	Pending Cases	Clearance
COURT	of April. 1/08	During the Year	During the Year	March 31/09	Rates
Clarenville	462	512	623	351	121.7
Corner Brook	2031	1905	2297	1639	120.6
Gander	853	1150	1088	915	94.6
Grand Bank	310	574	621	263	108.25
Grand Falls-Windsor	803	880	894	789	101.6
H. V. Goose Bay	1299	1932	2195	1036	113.6
Harbour Grace	525	791	816	500	103.2
Placentia	115	122	85	152	69.7
Stephenville	1056	1050	913	1193	87.0
St. John's	7433	10010	9545	7906	95.3
Wabush	323	363	399	287	109.9
TOTAL	15,210	19,289	19,476	15,031	101.0

PENDING, INITIATED, AND CONCLUDED CASES YOUTH COURT

COURT	U		Concluded Cases During the Year	Pending Cases March 31/09	Clearance Rates
Clarenville	73	106	143	36	134.9
Corner Brook	173	398	338	232	85.2
Gander	77	184	103	158	56.0
Grand Bank	125	89	133	81	149.4
Grand Falls-Windsor	137	214	239	112	111.7
H. V. Goose Bay	190	490	562	118	114.7
Harbour Grace	63	110	98	75	89.1
Placentia	12	26	24	14	92.3
Stephenville	109	156	146	119	93.6
St. John's	564	1529	1682	443	107.8
Wabush	27	95	65	57	68.4
TOTAL	1,550	3,397	3,533	1,445	104.0

Annual Clearance Rate: is the number of concluded cases as a percentage of the initiated cases i.e. the number of out-going cases as a percentage of the number of incoming cases.

REQUESTS FOR CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORDS Five-Year Comparison

COURT	'04-05	'05-06	'06-07	'07-08	'08-09
Clarenville	1150	1376	1112	1222	1184
Corner Brook	2969	3496	3533	3424	4001
Gander	2081	2449	2678	2729	2957
Grand Bank	1104	1040	1053	1224	1278
Grand Falls-Windsor	2553	2590	2647	2928	3343
H. V. Goose Bay	1888	1627	1586	1433	1632
Harbour Grace	1132	1347	1366	1590	1785
Placentia	584	674	533	580	512
St. John's	7694	8027	6950	7937	9646
Stephenville	1353	1563	1736	1912	1975
Wabush	438	443	491	504	684
TOTAL	22,946	24,632	23,685	25,483	28,997

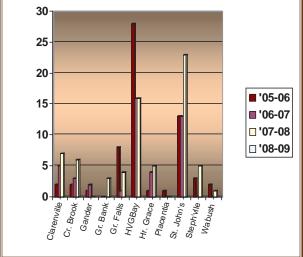
VIDEO CONFERENCING Breakdown of Video Conferencing Activity by Site

Videoconference Site	Total # of Videoconferencing <u>Sessions</u> from Apr. 1/07 - Mar. 31/08	Total <u># hours</u> of Videoconferencing for each site from Apr. 1/07 - Mar. 31/08	Total # of Videoconferencing <u>Sessions</u> from Apr. 1/08 - Mar. 31/09	Total <u># hours</u> of Videoconferencing for each site from Apr. 1/08 - Mar. 31/09
Outside Court Network	N/A	N/A	140	167
Clarenville	4	11.5	28	37.5
Corner Brook	13	34	50	66.75
Gander	0	0	17	27
Harbour Grace	0	0	4	8
Stephenville	5	10	66	98
H.V. Goose Bay	52	59.25	186	220.5
St. John's	34	61	117	172
Grand Bank	1	1	22	40.25
Grand Falls-Windsor	0	0	17	25.25
Wabush	20	23.25	63	84.5
TOTAL	129	200	710	946.75

ideoconference was expanded to all court centres in 2008/2009. The usage rate has increased dramatically over a one-year period. In terms of the number of sessions held there was a 443% increase from 129 sessions in 2007/2008 to 710 sessions in 2008/2009. In terms of actual hours of videoconferencing that occurred there was a 374% increase-from 200 hours in 2007/2008 to 946.75 in 2008/2009. Over 75% of the videoconferencing sessions held in 2008/2009 were related to criminal matters and these sessions accounted for 73% of the videoconference hours logged in 2008/2009. Further examination of videoconference usage associated with criminal matters reveal in order of highest to lowest usage: Bail Hearings (178 sessions, 228.5 hours), Decisions/Judgments (88 sessions, 11.5 hours), Witness Testimony (69 sessions, 94 hours), First Appearances (36 sessions, 57 hours), Arguments (19 sessions, 27 hours), and Interpreter Services 2 sessions, 2 hours). The second category that

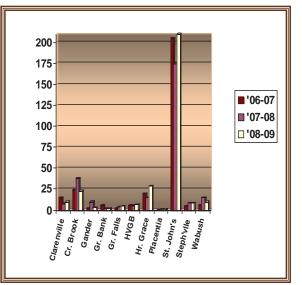
accounts for 17 % of the videoconferencing sessions and and 19% of the total hours logged is associated with staff meetings and training (64 sessions, 100.5 hours) and Youth Reviews (16 sessions, 23 hours). With respect to Family matters there were a total of 41 videoconferencing sessions with a total duration of 60 hours, which included 15 Custody Hearings (31.5 hours), 8 Support Hearings (9 hours) 8 Presentation Hearings (7 hours) and 1 Witness Testimony session lasting 3.5 hours. It is anticipated that videoconferencing usage by the court will increase further as more courtrooms will have the cabling installed to support videoconferencing and participants are becoming more comfortable with the technology.

NATIONAL SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY FY 2005/06-2008/09



National Sex Offence Registry (Data)						
COURT	'05-06	'06-07	'07-08	'08-09		
Clarenville	2	5	7	1		
Corner Brook	2	3	6	10		
Gander	1	2	0	5		
Grand Bank	0	0	3	2		
Grand Falls-Windsor	8	1	4	7		
H.V. Goose Bay	28	16	16	20		
Hr. Grace	1	4	5	9		
Placentia	1	0	0	0		
Stephenville	3	0	5	1		
St. John's	13	13	23	12		
Wabush	2	0	1	1		
TOTAL	61	44	70	68		

IGNITION INTERLOCK APPLICATIONS FY 2006/07-2008/09



Ignition Interlock Applications (Data)						
COURT	<u>'06-07</u>	'07-08	'08-09			
Clarenville	15	8	10			
Corner Brook	24	38	23			
Gander	2	10	3			
Grand Bank	6	2	2			
Grand Falls-Windsor	2	4	5			
H.V. Goose Bay	6	5	7			
Hr. Grace	20	15	29			
Placentia	0	1	1			
Stephenville	5	9	9			
St. John's	205	175	210			
Wabush	6	15	10			
TOTAL	291	282	309			

SUMMARY OFFENCE TICKETS FY 2008-09

NUMBER OF TRANSCRIBED PAGES FY 2008-09

Court	Tickets	Tickets to
Centre	Processed	Trial
Clarenville	2030	12
Corner Brook	8917	133
Gander	4569	143
Grand Bank	1426	5
Grand Falls	3295	74
H.V. Goose Bay-Windsor	1540	7
Harbour Grace	2622	64
Placentia	250	9
Stephenville	3430	65
St. John's	120682	410
Wabush	711	7
TOTAL	149,472	929

COURT CENTRE	# Pages Typed
Clarenville	761
Corner Brook	925
Gander	1556
H.V. Goose Bay	1558
Grand Bank	233
Grand Falls-Windsor	1493
Hr. Grace*	850
Stephenville	128
St. John's	5953
Wabush	121
Transcriptionist	6320
TOTAL	19,898

*Note: Placentia is now a circuit of Harbour Grace

TEN MOST COMMON OFFENCES (Charges—Adult & Youth) FY 2008-09

ТҮРЕ	ADULT	ТҮРЕ	YOUTH
Breach of Court Orders	6010	Breach of Court Orders	973
Assault	1952	Assault	367
Impaired Driving	1843	Theft	308
Theft	1459	Break Enters	248
Frauds	1446	Mischief	204
Uttering Threats	899	Frauds	146
Fisheries	896	Uttering Threats	61
Mischief	721	Drug Offences	47
Drug Offences	620	Sexual Offences	43
Break and Enters	486	Impaired Driving	26

Annual Report 2008-09

WEEKEND ARRESTS

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
Number of Arrests in St. John's	369	429	434
Number of Arrests Outside St. John's	392	360	431
TOTAL	761	789	865
Total Days of Weekend Court	117	116	114
Total Average Arrests per day	6.5	6.8	7.6

EMERGENCY PROTECTION ORDERS

	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
Number of Applications Received Provincially	76	233	233
Number of EPOs Granted	51	186	187
Number of EPOs Denied	12	28	31
Number of EPOs Pending	8	4	1
Number of EPOs dealt with by Other means i.e. Withdrawn, Peace Bonds etc.	5	15	14

FINANCIAL

BUDGET EXPENDITURES Revised vs. Actual FY 2008-09

CATEGORY	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE
Salaries	7,360,000	7,908,425	-548,425
Employee Benefits	78,000	55,283	22,717
Transportation & Communication	352,800	464,659	-111,859
Supplies	56,800	56,051	749
Professional Services	25,200	56,029	-30,829
Purchased Services	1,147,700	886,869	260,831
Property,Furniture & Equipment	26,400	29,829	-3,429
Grants & Subsidies	3,000	3,000	0
TOTAL	9,049,900	9,460,145	-410,245

STAFF OVERTIME Time Off In Lieu (TOIL)

Carried Forward TOIL from	
March 31/08	937 hrs.

Balance as of March 31/09

881 hrs.

