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The Distinguished Service Awards celebrate excellence in the legal profession. Jointly awarded by the Law Society of Alberta and the Canadian Bar Association - Alberta, these prestigious awards recognize the many outstanding contributions Alberta lawyers make to the community, to the profession, to legal scholarship, and in pro bono legal service.



THE CANADIAN  
BAR ASSOCIATION  
Alberta Branch

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# 2012 Distinguished Service Awards



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Friday, January 27, 2012  
The Westin Calgary

Presented by the Law Society of Alberta and  
the Canadian Bar Association - Alberta



## Michael F. Casey, QC Service to the Community

Shortly after earning his law degree from Queen's University in 1972, Michael F. Casey embarked on distinguished career in insurance law and in community service. His leadership in community service includes volunteering his time and expertise with the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede. As president and chairman, he is at the helm of the Calgary Stampede as it celebrates its 100th anniversary this year. Mr. Casey's many leadership positions have included serving with the Calgary Olympic Committee, president of the Calgary Junior Chamber of Commerce, chairing the Calgary Grey Cup Committee, and a director and vice chair of the Canada 2005 Expo Corp., as well as serving the Rotary Club, Alberta Motor Association and the Institute of Corporate Directors. He continues to make an indelible impression on Calgary through his outstanding service to community.



## Cheryl Gottselig, QC Service to the Profession

Described by her colleagues as a "rare jewel" in the legal profession, Cheryl Gottselig has earned that reputation. After 35 years, she practises with the same enthusiasm and drive as ever. After earning her law degree from the University of Saskatchewan in 1971, Ms. Gottselig served with several law firms before being appointed Queen's Counsel in 1992. Throughout her career in real estate law, she has had a life-long commitment to legal education, including teaching parts of the Alberta Real Estate Agents course for 10 years, lecturing on wills, estates and real estate for the Legal Education Society of Alberta, teaching the Alberta Bar admission ethics course, and chairing LESA's refresher course on negotiating and setting estate issues. Her passion for law is also evident in her work with the Calgary Bar Association for eight years where she established the Calgary Court House Education Society. She is one of only four women to have served as Law Society of Alberta President (2002-03).



## David P. Jones, QC Legal Scholarship

Mr. Jones has been described by his peers as a "consummate professional" throughout his career as student, teacher, researcher, writer and practitioner. Beginning as a law teacher at McGill, where he earned his Bachelor of Arts, to graduating with his Bachelor of Civil Law from Balliol College at the University of Oxford, to becoming a professor of law at the University of Alberta, he has held numerous roles as a sessional lecturer, assistant and associate professor and full professor. The Legal Education Society of Alberta, the Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia, the Canadian Bar Association and the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice have been among the many beneficiaries of Mr. Jones' expertise. His immense contributions to the legal profession, in particular in the area of legal scholarship, have earned him the utmost respect of the legal community.



## W. Laird Hunter, QC Pro Bono Legal Service

There are few lawyers in Canada who devote their full practice to serving charities and non-profit organizations. W. Laird Hunter is one of those lawyers. From Vancouver to Toronto, he is recognized as the charity-law expert for his tireless efforts to work with and support these groups. Admitted to the Alberta Bar in 1979 and appointed Queen's Counsel in 2006, Mr. Hunter has worked with numerous charities and non-profit organizations. A partner in his own firm since 1981, and currently practising with Richards Hunter in Edmonton, Mr. Hunter's many pro bono contributions include work with the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada, the Agency for Co-operative Housing, the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy and Imagine Canada as well as work on two high-profile Supreme Court of Canada cases. In addition, he has devoted a significant amount of time to working with First Nations to introduce the concepts of community economic development.