

# NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE ON ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

## ALL THE VOICES WE DON'T HEAR

# CIAJ

Canadian Institute  
for the Administration  
of Justice

Listening. Learning. Leading.

Audience: Tribunal community • Judiciary • Practitioners • Academics • Students

Friday, June 11, 2021 | 11 am (Eastern Time)

**ONLINE PROGRAM**

[REGISTRATION FORM](#)

## Overview

In this year's Annual National Roundtable on Administrative Law, we look to stretch our commitment to accessible justice.

We look beyond the "build it and they will come" approach. We discuss ways to expand our capacity to incorporate diverse lessons, wisdom and ways of knowing. We ask, how can we, as institutions with considerable power over what justice means and how it is delivered, open up spaces with those who have a shared desire for a justice that is more relevant and purposeful.

Join our distinguished panel of judges, lawyers, academics and tribunal members to discuss these current administrative law issues and collectively work towards solutions.

## Co-Chairs

*Mr. Michael Gottheil*  
Chief of the Commission  
and Tribunals  
Alberta Human Rights  
Commission

*Mr. Athanasios Hadjis*  
Senior Legal Counsel  
Administrative Tribunals  
Support Service of Canada

*The Honourable Justice*  
*James W. O'Reilly*  
Federal Court; CIAJ President



Participation in this program is accredited in provinces where CLE requirements for lawyers are mandatory.

## START TIME ACCORDING TO DIFFERENT TIME ZONES IN CANADA

**PT:** 8:00 am **MT:** 9:00 am **CT:** 10:00 am **ET:** 11:00 am **AT:** 12:00 pm **NT:** 12:30 pm

**NOTE:** The time zone used in the program is Eastern Time

### AGENDA | FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 2021

**10:00 – 10:45 am** **VIRTUAL COFFEE [OPTIONAL]**

**10:45 – 11:00 am** **LOG IN AND ONLINE PROGRAM SET UP**

**11:00 – 11:15 am** **WELCOME REMARKS AND INTRODUCTION**

*Co-chairs*

- Michael Gottheil, Chief of the Commission and Tribunals, Alberta Human Rights Commission
- Athanasios Hadjis, Senior Legal Counsel, Administrative Tribunals Support Service of Canada
- The Honourable Justice James W. O'Reilly, Federal Court; President, CIAJ

**11:15 – 11:30 am** **CONVERSATION WITH JUSTICE ROSALIE ABELLA: BRIEF RETROSPECTIVE**

*Moderator*

- The Honourable Justice James W. O'Reilly, Federal Court; CIAJ President

**11:30 – Noon** **TESTIMONIALS**

*Speaker*

- Michael McNeely, Law Graduate, Accessibility Consultant, and Self-Advocacy Instructor, Canadian Helen Keller Centre

*Moderator*

- Professor Philip Bryden, Q.C., TransCanada Chair in Administrative and Regulatory Law, Faculty of Law, University of Alberta

---

**Noon – 12:15 pm** **BREAK**

---

**12:15 – 1:00 pm** **WE ARE NOT ALONE: CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITIES**

One of the access to justice realities is that for many individuals who face legal conflicts, challenges or need access to courts or tribunals, their first stop is neither our websites, nor intake lines. Rather it is to the trusted intermediaries, the community justice helpers. Julie Matthews, Executive Director at CLEO, and Professor David Wiseman of the Faculty of Law at the University of Ottawa researched and co-authored an empirical study on the broad range of community resources that exist, and for various reasons, have not been fully considered as part of the access to justice solution. In this session, we explore whether and how tribunals may work collaboratively with community organizations, to align the way we work, and to leverage our collective knowledge while respecting independence.

*Speakers*

- Julie Matthews, Executive Director, Community Legal Education Ontario (CLEO)
- Gary Stein, Lawyer; Executive Director - Community Legal Services of Ottawa

*Moderator*

- Michael Gottheil, Chief of the Commission and Tribunals, Alberta Human Rights Commission

**1:00 – 1:20 pm**      **BREAKOUT ROOMS**

**1:20 – 2:05 pm**      **LOOKING AT INCLUSION FROM THE COMMUNITY USER'S PERSPECTIVE**

As much as we make our processes simpler, and our materials understandable, for many who seek access to justice, the idea of engaging the legal system is daunting. In some cases, such as in disability or social assistance appeals, the individual will be up against the state. In other cases, such as in regulatory or environmental matters, community interests will be widespread, but largely unorganized. In almost all cases in the administrative law domain, there is an overriding public interest that lies at the heart of the legislation. What tools or techniques can tribunals use to ensure those who seek recourse to the law have equitable effective access? What might we do to foster greater public participation where appropriate, or ensure the public policy objectives of administrative justice legislation is achieved?

