

THE SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE: SEIZING THE INITIATIVE TOWARDS EXCELLENCE

REPORT FOR 2013 AND 2014

ONTARIO



...the Superior Court of Justice seized the initiative to make all improvements it could, within its own authority, to achieve better access to justice for Ontarians... We are very proud of our results and delighted to share them with you.

Chief Justice Heather J. Smith



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COURT OF JUSTICE:
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own internal capacity for initiative,
innovation and improvement.**

Chief Justice Heather J. Smith

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF JUSTICE

Welcome to the fourth Superior Court of Justice Annual Report. This report covers 2013 and 2014, two years characterized by both challenges and innovations. To deal with these challenges and innovations we seized the initiative – the theme of our Annual Report – and found innovative ways to improve our processes and provide Ontarians with better access to justice. Our achievements during these years demonstrate that embracing challenges, rather than working to sidestep them, can generate great resourcefulness and a rewarding sense of accomplishment.

It didn't take more money or more court time. Instead, we reflected on our court's own internal capacity for initiative, innovation and improvement. This Report details the superb efforts of the Superior Court's executive members and our judges – with the full support of the bar and the Ministry of the Attorney General – to improve our service in all three lines of the court's work: criminal, family and civil. We are very proud of our results and delighted to share them with you.

Traditionally, members of the public and the bar saw the Superior Court as the last stop at the end of a very long process. Litigation is costly – in time, money and in emotional capital. When each step in the process does not move the case forward, anxiety is an added price. In this context, our court narrowed its objective to this single principle: each step in every court proceeding must move the case meaningfully forward to reach the earliest possible resolution or, if not, the earliest possible trial date.

We accepted that many elements of the justice system and its administration are outside the court's control. So, we simply committed to improving the parts of the court system that are within our control by being proactive and solution-oriented. Our goal was to ensure *timely and high quality adjudication* in each of the court's three lines of business.

We reviewed, refined and strived to improve every scheduling and assignment practice in all areas of the court's work. In June 2013, we started developing "best practices" and new scheduling models to improve court efficiencies. We measured our success by asking if our changes were making a difference in the time it takes to get to resolution.

I'm pleased to report that we are already seeing excellent results in delivering meaningful court events and moving matters more quickly towards resolution or adjudication. We started in Toronto and its adjacent regions in 2014, and aimed to have the changes in place in all court sites by 2015. We were delighted to know, by December 2014, that the changes were clearly working.

The court will always face challenges in areas outside its exclusive control. These include the challenges of court security and overloaded facilities. However, I hope you will learn from this Report that our court has seized the initiative to change the things that are within our control and that we are well on our way to our goal.

Yours truly,



Heather J. Smith
Chief Justice



The Hon. Madam Justice Heather J. Smith,
Chief Justice

I look forward to continuing to seek efficiencies within the court's structure and to increasing technological integration to improve the accessibility of our justice system.

Associate Chief Justice Frank N. Marrocco

MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE CHIEF JUSTICE

My responsibilities include management of the Small Claims Court and the Divisional Court. I also serve on the Civil Rules Committee.

The Small Claims Court accounts for almost 45 per cent of all civil proceedings in Ontario. It serves as an accessibility leader while ensuring the affordable delivery of justice. In August 2014, the Small Claims Court became the first court in Ontario to implement e-filing with the implementation of the Small Claims Court Online pilot project. The court launched this pilot project in four locations (Brampton, Oshawa, Ottawa, and Richmond Hill). The pilot made it possible for members of the public to file online and to receive court-issued documents (i.e., liquidated claims and default judgments) by email. E-filings now represent 12 per cent of all plaintiff claims in the four pilot locations. I hope to work with my colleagues to build on this success to introduce more electronic initiatives that will increase the public's access to the justice system. I would also like to thank the Deputy Judges of the Small Claims Court for their dedicated work across the entire province. Their service that ensures this court continues to provide timely and reasoned decisions.

The Divisional Court continues its effective and efficient administration of justice as an appellate court. It is unique to Ontario and demonstrates continued excellence in administrative law.

At the Civil Rules Committee, our court has worked diligently to make civil proceedings more efficient and effective. My colleague Justice Ian Nordheimer and I conducted a review of these rules in January 2014. Our review led to a number of important amendments. For example, new administrative dismissals for delay rules will ensure the placement of all new actions on the trial list within five years. With a longer dismissal period, there will be less need to extend these timelines significantly reducing the costs to litigants who will have to bring motions. This, in turn, will also decrease the use of judicial resources required to respond to these notices.

I look forward to continuing to seek efficiencies within the court's structure and to increasing technological integration to improve the accessibility of our justice system.

Yours truly,



Frank N. Marrocco,
Associate Chief Justice



*The Hon. Mr. Justice Frank N. Marrocco,
Associate Chief Justice*

I want to ask those of you who work within the family justice system... to do what you can, within your own sphere of responsibility, to move beyond wise words and make concrete changes to our family justice system.

Senior Family Judge George Czutrin

MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR FAMILY JUDGE

Family proceedings make up a significant portion of new cases in all Superior Court of Justice locations in Ontario. They involve complex legal, social and inter-personal issues. The cases significantly affect the lives of the families we serve, most of whom are going through what is, no doubt, the most challenging experience of their lives. The Law Society of Upper Canada's *Listening to Ontarians: Report of the Ontario Civil Legal Needs Project*¹ says that Ontario residents are more likely to have a dispute about a familial relationship than any other serious legal problem.