COSTS OF JUDICIAL EXCHANGE* FY 2007-08 \$21,881.91 FY 2008-09 \$30,079.15 *Judicial Exchange occurs when a judge has a conflict at his or her court centre; subsequently, another judge is brought in from a centre nearby to hear the matter.

Annual Report 2008-09

REVENUE

COLLECTED AND DISTRIBUTED

Distribution	Amount 2007-08	Percent	Amount 2008-09	Percent
CCC & Provincial Statutes	332,186	12.21	395,479	9.48
Federal Statutes	479,637	17.64	1,103,050	26.47
Liquor Control Act	3,778	.14	34,740	.83
Municipal Acts	2,155	.08	660	.02
Highway Traffic Act	1,066,212	39.20	1,274,386	30.57
Fees and Costs	321,528	11.82	329,285	7.90
Victim Fine Surcharge	70,064	2.58	96,014	2.30
Prov. Victim Fine Surcharge	4,101	.16	4,321	.10
Maintenance Compensation	144,842	5.33	305,179	7.32
Civils (Third Party)	48,198	1.77	66,065	1.59
Bail/Bonds Sureties	140,541	5.16	428,778	10.28
Cross Court Payments	67,182	2.46	109,407	2.62
Bank Interest	3,202	.12	785	.02
HST	0	0	0	0
Other (Third Party)*	36,167	1.33	21,232	.50
TOTAL	2,719,793	100.00	4,169,381	100.00

*Note: Includes Judgment Enforcement Act Fees of \$10,455 in the Fiscal Year 2007-08 and \$4,455 for Fiscal Year 2008-09 under Other (Third Party).

FINES

IMPOSED SUMMARY

Distribution	Amount 2007-08	Percent	Amount 2008-09	Percent
CCC/PROV	1,364,818	39.81	1,380,946	47.31
FED	1,369,269	39.94	936,292	32.07
LCA	49,255	1.44	5,355	.18
VFS	160,871	4.69	203,689	6.98
PVFS	9,806	.29	13,215	.45
TMS	466,733	13.61	378,410	12.96
3RD PARTY	7,700	.22	1,300	.05
TOTAL	3,428,452	100.00	2,919,207	100.00
	CCC - PROV - FED - LCA - VFS - PVFS - TMS -	Criminal Code Provincial Stat Federal Statute Liquor Contro Victim Fine Su Prov. Victim F Ticket Manage	es es l Act urcharge ine Surcharge	

COST OF CIRCUIT COURTS

(OPERATIONAL COSTS) FY 2008-09

Court Centre	Circuit	Total 07-08	Total 08-09
Clarenville	Bonavista	1,543.48	1,316.53
	TOTAL CLARENVILLE	1,543.48	1,316.53
Corner Brook	Baie Verte	5,639.77	3,420.02
	Roddickton/St. Anthony	8,635.20	7.090.28
	Port aux Choix/Plum Point	6,973.48	9,774.83
	Rocky Harbour	4,722.33	4,581.08
	TOTAL CORNER BROOK	25,970.78	24,866.21
Happy Valley-	Judge/Clerk sent to help with Circuit Court	9.317.91	25,587.18
Goose Bay	Nain	34,809.71	34,241.81
	Makkovik/Postville/Rigolet/Hopedale	40,402.71	45,944.13
	Port Hope Simpson/Forteau	40,409.02	18,955.56
	Cartwright/L'Anse Au Clair	16,754.25	32,054.20
	Natuashish	17,817.21	38,798.81
	Sheshatshiu	0	2,771.41
	TOTAL HAPPY VALLEY-GOOSE BAY	159,510.81	198,353.10
Grand Falls-Windsor	Bay D'Espoir/Hr. Breton/Conne River	8,547.73	6,669.84
	Springdale	14,895.41	14,764.77
	TOTAL GRAND FALLS-WINDSOR	23,443.14	21,434.61
Harbour Grace	Placentia	3,825.78	1,015.87
	TOTAL PLACENTIA	3,825.78	1,015.87
Stephenville	Port aux Basques	4,729.09	2,515.58
	Burgeo	958.59	381.64
	TOTAL STEPHENVILLE	5,687.68	2,897.22
	OVERALL TOTAL	219,927.48	249,883.54

FREQUENCY OF CIRCUIT COURTS FOR 2008-09

<u>Clarenville</u>		Happy Valley-C	Hoose Bay	Grand Falls-Winds	<u>sor</u>
Bonavista	8 days/year	Hopedale	43 days/year	Harbour Breton	6 days/year
		Nain	58 days/year	Head Bay D'Espoir	6 days/year
Corner Brook		Makkovik	3 days/year	Conne River	6 days/year
Port aux Choix	15 days/year	Postville	3 days/year	Springdale	36 days/year
Rocky Harbour	16 days/year	Rigolet	5 days/year		
St. Anthony	15 days/year	Natuashish	48 days/year	<u>Stephenville**</u>	
Plum Point	5 days/year	P. H. Simpson	2 days/year	Port aux Basques	9 days/year
Baie Verte	10 days/year	Cartwright	9 days/year	Burgeo	1 days/year
		Lanse Au Clair	5 days/year		
<u>Harbour Grace*</u>		Sheshatshiu	26 days/year	Wabush***	
Placentia	11 days/year	Forteau	4 days/year	Forteau	2 days/year
				P. H. Simpson	3 days/year
				Cartwright	5 days/year

*Note: Placentia became a circuit of Harbour Grace effective January 30, 2009.

**Note: Circuit Court for Stephenville was reduced due to a judicial vacancy and late appointment of new judge. Normally, 33 days are scheduled for Port aux Basques and 6 days for Burgeo.

***Note: Wabush took over the South Coast circuits as of January 2009.

TRAINING

by: Louise Daley

n 2008/2009 the Provincial Court staff collectivelylogged 170 training days, an increase of 34% over the previous year. One of the primary areas of the Court's training efforts consisted of course completion related to the Certificate in Court Administration offered through Memorial University's Division of Lifelong Learning. Three employees of the court successfully completed the Certificate Program in 2008/2009. The Provincial Court would like to acknowledge and congratulate: Judy Blake, Marilyn McGrath, and Tonya Bishop for their efforts in completing the program. The following courses were offered in 2008/2009 as part of the Certification Program: Court Process Re-engineering, Change Management, Case Flow Management and Court Performance Standards. In addition, the Provincial Court and Supreme Court hosted the 2008 Annual Conference of Association of Canadian Court Administrators

(ACCA) in concert with the inaugural conference of the Canadian Centre for Court Technology (CCCT) Conference. Details of the Conference are provided in a separate article in this Annual Report. In addition, the Court's employees participated in training focused on: Respectful Workplace, Violence Awareness. Videoconferencing, VIQ software, First Aid, Microsoft Word Levels I and II. The Provincial Court also sent a representative to the National Association of Court Management (NACM) conference hosted in Portland, Oregon. In addition, Tamara (Tammy) Church took a temporary leave of absence to enroll full-time at Memorial University for the Fall 2008 semester and very successfully completed five courses. Tammy returned to the court full-time in January 2009.

PERFORMANCE COACHING

by: Shelley Organ

erformance Coaching continues to be a valuable tool for both supervisors and employees. It causes both to reflect upon the work performance, strengths and weaknesses of the employee, what is working well, what needs to be changed or even stopped. In addition, goals and objectives that support the vision of the Court and the employee's role in the Court are developed at the end of the annual session. Training and developmental needs are specifically identified to target and improve the employee's skills and performance. This annual formal review is also used periodically throughout the year for informal discussions between supervisor and employee as part of performance management. To date, several employees have been given the opportunity to take on leadership roles on committees and projects as a result of recognizing their potential and interest to do so coming out of their Performance Coaching session. Performance Coaching has also become a useful tool for management in succession planning.

"You don't have to be great to get started, but you have to get started to be great." Unknown



INFORMATION MANAGEMENT NEEDS OF THE PROVINCIAL COURT

by: Dawn Kieley

To deal with the increasing volume of information, a half-time Information Management Analyst has been working with Provincial Court since September 2007. From October 15, 2008 to March 31, 2009, the Analyst worked for Provincial Court on a fulltime basis because she had worked full-time at the Court of Appeal for the preceding 6.5 months. In January 2009, Provincial Court hired an Archives Technician to provide support for the Court's many information management projects. For the remainder of the fiscal year, the Information Management staff traveled to Corner Brook, Harbour Grace and Placentia to offer assistance and/or training services.

The Provincial Court in Placentia closed its doors in late January. Considerable time and effort was expended inventorying and appraising records in preparation for their transfer to the Government Records Centre (GRC) and to the court in Harbour Grace, which has assumed responsibility for the Placentia court.

As Corner Brook is scheduled to move to the new court-

house in 2009/2010, IM staff inventoried all record and record types. This inventory will be used to determine records that can be sent to the Records Centre and those that must be moved to the new courthouse.

Many courts started their own small Information Management projects. Information Management staff traveled to Harbour Grace to assist in the transfer process of semi-active records to the GRC. Stephenville received advisory services and assistance via email and telephone in transferring their records (including records for the previous year Port aux Basques Centre)to the GRC located in St. John's.

A criminal records schedule is in place. A Small Claims Retention Schedule has been drafted and sent to the Provincial Records Committee for their input.

E-FILING

by: Pamela Ryder Lahey

evelopment of Small Claims E-filing continued during 08/09 with progress slower than expected. However, the screen shots were finalized and ready for user testing by the end of the fiscal year. Small Clams E-filing will be implemented by late fall of 2009.

