

# **J. PATRICK STOPA, Q.C**

## **RESUME**

### **CONTACT PARTICULARS**

**Caron & Partners LLP**  
Barristers & Solicitors  
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### **CAREER SYNOPSIS**

**Articled** to W.J. Major, Q.C., 1973;

**Admitted to the** Law Society of Alberta June 7, 1974;

**Partner** Caron & Partners LLP, Barristers & Solicitors, Calgary, Alberta;

**Appointed** Queens Counsel January 1, 2004.

### **EDUCATION**

**Bachelor of Arts**  
University of Saskatchewan, 1972

**Bachelor of Law**  
University of Saskatchewan, 1973

**Mediation of Family and Divorce Conflicts**  
Legal Education Society of Alberta, 2003

**Collaborative Law**  
Legal Education Society of Alberta, 2005

**Interest Based Negotiation**  
Legal Education Society of Alberta, 2005

### **PRACTICE AREAS**

Emphasis on **Litigation** and **Alternate Dispute Resolution** in:

**Criminal Law:**

Defense of clients charged with serious offences under the Criminal Code, Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, Youth Criminal Justice Act and quasi criminal offences under Provincial Legislation;

**Matrimonial and Family Law:**

Representation of clients in Family Law respecting matters under the Divorce Act, Domestic Relations Act, Matrimonial Property Act, Child Welfare Act , Parentage and Maintenance Act and International Child Abduction Act;

**Civil Law:**

Conduct of senior civil litigation files on behalf of plaintiffs and defendants in matters pertaining to commercial law, professional negligence law and personal injury law;

**Administrative Law:**

City Solicitor to the City of Airdrie. Appearances on behalf of clients before Workers Compensation Board, Chartered Management Accountants - Disciplinary Committee, Alberta Securities Commission, Development Appeal Boards, Bobsleigh Canada Skeleton Grievance Committee.

**Appearances** before all levels of Court in the Province of Alberta.

**PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS**

**Appointment** as a **Special Prosecutor** to assist with prosecutions under the Income Tax Act (Canada) between 1975 and 1981;

**Instructor**, Mount Royal College, Legal Secretarial Course, 1973 - 1981. Designed and developed diploma course for legal assistants;

**Instructor**, Alberta Bar Admission Course,  
Criminal Law, 1979- 1980;  
Criminal Law/Advocacy - 1998;

**Panelist**, 1984 Law Society of Alberta Mid-Winter Meeting; Paper entitled "Expert Opinion Evidence";

**Chair**, CBA . Alberta Branch, 2000 Mid Winter Meeting . Matrimonial Property;

**Dispute Resolution Officer**, Dispute Resolution Officer Pilot Project, Calgary, December, 2001 to present at the Calgary Court House which involves mediation of matrimonial matters respecting issues of child custody, access, child and spousal support and division of matrimonial property;

**Presenter**, Immigration and Refugee Board. Professional Development Committee, January 10, 2002, respecting "Expert Opinion Evidence" with emphasis on the examination of experts regarding qualifications and written reports, particularly with respect to medical and psychological reports;

**Presenter**, Local Government Administration Association, October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2002, respecting a paper entitled “Development Agreements” which provides an outline and guide to the preparation of Development Agreements.

**Mediator**, Law Society Fee Mediation Program respecting fee disputes between lawyers and clients and between lawyers respecting the transfer between them of client files.

## **AFFILIATIONS**

### **PROFESSIONAL:**

**Member**, Law Society of Alberta, 1974 to present;

**Member**, Lawyer Referral Service, Law Society of Alberta;

**Member**, Alberta Municipal Legal Advisors Association;

**Member**, Regional Legal Aid Review Committee;

**Member**, Canadian Bar Association (CBA), CBA Alberta Branch and Calgary Bar Association;

**Member**, Alberta Arbitration and Mediation Society;

**Member**, Association of Collaborative Family Lawyers;

### **COMMUNITY:**

**Member**, 1988 Calgary Winter Olympic Games, OCO '88 Committee.

**Member**, Calgary Olympic Development Association Sport Committee, 1992 - 1996.  
**Director**, Alberta Bobsleigh Association, 1984 to 1988; **President**, 1988 to present.

**Director**, Bobsleigh Canada Skeleton, 1988 to 2002, 2004 - 2005; **Secretary**, 1994 to 1998.

**Member**, Bobsleigh Race Organizing Committee 1987 - 1991; Chairman, 1992 - 2000; Legal Advisor 2004.

**Canvasser**, Foothills Diabetes Association, Southern Alberta Heart and Stroke

## **PERSONAL DATA**

**Born:** October 6, 1950. **Married** with one child. **Interests:** skiing, bobsledding, physical fitness, golf and reading.

**REFERENCES**

**Available** upon request.