Professor Nick Bala, writing in *Middle Income Access to Justice*, describes the difference between family cases and other court cases. He says: *Most types of court cases are retrospective, with a judicial focus on ending a relationship on just terms. However, family cases, especially those involving children, are largely prospective... It is the restructuring of familial relationships rather than their termination that is the central objective of the family justice process.*²

As the Senior Family Judge, I have spent time attending local courthouses to talk with members of the judiciary, court services, bar, mediators and Dispute Resolution Officers about what works best and identify potential improvements. I also presided over family cases in several different locations and assisted with the resolution of cases during the trial blitz at the London Family Court.

At Chief Justice Smith's request, I helped develop internal best practices for both family and child protection cases. I am confident that, with the necessary resources, implementing those best practices will have a significant impact on how Ontario families navigate their way through their family law disputes in the Superior Court of Justice.

I also sat as a member of the Superior Court of Justice's Education Committee and continued to serve as a member of the Family Law Rules Committee. I am pleased to report that several significant changes to the *Family Law Rules* will come into effect in March 2015 to improve the family justice process, consistent with the Superior Court of Justice's Strategic Plan.

I want to ask those of you who work within the family justice system to join with the Superior Court of Justice and other partners to do what you can, within your own sphere of responsibility, to move beyond wise words and make concrete changes to our family justice system.

Yours truly,



George Czutrin,
Senior Family Judge



The Hon. Mr. Justice George Czutrin,
Senior Family Judge

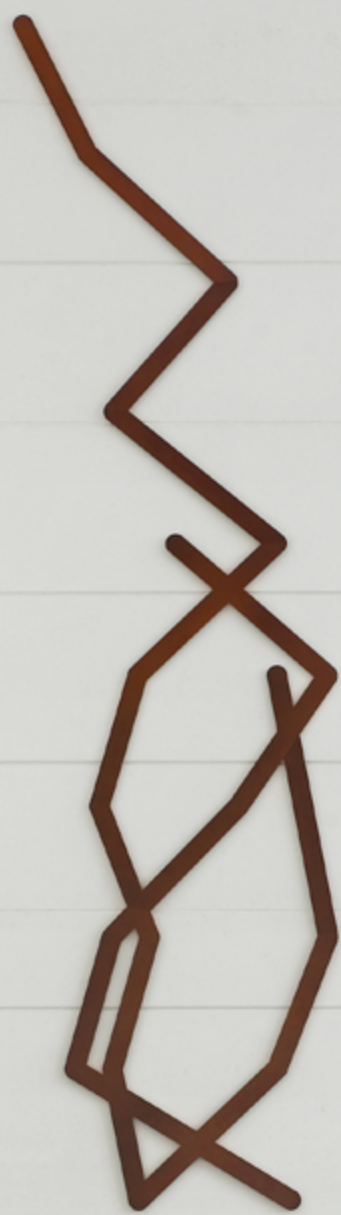


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INTRODUCTION TO THE REPORT FOR 2013 AND 2014

“Seizing the Initiative Towards Excellence” is the theme of the fourth Superior Court of Justice Annual Report.³ Our previous three reports looked at the court’s judicial governance structure, gave a regional perspective and described the work to modernize the court. This Report describes the actions the Ontario Superior Court of Justice has taken, within its *judicial authority*, to provide Ontarians with better access to justice through timely and efficient resolution of court proceedings. These actions focused on streamlining proceedings and practice directions, reducing delays, and overcoming systemic barriers to timely and efficient resolution of court proceedings.

These activities took place within the framework of Canada’s constitution. It divides the responsibility for maintaining the superior courts in every province. Under the constitution, the provincial attorneys general are obliged to support all aspects of the court’s administration. The federal attorney general appoints, provides judicial education for, and pays the salaries of the court’s judges. As a result, each province’s superior court is in a somewhat curious position. Although the Superior Court is a part of the independent judicial branch of government, it must rely still on the executive branch of both the federal and provincial governments to carry out its responsibilities.

A unique feature of judicial independence is that the Chief Justice must set judges’ sitting schedules and case assignments. Ontario has a vast geographic area and a large population that the court must serve. Consequently, the Superior Court’s eight judicial regions were created in 1990. A regional senior judge heads each region and carries out the powers and duties of the Chief Justice, as her delegate. That means Regional Senior Judges have the responsibility for scheduling judges’ sittings and assigning cases in their own region.

In this context, the Superior Court of Justice seized the initiative to make all improvements it could, within its *own* authority, to achieve better access to justice for Ontarians. This report describes this work. The excellent results reflect the commitment and dedicated work of the Council of Regional Senior Judges, judicial committees and distinct projects – all under the leadership of Chief Justice Smith and Associate Chief Justice Marrocco.



SECTION 1
**JURISDICTION OF THE
SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE**



JURISDICTION OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

CRIMINAL JURISDICTION P. 5

FAMILY JURISDICTION P. 6

CIVIL JURISDICTION P. 7

SMALL CLAIMS COURT
JURISDICTION P. 8

DIVISIONAL COURT
JURISDICTION P. 10

JURISDICTION OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

Arising from Ontario's common law tradition, the Superior Court of Justice has inherent jurisdiction over criminal, civil and family cases. This inherent jurisdiction provides the court to hear matters that are not assigned to another level of court. In addition, the court has authority over matters granted to it by federal and provincial statutes.

CRIMINAL JURISDICTION

The Superior Court of Justice is a superior court of criminal jurisdiction. The court has the power to try any indictable offence under the *Criminal Code*. However, the Superior Court generally tries only the most serious criminal offences. These include murder, manslaughter, drug trafficking and other offences against the security of the state, or an attempt or conspiracy to commit one of these offences. An individual accused of any of these offences is tried by a judge of the Superior Court and may or may not face a jury.