CORNER BROOK COURTHOUSE UPDATE

by: Ethel Chaulk

The 2008/2009 fiscal year saw the continuation of the construction of the new courthouse in Corner Brook. Mechanical, electrical and dry wall activities were well underway in the basement, second and third floors. The building took shape and with its rock and block-faced exterior became a prominent feature of the Corner Brook skyline.

A walk through the building highlights a state-of-the-art facility that will provide privacy and all the amenities for clients, lawyers, police and the public. Staff will enjoy improved work areas and a layout that will contribute to the efficiency of the Court.

While there have been delays, most will agree that they are expected on a project of this magnitude and detail. But as previous generations have said, "Good things come to those who wait". It is anticipated that construction will be completed in December 2009 with a move date of January 2010 for staff.



2008 Association of Canadian Court Administrators Hosted by: Provincial/Supreme Courts of Newfoundland and Labrador

Putting the Pieces Together: The Diversity and Challenges of Court Administration was the theme of the 2008 Conference which was held in St. John's from August 24 - 28, 2008.

ACCA successfully partnered with the Canadian Centre for Court Technology (CCCT) to host this inaugural joint event which was well received by all those in attendance. The Conference focused on very relevant and timely topics such as Performance Measures in Courts, Working Between the Branches, the Role of the Judiciary in Court Administration and Making and Managing the Verbatim Record, to name just a few.

A highlight of the conference was the final panel discussion on International Models of Court Governance with representatives of Ireland, Australia and Mexico addressing the delegates. Several Chief Justices, Chief Judges and judges participated actively as panelists, along with senior court administrators from across the country and the US.

The three-day conference attracted 300 delegates and 97 guests who thoroughly enjoyed the spirit and hospitality of Newfoundland and Labrador, as well as the tireless and friendly volunteers who organized this successful and fun event. Provincial Court volunteers included

Louise Daley, Anna Warford, Marilyn Warren, Tammy Church, Christine Care, Corrine Avery and Pamela Ryder Lahey. IT volunteers included Sharon Cummings and Robin Pike. Supreme Court volunteers were Olive Slaney, Margaret Williams, Darlene Wells, David Jones and Berkley Reynolds.



UPDATE OF MENTAL HEALTH COURT AT ST. JOHN'S by: Amanda Hewitt



The Mental Health Court has been operating in St. John's since 2005 and it sits every second Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. in courtroom #8, alternating with the Family Violence Intervention Court. The Court is designed to provide an increased level of support, both medical and community-based, to accused persons appearing

before it. The Mental Health Court is based on the recognition that certain offenders who suffer from a mental disorder may commit offences as a consequence of their mental disorder or due to lifestyle issues related to their mental disorder such as inadequate or inappropriate housing, lack of employment, lack of support, noncompliance with medications and inappropriate self-medication with alcohol or drugs. Health care professionals and corrections personnel provide medical support and community based support to the individuals who are accepted into the Court.

A new addition to the Mental Health Court team is the involvement of Corrections and Community Services. A dedicated Bail Supervisor will supervise individuals accepted into the Court. This may make judicial interim release available for persons who might not otherwise qualify without community support.

Another change in Mental Health Court has been the implementation of a formal written application process. All persons wishing to appear before the Court must make an application that will be heard in Mental Health Court. The application process will create a common point of entry and increase the accessibility of the Court.

During the last fiscal year (2008/2009), 76 people appeared in Mental Health Court on a total of 336 charges. The types of offences ranged from mischief and uttering threats to assault and assault with a weapon. Of the total number of accused, (33) 43.4% were charged with failures to comply with conditions of an undertaking, recognizance or probation order. This may be a reflection of the fact that people with mental disorders sometimes have difficulty complying with court orders.

It may take a little longer for cases to reach a resolution in Mental Health Court, as there can be lengthy adjournments to allow time for community supports to be put in place and to give the accused an opportunity to demonstrate that these supports are working and that additional intervention is not required. At the end of the adjournment period, if there have been no new offences, the Crown may exercise its discretion to withdraw or stay the charges.

In 2008/2009, 162 cases (48.2%) were concluded in Mental Health Court, while 113 (33.6%) were referred back to a regular trial court. The remaining 61 cases (18.2%) as of March 31, 2009, are still to be concluded in Mental Health Court.

Of the cases that were concluded during the last fiscal year, the charges were withdrawn in 89 cases (54.94%); the charges were withdrawn and peace bonds were ordered in 8 cases (4.94%); the charges were stayed by the Crown in 30 cases (18.52%); and dispositions were made in 35 cases (21.60%). The dispositions in these 35 cases included the following: absolute discharge (1 case); conditional discharge (6 cases); suspended sentence (18 cases), and jail (10 cases). The jail terms ranged from 1 day to 3 months. As well, periods of probation, ranging in length from 6 months to 3 years, were ordered in 32 cases.

FAMILY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION COURT

by: Amanda Hewitt

The St. John's Family Violence Intervention Court is a 12-month pilot project and it is a specialized criminal court intended to address the complex issue of family violence. It is funded for 12 months as a pilot, which will be evaluated at that time. For the purposes of the pilot project, family violence has been defined as Criminal Code offences committed by an accused arising from or related to his or her relationship with a significant partner. The key component is the relationship between the accused and the complainant and cohabitation is not a determining factor. The goal of the Family Violence Intervention Court is to prevent and reduce incidents of family violence. Through a collaborative approach, access to support services and intervention programs will be accelerated. The Family Violence Intervention Court will focus on enhancing victim safety as well as emphasizing offender accountability and treatment.

There are essentially two categories of family violence courts: i) expedited case management courts which aim to fast-track family violence cases through the court process; and ij) treatment-based courts which move beyond fast-tracking and emphasize treatment of the abusive behaviour. The Feasibility Committee tasked with studying the viability of a specialty family violence court in this jurisdiction recommended that the St. John's pilot project be designed as a treatment-based model. The Family Violence Intervention Court will emphasize treatment for the offenders, as well as counseling supports for victims and children. After a guilty plea has been entered and a finding of guilty has been made by the Judge, every offender will be required to participate in family violence programming offered by the John Howard Society prior to sentencing.

The treatment offered by the John Howard Society consists of group counseling, with groups meeting twice a week for eight weeks. The programming is specifically designed for individuals who are a moderate risk to reoffend. Participants in the Family Violence Intervention Court must be matched with the type of treatment offered by the John Howard Society. As a result, potential candidates for the Court will be screened through the use of risk assessment tools to ensure that they are suitable for the programming.

The Family Violence Intervention Court uses a team approach and information sharing to ensure offender accountability and victim safety. Team meetings will be held prior to Court to discuss each case with regard to offender compliance with treatment and judicial interim release conditions and any issues surrounding victim safety. The team will make suggestions to the Judge with respect to any changes in judicial interim release conditions. As well, concerns of the victim can be brought forward to the team and the team will be made aware of any increase in risk to the victim.

A number of additional resources have been dedicated to this pilot project. A Specialty Court Liaison, Ms. Amanda Hewitt, has been employed by Provincial Court to help coordinate the pilot project. Legal Aid has hired a risk assessment officer, Ms. Valerie Corcoran, to assess all potential candidates. Victim Services has designated Ms. Dianne Rowsell as the Regional Coordinator assigned to the Family Violence Intervention Court and she will provide support for the complainants. Child, Youth and Family Services will be hiring a part-time social worker to participate in the pilot project. Finally, Ms. Susan Green, with Corrections and Community Services, is the Bail Supervisor for the Family Violence Intervention Court; she will monitor offenders who are on judicial interim release while participating in treatment.

The first sitting of the Family Violence Intervention Court was March 25, 2009, and the Court will sit every second Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. in Courtroom No. 8, alternating with the Mental Health Court.

THE CRIMINAL CODE MENTAL DISORDER REVIEW BOARD

The Review Board was chaired in 2008/2009 by the Chief Judge of the Provincial Court, Judge M.R. Reid. The Board normally meets at the Waterford Hospital site of Eastern Health in St. John's. Members of the Board are appointed by the province's Lieutenant Governor in Council and include:

- Chief Judge M.R. Reid
- Judge J.A. Woodrow (no longer a member due to retirement as of Jan. 31, 2009)
- Dr. Martin W. Hogan, M.D. F.RC.P.C., Psychiatrist
- Dr. Micheal Nurse, M.D. F.RC.P.C., Psychiatrist
- Dr. Kevin P. Hogan, M.D. F.RC.P.C., Psychiatrist
- Ms Peggy Hatcher, EAP Coordinator, Public Service Commission, Government of NL

The Board is provided administrative assistance by the Office of the Chief Judge.

The Criminal Code of Canada imposes an obligation on

the Criminal Code Mental Disorder Review Board to ensure that mentally disordered individuals who are in conflict with the legal system do not languish in psychiatric facilities. The Board is therefore responsible for reviewing and issuing dispositions related to the management of those individuals accused of committing a crime who have been found either unfit to stand trial or not criminally responsible by reason of a mental disorder. The individuals are reviewed at least annually (or more frequently at the discretion of the Board or the request of the individual, the crown, or the defence) and if found at a later review to be fit to stand trial, the Board must order return of the individual to court.

For those who are found not criminally responsible, the Board may choose one of three dispositions: an absolute discharge, a conditional discharge or detention, with or without conditions. For those found not fit to stand trial, the Board may impose a conditional discharge or hospital detention.

During 2008/2009 Fiscal Year the Board held 49 hearings which resulted in 49 dispositions.

TASKFORCE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE EFFICIENCIES

by Pamela Ryder Lahey

In response to the recommendations of the Task Force, Budget 08/09 provided funding for a new position of trial coordinator, as well as the equivalent of one judicial salary for the purposes of hiring per diem judges.