- Speakers*
- M<sup>e</sup> Sophie Lefebvre, Executive Director, Mile End Legal Clinic
  - Selwyn A. Pieters, Barrister & Solicitor, Pieters Law Office (Ontario)
  - Anita Szigeti, Founding Principal, Anita Szigeti Advocates, Toronto

- Moderator*
- Professor Laverne Jacobs, Associate Professor and Associate Dean, Research & Graduate Studies, Faculty of Law, University of Windsor

**2:05 – 2:30 pm**      **BREAKOUT ROOMS**

**2:30 – 2:45 pm**      **PLENARY**

---

**2:45 – 3:15 pm**      **THIRTY-MINUTE BREAK**

---

**3:15 – 4:15 pm**      **INCLUSION FROM THE TRIBUNAL/INSTITUTIONAL PERSPECTIVE**

What substantive and concrete steps can administrative tribunals take to promote greater access across a diversity of populations and groups? How can administrative tribunals make their processes more accessible? What can tribunals do to be more creative or in touch with the law? How can administrative tribunals promote diversity? Are we in a position to operationalize institutional changes? Pending changes, what can administrative tribunals and agencies do in the meantime? This panel will also be an opportunity to share best practices.

- Speakers*
- Paul Aterman, Chairperson, Social Security Tribunal of Canada
  - The Honourable Judge Mary Kate Harvie, FASD Court, Manitoba
  - Paul Muldoon, Lawyer; Former Associate Chair, Assessment Review Board

- Moderator*
- Lauren J. Wihak, Lawyer, McDougall Gauley LLP Barristers + Solicitors

**4:15 – 4:30 pm**      **PLENARY WITH Q&A**

**4:30 – 4:50 pm**      **WRAP UP SESSION**

- Commentator*
- Patricia M. Barkaskas, Instructor & Academic Director, Indigenous Community Legal Clinic, Peter A. Allard School of Law, University of British Columbia

**4:50 – 5:00 pm**      **CLOSING REMARKS**

- Co-chairs*
- Michael Gottheil, Chief of the Commission and Tribunals, Alberta Human Rights Commission
  - Athanasios Hadjis, Senior Legal Counsel, Administrative Tribunals Support Service of Canada
  - The Honourable Justice James W. O'Reilly, Federal Court; President, CIAJ

## YOUR MULTIDISCIPLINARY AND BILINGUAL LEGAL NETWORK FROM COAST TO COAST

CIAJ is a non-profit, independent organization that links individuals and institutions involved in the administration of justice across Canada. Its work is multidisciplinary and wide-ranging. Collaborating with governments, courts, tribunals, professional associations, law schools and law firms, CIAJ sponsors and conducts conferences and specialized seminars and prepares comprehensive papers and reports. Its services are offered in both official languages.

### BECOME A MEMBER AND:

- Save up to \$150 on our in-person programs and earn CPD hours
- Watch our webinars for free (non members pay 35 \$ per webinar)
- Become part of a bilingual and multidisciplinary legal network across Canada
- Contribute to improving the justice system

<https://ciaj-icaj.ca/en/membership/>

## Contact us

Please contact us for more information about our organization, the benefits of membership and how you can assist us with our mission.

**Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice**  
5950, Chemin de la Côte-des-Neiges, Office 450  
Montréal, Québec, Canada  
H3S 1Z6

Tel: 514 -731-2855  
Email: [ciaj@ciaj-icaj.ca](mailto:ciaj@ciaj-icaj.ca)



[www.ciaj-icaj.ca](http://www.ciaj-icaj.ca)

## NEW DATES

## INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE LAW



**NOVEMBER 17-19, 2021**  
**VANCOUVER**