The Superior Court also hears appeals from summary conviction cases heard in the Ontario Court of Justice. The Superior Court has a Criminal Rules Committee, pursuant to the *Criminal Code*. Justice Bruce Durno chairs the Committee and, in collaboration with the Chief Justice, selects *ad hoc* members for the Committee.

In 2013, **3,908** new criminal proceedings commenced in the Superior Court of Justice. In 2014, there were **3,749** new criminal proceedings.

The Regional Statistics in Section 5, page 39 of this report, provide the number of new criminal proceedings commenced in each Superior Court region over the last two years.

FAMILY JURISDICTION

Family law involves both federal and provincial statutes. In most locations, there is a division of jurisdiction over family proceedings in Ontario, between the Superior Court of Justice and the Ontario Court of Justice. Both courts preside over child and spousal support and child custody and access. Under federal law, the Superior Court has sole jurisdiction in all cases involving divorce and the division of property. Under provincial law, child protection and adoption cases must commence in the Ontario Court of Justice.

The *Courts of Justice Act* has unified this split jurisdiction in 17 of the 50 Superior Court locations. The act created the Family Court as a branch of the Superior Court. At any Family Court site, the court hears all family matters. These include divorce, division of property, support, custody and access, child protection and adoption. The Family Court began as a pilot project in Hamilton in 1977. Since then, it has expanded to St. Catharines, Barrie, London, Kingston and Napanee, Ottawa, Perth, Brockville, L'Orignal, Cornwall, Perth, Cobourg, Lindsay, Newmarket, Bracebridge, Peterborough and Durham Region.

As this system evolved and the Family Courts expanded in various locations throughout the province, the philosophy and approach of family law proceedings has changed. In the past, "ugly affidavit wars" were a constant feature in family law litigation. However, since July 1, 2004, the *Family Law Rules* have governed all family law proceedings commenced in either the Superior Court of Justice or the Ontario Court of Justice. The same procedures, forms and steps apply in both courts. As a result, we have seen the system evolve towards an emphasis on case management and encouraging settlement. Ultimately, this leads to a less adversarial approach to family law.

The *Courts of Justice Act* provides for a Family Rules Committee. The committee has the mandate to make rules for the Ontario courts for the practice and procedure of family proceedings, subject to the approval of the Attorney General. Members of the Committee are appointed by and include representatives from the Superior Court of Justice, the Ontario Court of Justice, the Ministry of the Attorney General, and various family justice partners and stakeholders. These partners and stakeholders include the Law Society of Upper Canada, the Office of the Children's Lawyer and leading members of the family bar.

CIVIL JURISDICTION

The Superior Court of Justice hears all civil proceedings in Ontario. These include commercial matters, personal injury, bankruptcy and insolvency cases, and litigation involving wills and estates. The Superior Court also has some appellate jurisdiction under various statutes. The *Rules of Civil Procedure* generally govern proceedings in the Superior Court.

The Civil Rules Committee makes the *Rules of Civil Procedure*, subject to the approval of the Attorney General. The Civil Rules Committee has 29 members. Of the 16 judicial members, eight are judges that the Chief Justice of the Superior Court of Justice appoints. To ensure the consideration of regional perspectives in the tabling of civil rule amendments, Superior Court Judges from six regions are members of the Civil Rules Committee.

On January 1, 2010, amendments to the *Rules of Civil Procedure* and the *Courts of Justice Act* came into effect. They incorporated recommendations of the Civil Justice Reform Project report. Key reforms included increases to the monetary jurisdiction of the Small Claims Court – from \$10,000 to \$25,000 – and of the Simplified Procedure (governed by Rule 76 of the *Rules of Civil Procedure*) – from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

The reforms noticeably affected summary judgment motions. The new test for summary judgment introduced in the 2010 reforms resulted in a 2014 Supreme Court of Canada ruling in *Hryniak v. Mauldin*, 2014 SCC 7. It affects the procedure the court must apply when dealing with summary judgment motions. In this decision, the Supreme Court elaborated in holding that “summary judgment rules must be interpreted broadly, favouring proportionality and fair access to the affordable, timely and just adjudication of claims.”

Between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013, **76,097** civil proceedings commenced in the Superior Court of Justice. Between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014 that total dropped to **73,379**.

(These numbers do not include the approximately 20,000 uncontested estates cases commenced in Ontario each year or any Small Claims Court or Divisional Court cases. The following sections of this report describe those cases).

The Regional Statistics in Section 5, at page 39 of this report, provide the number of new civil proceedings commenced in each Superior Court of Justice region over the last two years.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT JURISDICTION

The Small Claims Court branch of the Superior Court of Justice is an extremely busy court. It handles nearly half of all civil claims in Ontario. In 2013 and 2014 (as in previous years), over 45 per cent of all civil cases heard in Ontario courts commenced in the Small Claims Court.

A total of **66,314** new small claims proceedings commenced between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013, and **64,833** between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014.

The Small Claims Court provides an efficient and cost-effective forum for Ontarians to bring or defend civil claims for to \$25,000 in monetary or property damages. The *Rules of the Small Claims Court* provide for streamlined procedures. This means the determination of cases at a lower cost and in less time for litigants than cases commenced in the Superior Court.

The court is seeing the effects of the January 2010 increase from \$10,000 to \$25,000 in the monetary jurisdiction of the Small Claims Court. This increase has brought a natural change in the court's caseload. Lawyers and paralegals are representing more parties. There are more complex matters – some involving expert evidence. This may result in more time at trial. Hearing longer trials in existing court facilities has put pressure for more courtrooms on some of our busiest centres. In Toronto, civil courtrooms at 393 University Avenue are available to hear longer Small Claims Court trials. The Court continues to monitor the timeliness of trial dates to ensure the continued effectiveness of the Small Claims Court and its longstanding success in providing an affordable, efficient and timely dispute resolution forum for the people of Ontario.

