



May 15, 2008

NOTICE TO THE PROFESSION

NOTICE TO: All Active Members and Students-at-Law,
All Executive Directors of other Law Societies in Canada,
All Justices of the Court of Appeal and Court of Queen's Bench,
All Judges of the Provincial Court of Alberta,
All Masters in Chambers,
All Clerks of the Court

Notice of Resignation & Disbarment

On May 14, 2008, a Resignation Committee of the Benchers of the Law Society of Alberta granted the application of **Peter L. Ridley** to resign, pursuant to section 61 of the *Legal Profession Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c. L-8, and Rule 92, effective immediately. Mr. Ridley is therefore disbarred. Mr. Ridley was a suspended member of the Law Society. He resides in Calgary and practised there from June 5, 1981, until October 20, 2005, when the Benchers suspended his membership under section 63 of the Act.

Mr. Ridley faced a discipline hearing on four citations at the time of his resignation application. The citations alleged that he misappropriated trust funds, produced false records intending to mislead a client, failed to provide a final reporting and payout of trust funds, and failed to keep his trust records and reconciliations current.

Mr. Ridley admitted the foregoing allegations and admitted that he took approximately \$68,298.04 and that this figure is correct within a reasonable margin of error. Mr. Ridley has repaid that amount. The state of the accounting records prevents a precise calculation of the total misappropriation.

Mr. Ridley provided a written undertaking agreeing to cooperate with the Law Society regarding any future claims against him or the Assurance Fund and agreeing to pay any deductible related to any insurance claim paid by the Law Society insurer.

The Resignation Committee directed, in accordance with section 78(5) of the Act, that the Executive Director refer this matter to the Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

The Resignation Committee directed that Mr. Ridley pay the actual costs of the discipline proceedings and the resignation application, estimated at \$2,289.00, no later than September 30, 2008.

R. Gregory Busch
Director, Lawyer Conduct
Law Society of Alberta