The Court's Caseflow Management Committee was brought together to review the recommendations of the Taskforce. The Committee met on June 12, July 2, and September 26. At the end of 2008/09, a number or recommendations that the court has direct or indirect control over are implemented or partially implemented:

- data requirements for an electronic court scheduling system have been documented; Cabinet paper seeking approval to do RFP is being developed.
- legislation enabling per diem judges has been passed and proclaimed into force;
- space has been redesigned, redeveloped and provided to Legal Aid for use as an Intake Office; a Legal Aid staff member has been a assigned to this office on a permanent basis.

- a position description for a Court Utilization Manager (in lieu of a Trial Coordinator) is awaiting classification at Treasury Board.
- video conferencing usage has increased by 443% from 2007/08 when 129 court sessions were held to 710 sessions in 2008/09.
 - a protocol to maximize first appearances was developed by the court, crown, and legal aid and is in place.

STRATEGIC PLAN

by Louise Daley



The Provincial Court's third Strategic Plans, entitled: The Provincial Court of Newfoundland and Labrador's Strategic Plan: Committed to Continuous Improvement, 2007-2009 is now coming to the end of its lifecycle. Due to the combined efforts of both judges and staff, led by the Chief Judge and Director of Court Services,

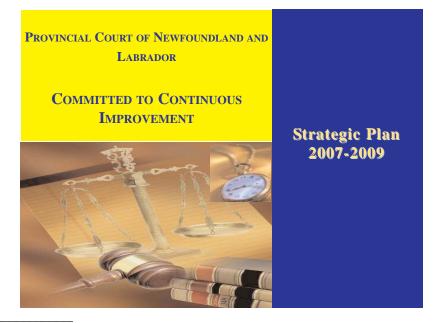
there has been significant progress over the past year in achieving the goals set out in the plan. The plan's primary focus was to enable the Provincial Court to continue to improve and evolve as a modern-day court.

There were seven main planning themes outlined in the plan:

- Improved Public Access to Court Services
- Focus on Court Performance
- Public Accountability and Confidence in the Court
- Emerging Technology in Court Processes
- Comprehensive Information Management Strategy
- Investment in Human Resource Development
- Advocating for and Supporting Improved Court Security

The strategic directions and goals that flow from these themes more specifically detail steps to be taken to achieve Continuous Improvement; for example, providing more timely and accessible justice via, videoconferencing, hiring court staff in Happy Valley-Goose Bay with aboriginal language skills, operating the court on a 365-day basis, and improving transcript turnaround time by hiring transcriptionists. Other steps include using the integration of emerging technologies to improve upon court services and ensuring that staff and judges receive the required training to keep pace with a rapidly changing justice environment. Perhaps the most prominent strategic direction in the Plan was the introduction of a formal Case Flow Management System, which enabled the senior management of the Court to actively manage the court's resources to improve case processing by tracking the time to disposition, age of the active pending caseload, and clearance rates. This provides reliable and accurate data on how long it is taking to dispose of cases. Case flow management is essential in identifying problem areas and enabling the court to apply resources required to resolve any bottlenecks in the system.

As the third plan comes to an end, work is underway to prepare the Court's fourth Strategic Plan. The next plan will help to position the Court for inevitable changes ahead. It demands that fresh examination of the challenges and opportunities ahead of the court be undertaken. As in the past, the Strategic Planning Process provides the opportunity for the Court to take the time to review the current trends that will affect the court and ultimately impact the operation of the court. Without a Strategic Plan to guide its effort, the Provincial Court risks falling into the trap of having to be reactive, rather than proactive.



UPDATTES

Annual Report 2008-09

LUNCH WITH A JUDGE PROGRAM

by: Anna Warford

The Lunch with a Judge Program targets students who may be "at risk" of becoming involved in the youth criminal justice system. However, participation is offered to **all** students; therefore, eliminating the possibility of "singling out" students who may already feel alienated from their peers. Two schools are presently participating in the program, Bishop Abraham and Holy Cross Elementary. Four students at a time, along with their teacher/guidance counselor, come to the Court to have lunch with a judge and court administrator, tour the Youth Court, and visit the holding cells. This visit involves the judge talking to the students interactively about their reputation, the meaning of a criminal record, and answering the many questions students have. Lunches are prepared by the HMP Correctional Facility (Avalon Catering) and is the same lunch that a youth in custody would receive if they were in custody at the Provincial Court holding cells. Over the past five years, a total of 340 students have participated in this program. (See chart).

The St. John's Court is indebted to Judge G. Brown, Judge R. Hyslop, Judge L. Spracklin, Shelley Organ, Christine Care, Dolores Hutton, Patricia Ricketts, Anna Warford and the Deputy Sheriffs of St. John's for their continuing involvement and being the "face" of the Court in this volunteer program.

2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
64	68	68	69	71



Annual Report 2008-09

NEW EMPLOYEE ORIENTATION COMMITTEE

by: Shelley Organ

he New Employee Orientation Committee consisting of Corrine Avery, Chair (Clarenville), Tonya Bishop (Clarenville), Bernice Brown (Stephenville), and Christine Jenkins (Gander), continued the work done the previous fiscal year which included the rollout of the New Employee Orientation Manual. The manual includes an overview of the Provincial Court's mission, values, business lines and organizational structure, payroll and insurance information, collective agreement, and much more. In addition, supervisor and employee checklists are included to ensure all pertinent steps have been taken to assist the new employee with their orientation. The Committee spent most of the year reviewing the evaluation forms from both new and existing employees, and adding any suggestions. Evaluations continue to come in and will be reviewed and considered

for future updates. Corrine Avery and Tonya Bishop are working on the electronic version of the manual, which will be added to the Provincial Court's Staff Only section of the website in the fall of 2009. This manual is only the first step in new employee orientation.

It is recognized that proper employee orientation begins prior to, during, and throughout the first six months of an employee's new job; therefore, management, with the help of the Committee, will be working on the next stage of the New Employee Orientation in the next fiscal year.

RESPECTFUL WORKPLACE COMMITTEE

by: Dolores Hutton

This committee was formed in 2007 and meets quarterly. It was formed to foster a respectful workplace and promote teamwork and communication among employees.

During 2008, the Committee drafted a survey which was sent to all Staff of Provincial Court St. John's, for their input in helping the Committee ascertain and understand the kind of environment they work in, and how the environment can be one that supports and practices respect and early conflict resolution.

Later in the year, the Respectful Workplace Committee held a staff coffee break. Cathy Murphy, Respectful Workplace Co-coordinator, and Susan Pereira, Human Resource RWP representative, attended the coffee break and presented the results of the staff survey. The findings were discussed and recommendations made. All felt that the committee was worthwhile and would like to see it continue. Based on the results of the RWP survey, the committee will endeavour to set up another training session in the near future.

The Committee plans to raise its profile and work on the following action plan: 1) staff recognition program; 2) balance leave with extra workload; 3) improve commu-

nication between managers and staff; (4) provide training in Conflict Management Skills, Problem Solving and Communication; and (5) recognizing the value of, and providing adequate time for, staff to participate in committee work and training.

In addition, the RWP committee will explore the creation of a Code of Conduct which could be displayed in the workplace which would outline the expectations.

The Committee members are Dolores Hutton (Chair), Christine Care (Past Chair) Shelley Organ (Management), Pam Penton, Patricia Ricketts, Barbara Evans, and Cynthia Thorne. Respectful Workplace continues to be a regular agenda item at monthly staff meetings across the province. Committees in the larger court centres will also be put in place during the next fiscal year.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

by: Shelley Organ

n Occupational Health and Safety Committee has the primary objective of protecting employees from workplace injury and illness. While the Department of Justice is responsible for ensuring compliance with the provisions of occupational health and safety legislation, it is incumbent upon local managers and supervisory staff to accept responsibility to ensure that workers are not placed at risk of injury or illness due to workplace requirements or conditions. Every employee is required to protect his or her own health and safety and to respect other workers' rights to enjoy a safe and healthy workplace. Provincial Court staff participate on these committees and are trained to recognize the risks that exist in our everyday working environment.

<u>St. John's</u>

The Occupational Health and Safety Committee at Atlantic Place, St. John's, is comprised of management and employee representatives throughout the building and includes the Sheriff's Office, Adult Probation, Crown, and Victim Services. The Provincial Court representatives are Shelley Organ, Joanne Spurrell, Anne Donnelly and Elaine Terry.

This past year has been a challenging one for the OHS Committee in Atlantic Place. Implementation of a Scent Free Workplace continues to be high on the agenda and the Committee will continue to follow through with this until formal policies are implemented by government. Two members of the Committee attended the annual Occupational Health and Safety Conference held in Gander in May 2009 and found the presentations to be both informative and enlightening. One session entitled "Violence in the Workplace" was especially interesting, and the Committee is in the process of arranging a presentation for court staff in the new year.

Other Centres

In addition, Occupational Health and Safety Committees are active in all centres with the following employees being the representatives: Court officers Kathy Oake (Grand Falls-Windsor), Jennifer Dawson-Hobbs (Stephenville), Tonya Bishop (Clarenville), Marnie Daigle (Wabush), Carolyn Hobbs (Corner Brook), Mildred Bennett (Grand Bank) and Court Administrators, Marilyn McGrath (Harbour Grace), Judy Blake (Happy Valley Goose Bay) and Rita Pritchett (Gander). These Committees have nothing major to report this year.

COURT REPORTERS' MANUAL COMMITTEE

by: Shelley Organ

committee consisting of Patricia Ricketts, Chair (St. John's), Doreen Marshall (St. John's), Tonya Bishop (Clarenville), and Deborah Lemoine (Corner Brook), was formed to update and make the existing Court Reporters' Manual more comprehensive and user friendly. By the end of the fiscal year, the transcription section of the manual had been reviewed and updated. The court reporting procedures will be reviewed next. This Manual will be very indepth and will serve as a training manual, as well as a reference tool. It is expected that this Manual will address inconsistencies across the province and will ensure uniformity of Court Reporting duties.