Typically, Deputy Judges preside over proceedings in the Small Claims Court. Deputy Judges are senior lawyers appointed by the Regional Senior Judge with the approval of the Attorney General. Provincially appointed judges may also hear Small Claims Court proceedings. As of December 31, 2014, the Small Claims Court roster included 364 Deputy Judges and two *per diem* provincially appointed judges.

The *Courts of Justice Act* establishes a Deputy Judges Council for the Small Claims Court. Chaired by Associate Chief Justice Frank Marrocco, the Deputy Judges Council serves the following functions:

- To review and approve standards of conduct for Deputy Judges as established by the Chief Justice.
- To review and approve a plan for the continuing education of Deputy Judges as established by the Chief Justice.
- To make recommendations on matters affecting Deputy Judges.

In each region, the Regional Senior Judge delegates the responsibility for overseeing the Small Claims Court to an Administrative Superior Court Judge. Regional Senior Justice James Turnbull chairs the Committee of Administrative Judges for the Small Claims Court. The committee's members are judicial representatives from each of the eight regions. The Administrative Judges meet at least twice a year to discuss matters of mutual concern related to the Small Claims Court.

While the number of new Superior Court civil proceedings in the province exceeded the number of new Small Claims Court proceedings in 2013 and 2014, four regions had more Small Claims Court proceedings than Superior Court civil proceedings in both years (Central East, East, Northeast and Northwest).

The Regional Statistics in Section 5, at page 39 of this report, provide the number of new civil proceedings commenced in the Superior Court and the Small Claims Court branch.



DIVISIONAL COURT JURISDICTION

As an appellate branch of the Superior Court, the Divisional Court is the primary forum for judicial review of government action in Ontario. It also hears statutory appeals from decisions of provincial administrative tribunals and has some family and civil appellate jurisdiction. Usually, a panel of three judges hears and decides a case and in some circumstances, a single judge hears and decides.

In Toronto, the Divisional Court sits regularly throughout the year. The Divisional Court is scheduled to hear matters several times a year in each of the other seven judicial regions.

The Divisional Court continues to benefit from exceptional leadership. In 2013, working alongside Associate Chief Justice Marrocco, Madam Justice Katherine Swinton and Madam Justice Gladys Pardu held the administrative lead positions. In 2014, Mr. Justice Ian Nordheimer and Mr. Justice Edward Then held these positions. The dedicated staff in the Divisional Court office coordinate sittings in Toronto and the rest of the province.

Despite being an extremely busy intermediate appellate court, the Divisional Court continues to function efficiently. In 2013, **1,321** new proceedings commenced, and **1,291** in 2014.



A modern conference room with a large circular table, a large circular light fixture, and a blue skylight. The room features wood-paneled walls, a grey carpet, and several black office chairs. A whiteboard is visible on the wall. The ceiling is white with a network of gold-colored lines. A large, circular, illuminated light fixture hangs from the ceiling. A blue skylight is visible at the top of the image.

SECTION 2 **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

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FAMILY P. 15

CIVIL P. 17

TECHNOLOGY P. 18

CONSOLIDATED PRACTICE
DIRECTIONS P. 18

Throughout 2013 and 2014, the Superior Court of Justice has employed a proactive and solution-oriented approach to improve those aspects of the court system that were within our control. Specifically starting in June 2013, the court reviewed every scheduling practice and assignment practice to ensure improvement in each aspect of the court's work.

CRIMINAL

CRIMINAL FORMS ONLINE

The Superior Court continues to make significant strides in modernizing processes and improving access to justice in criminal law.

In collaboration with the Ministry of the Attorney General, the Superior Court made all forms under the court's Criminal Proceedings Rules available to the public on the Ontario Court Forms website (www.ontariocourtforms.on.ca/english). Counsel and self-represented accused now have access to criminal forms in English and in French, in PDF and Word formats.

Further, to complement the introduction of online, electronic criminal forms, the Criminal Rules were amended to authorize electronic service of documents between counsel.

CHANGES TO CRIMINAL RULES

The Superior Court remained vigilant in amending the Criminal Rules to support Criminal Code amendments. Much of this success can be attributed to the very able leadership of Mr. Justice Bruce Durno.

Justice Durno, assisted by counsel in the Office of the Chief Justice, drafted new Rules to support the Criminal Code's new parole ineligibility provisions for "faint hope" applications. Multiple parties were engaged and consulted before the rules were finalized. The draft Rules were circulated for feedback from the Crown Law Office – Criminal, the Criminal Lawyers Association, Correctional Services Canada, the Ministry's Court Services Division, and experienced criminal judges from *all* the Superior Court regions.

In 2014, the court added the new "faint hope" application rule – Rule 50 – to the Criminal Rules. The new Rule 50 applies to all "faint hope" applications, whether commenced before or after January 1, 2014.

In addition, in January 2014, Rule 35, which provides case supervision for dangerous and long-term offender applications, was amended to clarify that the rule applies to all dangerous offender and long-term offender applications, and not just those under s. 752.01 of the *Criminal Code*.

CRIMINAL JURY REVIEW

The court's Criminal Jury Review Committee has been working tremendously to tackle more than a dozen pressing, discrete issues, including comprehensive information that jury panel members should receive, appropriate juror facilities, supporting services, and juror compensation. The court is alive to the issues related to First Nations' representation on juries identified in the report by the Honourable Frank Iacobucci and the Court of Appeal's decision in *R. v. Kokopenace*, 2013 ONCA 389. The Criminal Jury Review Committee and has been making great progress in identifying and addressing such issues.



