Problems And Considerations Vis-à-Vis The Independence of The Bench and Bar — Introduction

The Honourable Mr. Justice Robert Wells*

We in Canada take judicial independence for granted. Sadly, this is not the case in so many parts of the world. Every year, the International Commission of Jurists hears of dozens of cases often involving the gravest violations against judicial independence and the efforts of judges to do justice between individuals and the state.

The ICJ (Canadian Section) presentations at this conference are an attempt to better inform Canadian participants of the widespread problem so that in their writings and international involvements, they too may find ways to speak for the independence of judges generally.

Supreme Court of Newfoundland, ICJ President and former CIAJ President, St. John's, Newfoundland.