REQUEST FROM MEXICO FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN LEGAL REFORM

During the past year, both the Mexican Federal Government and State Governments have been engaged in a wholesale legal reform project. The reform of the Mexican law implies a complete transformation of the legal culture. Even though Mexico has a well established system of both Federal and State Courts, the trial system is now seen as archaic and out of step with the rest of the world. It has not commanded the confidence of the people and is seen by some as inefficient and lacking in transparency.

In short, the legal system has been an "inquisitorial" system which was inherited from Spain of yesteryear. Trials are neither open or public, nor do they involve testimony given in what we know as open court-

rooms. In effect, trials are conducted on the basis of written depositions which the judges read in their chambers and subsequently decide on guilt or innocence.

The Mexican legal system has no history of trial by jury and the Mexicans do not intend to move in this direction. Neither do they have a culture of trial by judge alone sitting in an open courtroom with lawyers examining and cross-examining witnesses. They do not have a history of legal proof beyond a reasonable doubt. Nor do they have rules of evidence as we know them which would exclude certain types of evidence such as hearsay.

The Mexican legal reforms were initiated by a number of State governments and now a similar project has been adopted

by the Federal Government of the country in June 2008. The deadline for complete implementation of these reforms is June 2016.

To begin this project, a number of speakers, including Judge Robert Hyslop of this court, were invited to present papers in Mexico City at an International Symposium entitled "A Window on Openness and Transparency in Criminal Justice" sponsored in part by the Mexican Non-Government Organization Proderecho and the U.S. Agency for International Development in November, 2008.

Judge Robert Hyslop had already been invited to Mexico to examine and report on various State reform initiatives in 2007 and his Symposium paper was entitled "What a Defendant Deserves in a Modern Criminal Justice System". The emphasis on this paper was placed on various Charter guarantees and rights accruing to accused persons in the Anglo-Canadian legal tradition. Other speakers included speakers from the American Judiciary who were experts in hearing organized crime trials, as well as Mexican and Canadian Civil Liberties and Human Rights experts. The Canadian policing perspective was presented by RCMP Assistant Commissioner Gerry Lynch who is the Commanding Officer of RCMP "B" Division and who now has primary responsibility for police liaison matters between Canada and Mexico.

Following the presentation in November 2008, Judge Hyslop was invited in March 2009 to attend an intensive weekend session in San Francisco to



examine the training needs of the Mexican judiciary in the context of the reform project.

In late March 2009 Judge Hyslop of the Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Court and Judge Ken Fields of the Arizona State Superior Court traveled to Cuernavaca, Mexico in Morelos State to teach the main players in the Mexican justice system the basic components of a modern justice system including how to determine and evaluate proof beyond a reasonable doubt, how to evaluate and weigh evidence, basic notions of advocacy and how to conduct an open and public trial. Judge Hyslop taught both judges and lawyers with the aid of Spanish inter-

preters and a "Power Point" presentation.

It is difficult to teach an entirely new system to people who have a different legal culture and have not actually seen or experienced a trial in an open and public context. This task becomes even more difficult when the reform project is subject to intimidation from organized crime and is in the implementation process during a major drug war. Nonetheless, the students (judges and lawyers) were committed and interested in the development of an "oral trial" system that combines aspects of an adversarial and accusatorial system. It will be system which is uniquely "Mexican" but which draws on the "best practices" of other countries, both North American and Latin American.

Both the Canadian and American Embassies are interest-

REQUEST FROM MEXICO FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN LEGAL REFORM cont'd

ed in the legal reform project. The influence of major organized crime in the drug trade affects both countries as violence has flared up in Mexican States Contiguous to the U.S. border and has also begun to spill over into Canada.

Mexico is also a major trading partner with Canada and the United States in the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

All three countries realize that the drug trade does not recognize or respect borders and that it is interest of all these countries that Mexico has a vibrant, modern, responsive, open, and transparent justice system which commands and deserves public confidence. The Newfoundland and Labrador Provincial Court is pleased to have been asked and to have been able to make a contribution to this historic undertaking. It is hoped that the Mexicans might be able to send some members of their judiciary and legal profession who are fluent in English to this province to witness the Canadian trial process.





JUDGE COLIN FLYNN ACCEPTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER, ENGLAND (For Studies towards his Ph.D)



In September of 2008 Judge Flynn was accepted by the University of Leicester, England, to commence part-time studies towards a Ph.D degree in law. The program consists of six research-based courses, taken at the University of Leicester over the first two years, plus the completion

of a research-based thesis. Attendance is required at the university each year to undertake one or more of these courses, along with meetings with faculty to discuss research issues related to the student's particular research topic. Judge Flynn attended the University of Leicester in November of 2008, along with approximately 30 other Ph.D students from all over the world, and completed the first two of the required courses. He has been working on his research throughout the year, and has compiled preliminary materials for his thesis. Judge Flynn's thesis topic is "Sentencing Principles and Policies in the International Criminal Court". Its focus is on the development of rationales for sentencing at the international level, utilizing existing law from previous and existing international criminal law tribunals, and from various common law and civil law jurisdictions throughout the world. The intent is to develop a structure for the approach to sentencing at the International Criminal Court, a structure which at present is completely lacking.

Judge Joseph A. Woodrow Provincial Court, St. John's Retires

by: Judge Greg Brown



Joseph Andrew Woodrow came into this world March 5th, 1946, and grew up and went to school in St. John's attending St. Bon's and Brother Rice. Following graduation from Memorial University in 1968 with his BA and from the University of Manitoba in 1970 with his MSW Joe, as he is called by his friends, or some-

times Joseph by his wife, Beth (nee Elizabeth Fiander), served the public first as a social worker and then as a parole officer before his appointment to the bench of the Provincial Court in August of 1972. There can be no doubt that his experience and the insights into the human condition gained before his appointment to the bench served the public and Judge Woodrow well.

Judge Woodrow presided as the resident judge in St. Anthony during his first posting. Thereafter he presided and resided in Bonne Bay, Goose Bay, and following his completion of law school at Dalhousie in 1980, Gander. His final resident posting was to St. John's where he sat full time until his retirement on January 31st, 2009, and where (amongst other places) he continues to sit sometimes as a per diem Judge.

Given Judge Woodrow's penchant for travel and adventure it is perhaps not surprising that during 1987 - 1988 he took a one-year leave of absence from the Court to sit as a Deputy Judge of the Yukon Court afterwhich he continued to fill in for a few weeks a year for five years.

During the tenure of M. R. Reid as Chief Judge, Judge Woodrow served as the Coordinating Judge for the St. John's court centre until his retirement.

Judge Woodrow over the years was a very active member of both the Canadian Association of Provincial Court Judges and the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Provincial Court Judges. He held over time every executive position in the NLAPCJ and was for many years a highly valued member of the benefits committee of the NLAPCJ.

Anyone who knows Judge Woodrow at all well knows that he is a fountain of correct information on all things concerning the effective management of resources of all kinds whether personal or communal. He was and is generous of his time for his family, colleagues and staff.

Judge Woodrow's work ethic is difficult for most mere mortals to match, inspirational though it is. He has undoubtedly earned his reputation as being demanding on others on the issue of timeliness. I doubt he has ever been late for anything himself. As many have said - "He runs a tight ship."

Judge Woodrow is well known for his ability to cut through the chaff and get to the wheat. Without being a pushover, he has always been able to cut some slack where some was due. Judge Woodrow has also always had a facility for being able to appropriately segregate his professional responsibilities as a Judge from the more personal ones he felt he owed others in his life outside the courtroom without—ever compromising his position as Judge.

For all of the reasons set out above, Judge Woodrow's colleagues, the staff, and the public he continues to serve, are pleased that he elected to become a part-time judge upon his retirement. The Court looks forward to seeing him sitting in the Court as long as his inclination and statutory and constitutional rights allow. Having said this, we all wish him well as he eases himself into his retirement. Judge Woodrow and his wife Beth continue to globe trot between St. John's, their cabin in Cape Broyle, and their winter retreat in Florida.

May the sun shine wherever you may be and we hope that you enjoy the extra time you both have to spend with children Adam and Rebecca, spouses Annette and Greg, and your two grandsons.

Judge Robert T. Smith Provincial Court, St. John's Retires

by: Judge Robert Hyslop



Judge Robert T. Smith retired as a judge of the Provincial Court of Newfoundland and Labrador on December 31, 2008, after serving 33 years.

Judge Smith is a native of Corner Brook and received his undergraduate degree at St. Mary's University in Halifax, Nova

Scotia and Memorial University in Newfoundland. He later returned to this province and became a high school teacher at Herdman Collegiate in Corner Brook. He was appointed a Magistrate on December 19, 1975, and served his early years in Port aux Basques and subsequently, in Stephenville. While in Stephenville, he was an active supporter of many community events and initiatives and was given the prestigious Stephenville Citizen of the Year award in 1990. In addition, he was active in bringing Big Brothers and Sisters to Stephenville.

Judge Smith was a beneficiary of the magistrates' legal training program. He attended Dalhousie University and obtained a law degree, articled with the Newfoundland Department of Justice, and was subsequently called to the bar of Newfoundland and Labrador before returning to his judicial duties. Judge Smith moved to St. John's after his tenure in Stephenville and was responsible for the coordination and direction of the Civil Division of the Court for many years. He also served as a member of the Small Claims Rules Committee.

Judge Smith was regarded by his colleagues, the staff, the Bar, and litigants as a kind and fair judge who listened carefully to the representations made to him and always considered the best interests of those people who appeared before him. His many acts of kindness and generosity are legendary.