FAMILY

BEST PRACTICES FOR FAMILY AND CHILD PROTECTION CASES

The Superior Court of Justice's Family Law Strategic Plan has two key principles: accessibility and effectiveness. These two principles must govern family court processes and services:

- Accessibility requires court processes to promote the earliest, fairest and most expeditious resolution of the case.
- Effectiveness requires court processes to ensure that every court attendance is meaningful and moves the case forward to resolution.

The National Action Committee on Access to Justice in Civil and Family Matters echoes these themes in its recent family justice working group report, *Meaningful Change for Family Justice – Beyond Wise Words*⁴ and the Committee's final report *Access to Civil and Family Justice – A Roadmap for Change*.⁵ The Superior Court of Justice endorses the National Action Committee's overarching recommendations that call on courts to adopt problem-solving approaches to family disputes and to provide proportionate family court processes.

To achieve this goal, the Superior Court of Justice completed an analysis of its scheduling and assignment best practices for family and child protection proceedings. The purpose of this analysis was to ensure the provision of proportionate processes at every Superior Court of Justice location where family cases are heard. These best practices promise the hearing of each event on a timely basis, with enough time available to facilitate meaningful attendances. The adoption of specific practices in both the family and child protection contexts ensures that every court attendance either resolves an issue or issues on a temporary or final basis, or moves the case closer to a final resolution.

In no other area is the timely disposition of a case more important than in child protection. The child protection best practices require making all reasonable efforts to meet the statutory and regulatory timelines, particularly those in section 70 of the *Child and Family Services Act*, on when the Court must make a final determination on a child's care.

The best practices introduce a new Trial Scheduling Endorsement Form. This form will be required for all family cases province-wide effective April 1, 2015 and the court will strongly encourage the use of a specific child protection Trial Scheduling Endorsement Form.

The Superior Court of Justice looks forward to working with all family justice partners to continue to deliver concrete improvements to the family justice system.

FORMALIZING THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION OFFICER PILOT PROGRAM

Dispute Resolution Officers (DRO) are senior family law lawyers. The local Regional Senior Judge appoints them, pursuant to Rule 17(9) and (9.1) of the *Family Law Rules*, to conduct family case conferences.

The Toronto Region originally implemented a DRO pilot program in 1995. From 2010 to 2012, with significant cooperation from the local bar, the Superior Court of Justice launched additional DRO pilot programs in the following locations: Brampton and Milton (Central West), Newmarket, Barrie, and Durham (Central East) and Hamilton (Central South). Each of these programs initially operated on a *pro bono* basis.

In locations that offer the DRO program, the first appearance on a “request to change an order” comes before a DRO, not a judge. The DRO meets with the parties to determine the issues, explore settlement options and decide if the file is ready to go before a judge. DROs do not have the authority to make orders but they are often able to help the parties agree to a settlement, which a judge can confirm. At a minimum, DROs can assist in setting a schedule for disclosure and the next steps in the proceeding.

The court recently launched DRO pilot programs in the London and St. Catharines Family Court locations.

Effective January 2015, DROs in all locations will receive a daily *per diem* stipend for their services. The Superior Court of Justice wishes to extend its sincere gratitude both to the DRO lawyers who have provided services for several years on a *pro bono* basis and to the Ministry of the Attorney General for making funding available to ensure the long-term sustainability of the DRO program.

PRIORITIZING CHILDREN INITIATIVE

The Superior Court of Justice has continued its focus on assisting children who are the subject of family and child protection proceedings. For example, an *ad hoc* working group of the court, with input from all members of the Family Court, developed new child protection best practices.

In addition to this internal work, the Superior Court of Justice has continued its important work with its family justice partners in a number of different areas to address areas of overlapping concern. For instance, the Superior Court of Justice has developed the Walsh Family Law Negotiation Competition, named after the Honourable George Walsh, a retired judge of the Superior Court of Justice with a passionate commitment to family proceedings. The competition launches in March 2015. Its purpose is to provide students with practical exposure to a complex family law dispute and the skills that family lawyers rely on to assist clients and their families. The court wishes to thank event co-chairs Hilary Linton and Elizabeth Hyde, and Madam Justice Jennifer Mackinnon and Madam Justice Heather McGee, for all their work in making this program a reality.

The Superior Court of Justice also continues to assist an interdisciplinary working group that is considering the frequent challenges the court faces on the availability and timelines of custody and access assessments.

Finally, Superior Court of Justice representatives on the Family Law Rules Committee have worked diligently with other committee members on significant upcoming amendments to the *Family Law Rules* on financial disclosure, summary judgments and procedural powers.

CIVIL

Significant progress has been achieved in improving the scheduling of civil matters, especially in the Toronto region and in the Central East and Central West regions. This was due to increasing calls from the bar to improve the time-out to hearing dates for civil motions and trials that, by the summer of 2013, were growing to an unacceptable level. At the request of Chief Justice Smith, in September 2013 Regional Senior Justice Morawetz led a Judicial Working Group, comprised of Superior Court judges in Toronto, Brampton and Newmarket.

The Judicial Working Group had a broad mandate to identify and implement scheduling changes to address delays in scheduling long motions and long trials in the Greater Toronto Area, including Brampton and Newmarket, to reduce wait times for civil matters. Its work included regular meetings with a Task Force of bar representatives to find ways to improve scheduling.

As part of this Civil Justice Reform Project, the Superior Court of Justice recognized the court's limited resources. As the court has a fixed number of judges and case management masters, it was unlikely that there would be an increase in the number of court staff or the amount of courts administration funding. Therefore, any recommendations had to focus on finding efficiencies and improving the effectiveness of existing courts that handle civil cases.

By November of 2013, the following key reforms had a significant effect in reducing wait times in Toronto:

- The Working Group revisited the method for scheduling long motions. They found that reserved motion dates were often wasted because of “placeholder” motions that counsel booked without filing any material. Implementing a new scheduling protocol that required counsel to file motion material within 10 days of scheduling had a significant impact on making more dates available.
- Internal scheduling adjustments made one additional judge available to hear civil long motions each week.
- Additional long motions were scheduled to account for a greater than expected last minute settlement rate.
- Amendments introduced in the Toronto and Central East regions allow the court to oversee, where necessary, long motions and motions for summary judgment. They are:
 - In Toronto, a new Civil Practice Court starts at 9:30 a.m., enabling the court to assist in scheduling particularly complex motions or trials.
 - In the Central East region, parties must obtain dates for long motions from the trial coordinator. For trials longer than three weeks, parties must write to the Regional Senior Judge who may decide to assign a particular judge to the case to assist in its management.
- In February of 2015, case management masters in Toronto will begin to assume greater duties in Brampton, Newmarket and Milton, and have begun to hear regular civil motions and civil pre-trials at these centres.

TECHNOLOGY

The Superior Court has made significant advances in supporting the public through technology. In 2013, it launched a significantly improved website (www.ontariocourts.ca/scj) with additional content and links to information to support the legal profession and the general public. This site has enabled the court to publish decisions immediately when there was significant public interest. That same year, the court introduced a protocol for the parties to exchange of electronic documents in the commercial court, and a protocol for the requirement to file electronic documents on USB sticks in Divisional Court and other proceedings when a judge makes an order. In April of 2014, in a joint initiative with the Ontario Court of Justice and the Ministry, another website was established (www.ontariocourtdates.ca). This smartphone and tablet-friendly website provides daily updates to the public on where and when their matters before the court will be heard.

CONSOLIDATED PRACTICE DIRECTIONS

In 2013, Chief Justice Smith made a public commitment that the Superior Court of Justice would revoke all outdated practice directions by June 2014 and issue new, consolidated practice directions.

Previously issued practice directions of the Superior Court of Justice were not always accessible to the bar and litigants, and there was confusion as to the currency of some of them. The purpose of this project was, therefore, to consolidate those practice directions that remain in effect and are still useful, and to post them in a central repository on the Superior Court of Justice's website so that they may be readily accessed by lawyers and litigants.

By June of 2014, newly Consolidated Practice Directions were posted on the Superior Court of Justice's website in English and French. They came into effect on July 1, 2014. There is a provincial Consolidated Practice Direction, a Divisional Court Consolidated Practice Direction, and eight regional Consolidated Practice Directions. These Consolidated Practice Directions will be updated as required.



SECTION 3
**JUDICIAL COMMITTEES
AND THEIR ACTIVITIES**



JUDICIAL COMMITTEES AND THEIR ACTIVITIES

A number of judicial committees have been created by the Chief Justice upon the recommendation of the Council of Regional Senior Judges and all committees include a current or former member of the Council of Regional Senior Judges. The committees serve to consider issues outlined in their mandate and provide advice to the Chief Justice and the Council of Regional Senior Judges who then formulate formal policy for the court.

SECURITY COMMITTEE

The Security Committee has been working closely with our security partners, the Justice Sector Security Office and local police services. The Committee oversaw the renewal of Local Court Security Committees (LCSCs) at all court locations. LCSCs act in an advisory capacity to the local Chief of Police. LCSCs are also actively meeting to address local security concerns. Over the period of this report, the Security Committee worked to raise the judiciary's awareness of security in a rapidly evolving security landscape.

The Committee also worked with the Judicial Information Technology Office and oversaw the implementation of security measures, including an emergency contact app for smartphones, and ensured that security resources were available for distribution via a secure intranet.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

The Chief Justice's Library Committee consults with and advises the Manager of Judicial Library Services on the legal research and information needs of the Superior Court of Justice. The Library Committee continues making the tremendous shift from print to digital resources, reducing redundancy between print and digital collections. Print resources now focus only on judges' core tools. At the same time, there is ongoing technical support and training for judges on the use of digital resources. In addition to publicly available content, the court continues to develop the Judges' Toolkit with online resources specific to Ontario. In 2013 and 2014, the Committee expanded the toolkit with the addition of the best practices for family law cases and child protection, material relating to language rights and internal matters related to security.

The structure of the Committee's membership meets the diverse needs of judges of the court. It has representation for, but not limited to, bilingual judges, judges in larger centres and judges in Northern Ontario and from the Ontario Superior Court Judges Association. The Committee was chaired by Regional Senior Judge Gauthier in 2013 and Regional Senior Judge Turnbull in 2014. The committee included Justice Glass, Justice Hambly and Justice Riopelle. The manager of the Judges' Library, Ms. Louise Hamel, serves as an *ex officio* member.

CLERKSHIP COMMITTEE

Judicial law clerks play an invaluable role in supporting the work of the Superior Court of Justice. The Clerkship Committee continues to provide advice to the Office of the Chief Justice for the court's prestigious clerkship program, including the recruitment of the best and brightest law students each year to fill the 25 law clerk positions. Clerkship positions at the Superior Court of Justice continue to fulfil the articling requirements of the Law Society of Upper Canada's licensing process for lawyers.

Alumni of the clerkship program take great pride in their time as Superior Court law clerks, with many returning each year to speak to current clerks about life after clerking and to recruit current clerks for employment, following their call to the bar. Mr. Justice Laurence Pattillo and Madam Justice Lois Roberts currently co-chair the Clerkship Committee, with judicial members Madam Justice Heidi Polowin and Mr. Justice Bruce Thomas.