Judge Smith is a proud father and grandfather. He has elected to remain as a per diem judge and we look forward to a long and continued relationship with him in that capacity.

We wish Judge Smith, his wife Ella, and all four of the Smith children many years of enjoyment with him in his new semi "retired" status. We are grateful for his many years of service to the Court and to the people of the province.

Glenys Walters of Provincial Court, Placentia Retires

by: Marilyn McGrath



Glenys Walters first started working with the Magistrate's Court in Placentia in September 1972. In 1974, Glenys and her husband adopted a baby girl and at that time you did not get maternity leave for adoptions, so Glenys decided to stay at home with her daughter. They also adopted a little boy a couple of years later.

When Glenys' youngest child started Grade One, an opening at the Provincial Court in Placentia became available; she applied for and was successful in obtaining the position. She began her employment on January 25, 1985, and remained there until her retirement on January 30, 2009.

With the retirements of Judge Barnable in August 2004 and Geraldine Smith in November of the same year, it left Glenys as the sole employee at the Placentia Court for the remainder of her career. As Glenys says: "I had a great run." Glenys also told us that she, Judge Barnable and Geraldine got on famously.

After Geraldine retired, Glenys became part of the Harbour Grace centre by being involved in staff meetings, Public Service Activities, and Christmas gatherings. Glenys enjoyed the association with the staff of the Harbour Grace Centre and looked forward to their times together.

In January 2009 the staff of the Harbour Grace Court honoured Glenys with a retirement dinner at Fong's Restaurant in Carbonear with 10 people in attendance including Pamela Ryder Lahey, Shelley Organ, and retirees Geraldine Smith and Mary Butt. This was a pleasant conclusion to her years with the Provincial Court.

The Harbour Grace staff, along with Judge Flynn, will miss Glenys but wish her all the best on her retirement.

You can follow Glenys' activities by reading her husband's articles in the local newspaper "The Charter" at www.thecharter.ca Harold refers to her as "Dearest Duck".

Gwen Halliday Provincial Court, St. John's Retires

by: Patricia Ricketts



Gin 1970 when Provincial Court was housed in the basement of the Supreme Court building.

Gwen is originally from Elliston, root cellar capital of the province. Gwen is married to Jim Halliday and they have two children—

daughter Renee, and son, Jamie. When her children were young, Gwen decided to take a leave of absence from Provincial Court so she could stay at home and spend more time with them. Gwen also has a granddaughter, Jenna, who she absolutely adores.

Gwen enjoyed many years at Provincial Court but her dream was always to retire early so she could "stay up late and sleep in". Retirement for Gwen also meant she could spend more time with her family and do some traveling.

On June 27, 2008, Gwen retired from Provincial Court after serving 31+ years. A retirement party was held for Gwen with many of her co-workers, Judges, and family in attendance.

Gwen is thoroughly enjoying her retirement and has recently returned from her first travel destination of Las Vegas. Gwen looks forward to visiting many more new and exciting places in the future.

We all wish Gwen many years of health and happiness in her retirement.

Greta Miller Provincial Court, Grand Bank Retires

by: Lucy Dominaux



reta's career started upon completion of а Shorthand-Typing Course from Burin District Vocational School in June 1970. She joined the Provincial Court in Grand Bank on September 10, 1970. as а Clerk-Stenographer I and was later reclassified to a Clerk-Stenographer III. The Court Centre at that

time was located in the Federal Building on Church Street manned by Greta and Magistrate A. G. Anstey, with court circuits to St. Lawrence, Burin, Marystown, and Harbour Breton.

In August 1979 the Provincial Court moved to the new T. Alex Hickman Courthouse located on the Grand Bank-Fortune Highway. Greta was reclassified to Court Administrator and supervised two other employees. She continued her career with the Provincial Court until retiring on January 30, 2009, with 38 years and 4 months service. She has seen many changes in the court system in her 38+ years including typing on a manual typewriter to an electric typewriter and finally to a computer. She has also seen many changes in Small Claims, Family, and Youth legislation. During her years with the Provincial Court, she has worked with several Judges including Judges Anstey, Baker, Handrigan, Kennedy, and Porter. Greta attended all the Court Administrators' conferences over the years, making many lasting friendships and most favorable memories. She has also completed numerous training courses including Frontline Leadership, Certificate in Court Administration, as well as computer upgrading courses.

During her career with the Provincial Court, Greta married and raised two children, Camille and Ryan. Camille is now living in Calgary, Alberta, working as a Quality Assurance Specialist with BarXH Inc. and Ryan is living at home with her and is employed as a high school teacher with Eastern School District.

Greta says that the things she will miss the most are, first and foremost, the people she interacted and worked with every day including stakeholders and the general public.

In retirement Greta intends to enjoy traveling abroad, visiting with her daughter Camille in Alberta, and spending as much time as possible with her family. She will enjoy staying in bed on those cold wintry mornings instead of having to shovel snow and clean windshields. She went out with a blast on February 21, 2009. Supervisors, peers, stakeholders, staff, family and friends attended a dinner and dance held in her honour which continued into the wee hours of the morning (Greta's style). A good time was had by all.

All judges, and staff of the Provincial Court wish Greta a healthy, happy and prosperous retirement.

Rita Pritchett Provincial Court, Gander Retires

by: Phoebe Broomfield



Rita Pritchett retired from the Provincial Court in Gander, on January 30, 2009, after 28 years of dedicated service. Rita was born and raised in Gambo.

Upon finishing high school at Smallwood Academy in Gambo, she completed a post-secondary course at the Trades College in Gander and then commenced work-

ing. She worked for a period of time in Alberta and then returned to Newfoundland in 1978 where she was employed with the School Tax Authority in Gander. Rita began her career with the Provincial Court, Gander, in December 1981. Her work ethics were above reproach as her former co-workers can attest to. She took very little time off for sick leave and managed to show up for work no matter how inclement the weather. Since retirement, she is enjoying spending time with family and friends, doing a little traveling, and is hoping to take a trip to Florida in the fall of 2009.

The Provincial Court would like to take this opportunity to wish Rita the best of luck in any future endeavors and to wish her a long and enjoyable retirement.

Joan Davis Provincial Court, Wabush/Grand Falls-Windsor Retires

by: Donna Antle



Joan Davis started working with the Provincial Court, Wabush on July 15th, 1978, in a full time permanent position and was hired by Magistrate Akman. In June of 1995 when the full time position was cut back to part-time, Joan hesitantly left the court for full-time employment with Motor Registration,

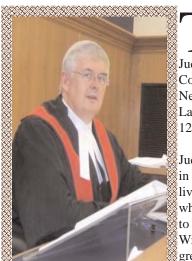
Government Services Centre in Wabush. She was employed there for six years. In 2001 she left Motor Registration and went to work with the Department of Natural Resources and worked there until 2006 when the permanent full-time position with the Provincial Court was reinstated. She again applied for the position she had held previously held for 18 years and was successful. It was a pleasure to have Joan back as part of the Provincial Court team; and while many changes and upgrades had occurred, she had no difficulty adjusting

with the help of her immediate supervisor Judy Blake. With retirement in sight and a maternity leave replacement advertized in Grand Falls-Windsor Provincial Court, Joan decided to leave her position in June 2008 in Wabush for Grand Falls, where she and her husband planned to retire. She proved to be an asset to Grand Falls-Windsor Court for her short time there as she was familiar with all business lines of the Court by virtue of being the sole employee in Wabush for many years. She admits, however, to learning a lot as well. Joan retired on February 27th, 2009, while with the court in Grand Falls-Windsor. The judges and staff, including the Director and Manager of Court Services, gave her a proper send-off at the Coral Steakhouse, Mt. Peyton Hotel. Joan and her husband, Fred, are looking forward to spending lots of time in their Motor Home and with their family, especially their granddaughter.

Joan was a pleasure to work with and we miss her dearly.

Judge David Peddle Appointed Justice of the Supreme Court of Newfoundland and Labrador

by: Mary Rose



he Honourable David A. Peddle retired as a Judge of the Provincial Court of Newfoundland and Labrador on December 12, 2008.

Judge Peddle was born in Corner Brook and lived there until 1955, when his family moved to Grand Falls-Windsor, where he grew up and graduated from St. Michael's

Regional High School. He attended Memorial University and received his BA (Political Science). On November 18, 1974, he was appointed to the Provincial Court. In July 1975 he was assigned to Gander until September 1977 when he attend Dalhousie Law School, graduating in May, 1980. After graduating from Dalhousie, he was assigned to Provincial Court Port aux Basque in July 1980 until being reassigned to Gander in July 1983. He remained at Gander until December 12, 2008, when he retired as a Provincial Court Judge and was appointed a Justice of the Supreme Court, Trial Division.

Judge Peddle was appointed a Deputy Territorial Court Judge for the Northwest Territories in August 1988. He was a member and past president of the Newfoundland and Labrador Judges Association, member and past director of the Canadian Association of Provincial Court Judges, served two years as a member of the Judicial Council of the Provincial Court of Newfoundland and Labrador, and a member of the Central Regional Implementation Committee for Family Justice Services.

During his time in Gander, he was involved in the community as a member and past president of the Gander Rotary Club and was the recipient of the Paul Harris Fellowship Award (2008). This award is one of the highest honors Rotary bestows in recognition of outstanding community contribution. He was the founding president of YWCA Gander Branch, founding president of Victorian Order of Nurses (VON) Gander Branch, responsible for establishment of the Kiwanis Club in Gander and Co-Chair of Gander Academy 4-Way Test initiative.

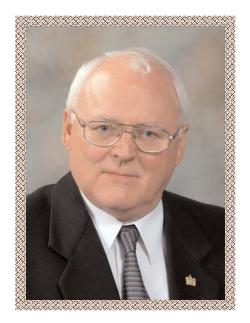
Judge Peddle is married with three children. Just recently his daughter, Jennifer, made him the very proud grandfather of grandson, Liam Robert (surname JUDGE).

During his time on the Provincial Court Bench, Judge Peddle was highly respected by fellow judges, the local bar and court staff for his fairness, compassion, and respect for others. He had an excellent rapport with the court staff who miss his wit and humor around the office. We were all very saddened to see him leave. We wish him all the best in his new career and as a grandfather.



Annual Report 2007-08

IN MEMORIAM The Honourable Judge Michael Monaghan Provincial Court, Stephenville



The Honourable Michael Monaghan 1943 - 2008

The following statement was issued by the Honourable Danny Williams, Premier of Newfoundland and Labrador

I rise in this Honourable House to pay tribute to the late Judge Michael J. Monaghan, who passed away on April 27th, 2008, following a valiant battle with cancer.

For nearly two years since his appointment in June 2006, he served as the Provincial Court Judge in Stephenville, capping a wonderful career in law and community service in this province reaching back four decades.

He was a lawyer's lawyer and a judge's judge, in that he brought to his practice and the bench a human, practical, realistic, intelligent yet compassionate side that few are fortunate enough to possess.

Following his graduation from Dalhousie Law School, he spent most of his career practicing criminal law, family law and civil litigation in corner Brook, where he partnered with both our current Minister of Finance and the current chief justice of the province's Supreme court of Appeal, former Premier Clyde Wells. Named Queen't counsel in 1983, he also was a member of the Law Society of Newfoundland, the Canadian Bar Association, the Rotary Club of Corner Brook and the Greater Corner Brook Board of Trade. He held directorships at Air Canada, the Churchill Falls (Labrador) Corporation, Gateway Cable Limited and the Nursing Advisory Board of the Western Memorial Hospital Corporation.

He was a former president of the Victorian Order of Nurses and, more recently, he served our province on the Newfoundland and labrador Kiquor Corporation board of directors and the Ireland Business Partnerships advisory board.

Judge Monaghan demonstrated a strong commitment to his region and his province by standing as a candidate in both federal and provincial elections--and all of us in this House recognize the commitment and sacrifices required to stand as a candidate.

He was a truly exceptional family man, lawyer and judge, a dedicated business leader, a tireless volunteer and to me--personally--a valued friend. Mike and his treasured wife of 38 years, Uschi, raised a wonderful family and brought their intense passion for this province to friends all over the world.

Both professionally and personally, Mike made a profoundly positive difference in the lives of innumerable people and served our province with pride and distinction.

His unique laugh and his back slapping humour lit up every room he entered. It was always a pleasure to be in his presence. I personally will miss him, as will countless others in Corner Brook, Stephenville, throughout the west coast, across our province and around the world.

He is survived by his wife Uschi, sons Tom(Shawne), Peter (Tracy), Andrew (Janelle) and granddaughter Ryan T.

PROVINCIAL COURT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR JUDGES AND STAFF FY 2008/09

Chief Judge's Office	Judge J. A. Woodrow (R)	Sheena Fleming	Susie Fewer
Chief Judge M. R. Reid	Judge G. Brown	Lynn Godden	Karen Neary
Marilyn Warren	Judge G. Harding	Gwen Halliday	Jackie Power
	Judge R. Hyslop	Darlene Haring	Maureen Quinn
Court Services	Judge D. Orr	Janice Harrigan	Patricia Ricketts
Pamela Ryder Lahey	Judge D. Power	Amanda Hewitt	Patricia Sheehan
Shelley Organ	Judge L. Spracklin	Dolores Hutton	Joanne Spurrell
Louise Daley	Judge R. Smith (R)	Wendy Jewer	Mitzi Sullivan
Anna Warford		Marlene Kenney	Cynthia Thorne
Doreen Marshall	Michelle Cook	Melanie Hamlyn	Denise Wade
Joanne Murphy		Wendy Jewer	Jody Healey
Susan Reid	Andrea Butt	Doreen Marshall	
	Christine Care	Elaine Mayo	
<u>St. John's</u>	Tony Cooper	Wendy Penney	
Associate Chief Judge	Tamara Church	Pamela Penton	
D. Mark Pike	Barb Evans	Anne Power	

Please note that staff and judges listed include replacements for employees on long-term sick leave, maternity leave, educational leave and retirement replacements.

Harbour Grace	Corner Brook	Gander	H.VGoose Bay
Judge C. Flynn	Judge C. Allen-Westby	Judge D. Peddle (SC)	Judge Wm. English
Shirley Hogan	Judge W. Gorman	Judge B. Short	Judge J. Joy
Marilyn McGrath	Judge K. Howe	Robert Dwyer	Judy Blake
Philomena Parsons	Greg Childs	Phoebe Broomfield	Georgina Allen
i infomena i arsons	Madonna Vaters	Christine Jenkins	Wanda Andersen
Placentia	Donna Crocker	Cindy Oldford	Cora Hamel
Glenys Walters (R)	Brenda Eldridge	Rita Pritchett (<i>R</i>)	
Glenys waiters (K)	Sheri Fisher		Shirley Hill
Clanonzilla		Mary Rose	Shirley White Lisa Winters
<u>Clarenville</u>	Suzan Hartley	Cuand Falls Windson	Lisa winters
Judge P. Kennedy	Carolyn Hobbs	Grand Falls-Windsor	
Corrine Avery	Lynn Lawton	Judge T. Chalker	<u>Wabush</u>
Marilyn Avery	Deborah Lemoine	Judge R. Whiffen	Judge W. A. Trahey
Tonya Bishop	Tracey Leyte	Donna Antle	Joan Davis (R)
	Erika Perry	Vicki Caravan	Marnie Daigle
Grand Bank	Lynn Ruth	Joan Davis (R)	Marlene Pardy
Judge H. Porter		Katherine Oake	Rosari Shea
Steven Burt	<u>Stephenville</u>	Mary Ann Rowsell	
Mildred Bennett	Judge M. Monaghan (D)	Pam Arnold	
Lucy Dominaux	Judge J. Jenkins		
Greta Miller (R)	Bernice Brown		
	Shellie Haddad		
	Jennifer Dawson-Hobbs		
	Agnes Kendall		

(R) - Retired

(SC) - Supreme Court (D) - Deceased

(D) - Deceuseu

APPENDICES

APPENDIX "A"

APPENDIX "A"

Total Appearances - Adult Court Five Year Period FY 2004-2009

Court	'04-05	'05-06	'06-07	'07-08	'08-09
Clarenville	3997	3942	2546	3247	2537
Corner Brook	9967	10034	8536	10530	10857
Gander	3838	4432	4462	5079	5219
Grand Bank	2802	2883	2639	2431	2005
Grand Falls-Windsor	3998	3929	3528	4922	5433
Happy Valley-Goose Bay	7358	7463	11409	12483	14142
Harbour Grace	4338	3372	3247	3580	4082
Placentia**	1760	1148	694	483	469
Springdale*	583	0	0	0	0
St. John's	48800	47693	48126	53416	57073
Stephenville	4240	5142	3663	5623	
Wabush	1525	1213	1065	1796	3004
TOTAL	93,206	91,251	89,915	103,590	111,002

Total Appearances - Youth Court Five Year Period FY 2004-2009

Court	'04-05	'05-06	'06-07	'07-08	'08-09
Clarenville	427	326	329	494	462
Corner Brook	1856	1855	1942	1428	1385
Gander	1122	684	566	584	610
Grand Bank	349	511	229	400	533
Grand Falls-Windsor	738	1202	832	712	1271
Happy Valley-Goose Bay	1480	1522	1944	2481	3213
Harbour Grace	1033	509	440	469	324
Placentia**	322	171	76	104	103
Springdale*	43	0	0	0	0
St. John's	7655	5353	5931	7652	7516
Stephenville	486	722	1133	1031	667
Wabush	118	137	475	415	489
TOTAL	15,629	12,992	13,897	15,770	16,573

*Note:Springdale Court closed August 2005 and is now a circuit of Grand Falls-Windsor**Note:Placentia Court closed January 2009 and is now a circuit of Harbour Grace

APPENDIX "B"

Court	Fiscal Year	Adult	Youth	Civil New	Civil Follow-up	Family* New	Family Concluded	TOTAL
Clarenville	1999-00	985	189	212	399	130	0	1516
	2000-01	826	88	297	340	127	0	1338
	2001-02	672	119	266	437	84	0	1141
	2002-03	557	73	241	387	92	0	963
	2003-04	747	99	182	451	45	30	1073
	2004-05	962	115	187	389	62	8	1326
	2005-06	935	73	67	214	62	15	1137
	2006-07	783	105	84	122	32	7	1004
	2007-08	944	119	113	196	42	4	1218
	2008-09	770	163	44	105	44	37	1021

SOTs Procs'd	SOTs Trials
1939	N/A
1759	N/A
2016	N/A
3609	N/A
2107	47
1418	96
1815	20
1867	26
1991	23
2030	12

Court	Fiscal Year	Adult	Youth	Civil New	Civil Follow-up	Family* New	Family Concluded	TOTAL
Corner	1999-00	1844	405	506	-	1466	0	4221
Brook	2000-01	2138	437	488	735	1490	0	4553
	2001-02	1941	479	358	1296	1421	0	4199
	2002-03	1780	520	290	936	1237	0	3827
	2003-04	2213	446	361	1215	538	517	3558
	2004-05	2271	452	176	860	358	460	
	2005-06			150	534	539	709	-
	2006-07							
	2007-08							
	2008-09	2654	353	174	520	188	216	3369

SOTs	SOTs
Procs'd	Trials
9894	N/A
8615	N/A
8615	N/A
9228	N/A
6856	164
7164	183
8165	209
6975	161
6652	156
8917	133

Court	Fiscal Year	Adult	Youth	Civil New	Civil Follow-up	Family* New	Family Concluded	TOTAL
Gander	1999-00	1242	238	222	374	225	0	1927
	2000-01	1119	185	252	574	226	0	1782
	2001-02	1022	297	218	851	238	0	1775
	2002-03	1160	314	197	824	381	0	2052
	2003-04	1053	337	235	879	218	149	1843
	2004-05	973	231	104	393	202	120	1510
	2005-06	1172	218	81	226	138	161	1609
	2006-07	1102	185	78	280	162	125	1527
	2007-08	1180	154	53	329	137	91	1524
	2008-09	1260	126	69	283	153	130	1608

SOTs	SOTs
Procs'd	Trials
3277	N/A
2859	N/A
2904	N/A
2888	N/A
2991	38
2513	43
3319	208
3441	87
3538	131
4569	143

Note: Prior to 2003-04 Family Statistics were combined.