SECTION 4
**THE JUDGES OF THE
SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE**



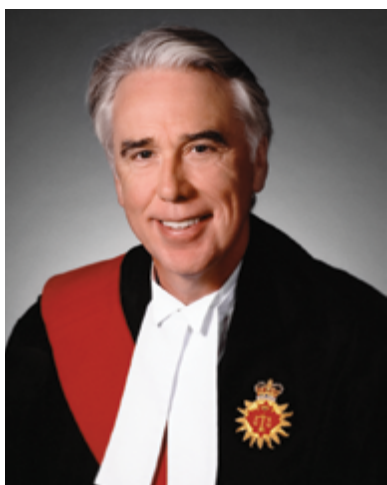


THE JUDGES OF THE
SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE

Judges of the Superior Court of Justice preside over a variety of matters including criminal prosecutions of indictable offences, summary conviction appeals from the Ontario Court of Justice, bail reviews, civil lawsuits, and family law disputes.



CENTRAL EAST REGION JUDGES



**The Hon. Mr. Justice
Michael F. Brown**
Regional Senior Judge
March 2007 – October 2013



**The Hon. Madam Justice
Michelle K. Fuerst**
Regional Senior Judge
October 2013 – Present

LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGES

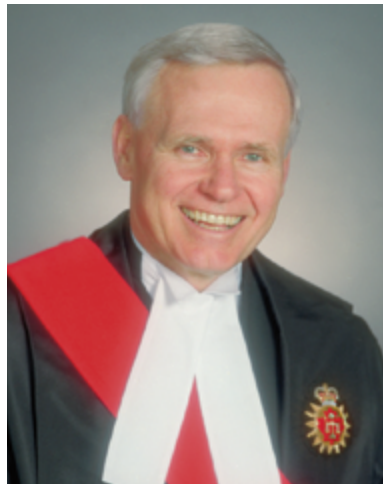
The Hon. M. L. Edwards, Newmarket
The Hon. Mr. Justice D. S. Gunsolus,
Peterborough, Coburg and Lindsay
The Hon. Mr. Justice G. Mulligan, Barrie
The Hon. Mr. Justice A. Rowsell, Oshawa
The Hon. Mr. Justice T. M. Wood, Bracebridge

JUDGES OF THE REGION

The Hon. Mr. Justice S. T. Bale
The Hon. Madam Justice L. A. Bird
The Hon. Mr. Justice C. Boswell
The Hon. Mr. Justice C. J. Corkery
The Hon. Mr. Justice G. P. DiTomaso
The Hon. Mr. Justice P. A. Douglas
The Hon. Madam Justice M. P. Eberhard
The Hon. Madam Justice J. Ferguson
The Hon. Madam Justice C. Gilmore
The Hon. Mr. Justice B.A. Glass
The Hon. Mr. Justice F. Graham
The Hon. Madam Justice M. J. Hatton
The Hon. Madam Justice S. E. Healey
The Hon. Madam Justice J. E. Hughes
The Hon. Mr. Justice A. P. Ingram
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. P. Kaufman
The Hon. Madam Justice M. L. Lack
The Hon. Mr. Justice B. G. MacDougall
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. R. MacKinnon
The Hon. Mr. Justice P. Z. Magda
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. R. McCarthy
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. P. L. McDermot
The Hon. Madam Justice H.A. McGee
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. R. McIsaac
The Hon. Mr. Justice M. K. McKelvey
The Hon. Mr. Justice E. B. Minden
The Hon. Madam Justice A.M. Mullins
The Hon. Mr. Justice C.S. Nelson
The Hon. Mr. Justice P.W. Nicholson
The Hon. Mr. Justice H.K. O'Connell
The Hon. Madam Justice L. M. Olah
The Hon. Madam Justice E.A. Quinlan
The Hon. Madam Justice S.M. Rogers
The Hon. Mr. Justice D. Salmers

The Hon. Madam Justice M. A. Scott
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. B. Shaughnessy
The Hon. Mr. Justice A. Sosna
The Hon. Mr. Justice A.J. Stong
The Hon. Mr. Justice P.W. Sutherland
The Hon. Mr. Justice D.R. Timms
The Hon. Madam Justice M.E. Vallee
The Hon. Madam Justice R.A. Wildman
The Hon. Madam Justice K. P. Wright

CENTRAL SOUTH REGION JUDGES



**The Hon. Mr. Justice
James R. H. Turnbull**
Regional Senior Judge
April 2012 – Present

LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGES

The Hon. Mr. Justice D. J. Gordon, Caguy
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. J. Harper, Brantford
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. R. Henderson, Welland
The Hon. Madam Justice W. L. MacPherson,
St. Catharines
The Hon. Madam Justice M. McLaren
(Family Court)
The Hon. Madam Justice J. A. Milanetti,
Hamilton
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. J. Nightingale, Simcoe
The Hon. Mr. Justice G. E. Taylor, Kitchener

JUDGES OF THE REGION

The Hon. Mr. Justice H. S. Arrell
The Hon. Madam Justice C. D. Braid
The Hon. Mr. Justice D. A. Broad
The Hon. Madam Justice C. Brown
The Hon. Mr. Justice G. A. Campbell
The Hon. Madam Justice K. Carpenter-Gunn
The Hon. Madam Justice D. L. Chappel
The Hon. Mr. Justice P. J. Flynn
The Hon. Mr. Justice C. S. Glithero
The Hon. Mr. Justice P. B. Hambly
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. C. Kent
The Hon. Madam Justice C. A. Lafrenière
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. A. Lococo
The Hon. Mr. Justice T. R. Lofchik
The Hon. Madam Justice T. Maddalena
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. J. Mazza
The Hon. Mr. Justice M. D. Parayeski
The Hon. Mr. Justice A. Pazaratz
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. W. Quinn
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. A. Ramsay
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. B. Reid
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. D. Reilly
The Hon. Madam Justice J. W. Scott
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. W. Sloan
The Hon. Madam Justice A. Tucker
The Hon. Madam Justice L. M. Walters
The Hon. Mr. Justice A. C. R. Whitten