	Fiscal			Civil	Civil	Family*	Family		SOTs	SOTs
Court	Year	Adult	Youth	New	Follow-up	New	Concluded	TOTAL	Procs'd	Trials
Grand	1999-00	699	192	141	225	73	0	1105	1210	N/A
Bank	2000-01	680	155	75	173	111	0	1021	753	N/A
	2001-02	657	232	83	232	126	0	1098	618	N/A
	2002-03	979	235	111	289	129	0	1454	875	N/A
	2003-04	869	137	88	197	57	72	1151	787	5
	2004-05	1023	164	45	167	84	38	1316	767	6
	2005-06	839	204	52	115	82	24	1177	1524	26
	2006-07	767	93	54	262	65	55	979	1176	207
	2007-08	970	123	44	295	48	22	1185	1195	11
	2008-09	789	139	57	158	51	39	1036	1426	5

Court	Fiscal Year	Adult	Youth	Civil New	Civil Follow-up	Family* New	Family Concluded	TOTAL	SOTs Procs'd	SOTs Trials
Grand	1999-00	874	361	0	116	339	0	1574	4638	N/A
Falls-	2000-01	745	266	0	184	366	0	1377	4187	N/A
Windsor	2001-02	1108	573	7	92		0	2047	3987	N/A
	2002-03	1011	467	0	73	357	0	1835	3145	N/A
	2003-04	1096	254	29	59	169	51		3361	81
	2004-05		252		_	172	114		3721	76
	2005-06	955	247	218	646	230	182	1650	3331	68
	2006-07	992	207	96	358	218	166	1513	2672	79
	2007-08	1125	132	69	312	168	123	1494	3343	71
	2008-09	1121	245	88	356	220	164	1674	3295	74

Court	Fiscal Year	Adult	Youth	Civil New	Civil Follow-up	Family* New	Family Concluded	TOTAL	SOTs Procs'd	SOTs Trials
Harbour	1999-00	1012	253	245	130	151	0	1661	1353	N/A
Grace	2000-01	814	164	193	233	129	0	1300	1927	N/A
	2001-02							1194	1970	N/A
	2002-03			213	321	174	0	1369	892	N/A
	2003-04	883	290	187		-	43	1451	672	22
	2004-05				-				791	33
	2005-06	766	162	72	176	83	75	1083	713	26
	2006-07	787	182	52	125	94	77	1115	953	32
	2007-08	763	194	68	131	70	49	1095	2367	28
	2008-09	958	102	82	146	103	74	1245	2622	64

	Fiscal			Civil	Civil	Family*	Family	
Court	Year	Adult	Youth	New	Follow-up	New	Concluded	TOTAL
H.Valley-	1999-00	1503	408	103	172	187	0	2201
Goose	2000-01	1512	451	107	180	214	0	2284
Bay	2001-02	1954	368	305	143	316	0	2943
	2002-03	1811	529	150	312	286	0	2776
	2003-04	1999	350	79	188	100	69	2528
	2004-05	2110	476	62	145	237	112	2885
	2005-06	1863	352	49	135	206	71	2470
	2006-07	2311	473	43	150	298	191	3125
	2007-08	2634	449	50	130	232	126	3365
	2008-09	2460	569	32	89	197	139	3258

SOTs Procs'd	SOTs Trials
1201	N/A
1239	N/A
669	N/A
706	N/A
739	0
435	5
625	15
892	15
1142	4
1540	7

	Fiscal			Civil	Civil	Family*	Family	
Court	Year	Adult	Youth	New	Follow-up	New	Concluded	TOTAL
Placentia	1999-00	726	196	32	43	57	0	1011
	2000-01	790	202	45	58	77	0	1114
	2001-02	614	234	33	91	59	0	940
	2002-03	532	210	31	63	48	0	821
	2003-04	526	200	52	114	9	26	
	2004-05	511	88	22	36	16	9	637
	2005-06	275	82	6	52	13	13	376
	2006-07	238	19	5	12	15	16	277
	2007-08	132	36	8	13	10	8	186
	2008-09	120	31	6	17	14	8	171

SOTs	SOTs
Procs'd	Trials
1168	N/A
852	N/A
752	N/A
467	N/A
449	18
553	10
228	6
371	14
345	0
250	9

Court	Fiscal Year	Adult	Youth	Civil New	Civil Follow-up	Family* New	Family Concluded	TOTAL
Springdale**	1999-00	325	75	379	1409	179	0	958
	2000-01	315	28	690	1640	148	0	1181
	2001-02		79	656			0	14/4
	2002-03		-		-		-	100.
	2003-04	300	94	685	2264	32	42	1111
	2004-05		5	83	255	18	12	174
	2005-06	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2006-07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2007-08		0	0	0	0	0	0
	2008-09	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

SOTs	SOTs
Procs'd	Trials
1073	N/A
1361	N/A
1147	N/A
768	N/A
590	54
285	0
0	0
0	0
0	0
0	0

**NOTE: As of August 2004, Springdale Court became a Circuit Court. of Grand Falls-Windsor Prov. Court

Court	Fiscal Year	Adult	Youth	Civil New	Civil Follow-up	Family* New	Family Concluded	TOTAL
Stephenville	1999-00	1486	392	143	560	176	0	2197
	2000-01	1620	356	249	625	198	0	2423
	2001-02	1478	298	185	621	177	0	
	2002-03	1208	258	137	381	134	0	
	2003-04	1195	239	140	437	84	71	1658
	2004-05	1310	172	73	265	50	23	1605
	2005-06	1643	244	43	198	88	11	2018
	2006-07	1265	370	45	217	35	13	1715
	2007-08	1575	303	47	188	267	194	2192
	2008-09	1285	149	44	175	122	118	1600

SOTs	SOTs
Procs'd	Trials
3343	N/A
2120	N/A
2219	N/A
2373	N/A
1739	34
1593	35
1681	26
1641	31
2096	35
3430	65

	Fiscal			Civil	Civil	Family*	Family	
Court	Year	Adult	Youth	New	Follow-up	New	Concluded	TOTAL
St. John's	1999-00	7906	1574	2209	3025	2	0	11691
	2000-01	7885	1869	1927	3050	0	0	11681
	2001-02	8532	2254	1605	4403	0	0	12391
	2002-03	8278	2427	1741	4904	0	0	12446
	2003-04	9319	2496	1545	4616	0	0	13360
	2004-05	9467	1833	865	3003	0	0	12165
	2005-06	9239	1487	728	2301	0	0	11454
	2006-07	9089	1603	659	3053	0	0	11351
	2007-08	9402	1687	687	2764	4	1	11780
	2008-09	10693	1704	674	2846	0	0	13071

SOTs	SOTS
Procs'd	Trials
2001	N/A
103479	N/A
133726	N/A
142722	N/A
131783	1021
120316	792
130136	814
113331	624
112656	417
120682	410

	Fiscal			Civil	Civil	Family*	Family	
Court	Year	Adult	Youth	New	Follow-up	New	Concluded	TOTAL
Wabush	1999-00	268	111	136	60	93	0	608
	2000-01		93	93	108	84	0	•
	2001-02	268	68	321	210	95	0	752
	2002-03	295	85	223	424	147	0	750
	2003-04	295	25	80	161	41	14	441
	2004-05	419	42	26	127	118	22	605
	2005-06	224	43	23	86	85	7	375
	2006-07		82	22	67	162	12	582
	2007-08		99	18	56	78	5	430
	2008-09	428	71	28	102	64	13	591

	Fiscal			Civil	Civil	Family*	Family	
Court	Year	Adult	Youth	New	Follow-up	New	Concluded	TOTAL
Overall	1999-00	18870	4394	4328	7129	3078	0	30670
	2000-01	18686	4294	4416	7900	3170	0	30566
	2001-02	19268	5197	4240	10645	3205	0	31910
	2002-03	18611	5395	3915	11086	3163	0	31084
	2003-04	20495	4967	3663	10900	1384	1084	30509
	2004-05	21116	3969	1882	6345	1416	976	28383
	2005-06	20444	3617	1489	4683	1526	1268	27076
	2006-07	19889	3872			1469	1205	26486
	2007-08	21307	3724					
	2008-09	22538	3652	1298	4797	1156	938	28644

SOTs	SOTs
Procs'd	Trials
593	N/A
494	N/A
544	N/A
603	N/A
601	4
411	10
324	13
458	17
617	19
711	7

SOTs	SOTs
Procs'd	Trials
31,690	N/A
129,645	N/A
159,167	N/A
168,276	N/A
152,675	1488
139,967	1289
151,861	1431
133,777	1293
135,942	895
149472	929