CENTRAL WEST REGION JUDGES



**The Hon. Madam Justice
Francine Van Melle**
Regional Senior Judge
January 2009 – Present

LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGES

The Hon. Mr. Justice C.J. Conlan,
Walkerton and Oued Sound
The Hon. Mr. Justice P. A. Daley, Brampton
The Hon. Mr. Justice D. K. Gray, Milton
The Hon. Mr. Justice C. N. Herold, Guelph
The Hon. Madam Justice B. J. Wein,
Orangeville

JUDGES OF THE REGION

The Hon. Mr. Justice I. W. André
The Hon. Madam Justice D. F. Baltman
The Hon. Mr. Justice K. N. Barnes
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. R. Belleghem
The Hon. Mr. Justice T. A. Bielby
The Hon. Mr. Justice I. S. Bloom
The Hon. Madam Justice K. D. Coats
The Hon. Mr. Justice S. A. Coroza
The Hon. Mr. Justice F. Dawson
The Hon. Madam Justice M. Donohue
The Hon. Mr. Justice S. B. Durno
The Hon. Mr. Justice D. L. Edwards
The Hon. Mr. Justice M. G. Emery
The Hon. Madam Justice M. Fairburn
The Hon. Mr. Justice D. F. Fitzpatrick
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. M. Fragomeni
The Hon. Mr. Justice S. C. Hill
The Hon. Mr. Justice M. N. LeMay
The Hon. Mr. Justice G. D. Lemon
The Hon. Mr. Justice A.D. MacKenzie
The Hon. Madam Justice G. M. Miller
The Hon. Madam Justice N. M. Mossip
The Hon. Mr. Justice T. P. O'Connor
The Hon. Mr. Justice D. G. Price
The Hon. Mr. Justice L. Ricchetti
The Hon. Madam Justice S. S. Seppi
The Hon. Mr. Justice A. Skarica
The Hon. Madam Justice L.L. Snowie
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. R. Sproat
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. M. Thompson
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. K. Trimble
The Hon. Madam Justice E. R. Tzimas

EAST REGION JUDGES



**The Hon. Mr. Justice
Charles T. Hackland**
Regional Senior Judge
May 2008 – May 2014



**The Hon. Mr. Justice
James E. McNamara**
Regional Senior Judge
May 2014 – Present

LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGES

The Hon. Mr. Justice R. Beaudoin,
Ottawa (Civil)
The Hon. Mr. Justice R.G. Byers, Picton
The Hon. Mr. Justice M. James, Pembroke
The Hon. Madam Justice J. Lafrance-Cardinal,
Cornwall
The Hon. Madam Justice M. Linhares de Sousa,
Ottawa (Divisional Court)
The Hon. Madam Justice V. J. Mackinnon,
Ottawa (Family Court)
The Hon. Mr. Justice K.E. Pedlar,
Perth and Brockville
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. Pelletier, L'Original
The Hon. Madam Justice H. Polowin,
Ottawa (CFSA)
The Hon. Madam Justice L. Ratushny,
Ottawa (Criminal)
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. B. Scott, Belleville
The Hon. Mr. Justice Tausendfreund,
Napanee (Criminal and Civil)
The Hon. Mr. Justice G. W. Tranmer,
Kingston (Criminal and Civil)
The Hon. Madam Justice A. Trousdale,
Kingston and Napanee (Family)

JUDGES OF THE REGION

The Hon. Mr. Justice B. Abrams
The Hon. Madam Justice C.D. Aitken
The Hon. Mr. Justice D.M. Belch
The Hon. Madam Justice J.A. Blishen
The Hon. Mr. Justice M.Z. Charbonneau
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. Johnston
The Hon. Mr. Justice P. Kane
The Hon. Mr. Justice S.J. Kershman
The Hon. Mr. Justice M. Labrosse
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. Laliberté
The Hon. Mr. Justice P. F. Lalonde
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. Leroy
The Hon. Madam Justice
H. K. MacLeod-Beliveau
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. A. McMunagle
The Hon. Mr. Justice R.L. Maranger

The Hon. Mr. Justice C. McKinnon
The Hon. Mr. Justice H. R. McLean
The Hon. Mr. Justice T. Minnema
The Hon. Madam Justice J. A. Parfett
The Hon. Mr. Justice K. Phillips
The Hon. Mr. Justice M. J. Quigley
The Hon. Mr. Justice T.D. Ray
The Hon. Madam Justice C. Robertson
The Hon. Madam Justice G. Toscano Roccamo
The Hon. Mr. Justice D. J. A. Rutherford
The Hon. Mr. Justice A. D. Sheffield
The Hon. Mr. Justice P. Smith
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. J. Smith
The Hon. Madam Justice B. Warkentin

MASTERS

Master Calum U. C. MacLeod
Master Pierre E. Roger

NORTHEAST REGION JUDGES



**The Hon. Madam Justice
Louise L. Gauthier**
Regional Senior Judge
January 2009 – January 2014



**The Hon. Mr. Justice
Robbie D. Gordon**
Regional Senior Judge
January 2014 – Present

LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGES

The Hon. Mr. Justice R. G. S. Del Frate, Gore Bay
The Hon. Mr. Justice M.G. Ellies (Small Claims Court)
The Hon. Mr. Justice E. J. Koke, Parry Sound
The Hon. Madam Justice C. A. M. MacDonald,
Cochrane and Timmins
The Hon. Mr. Justice I. S. McMillan, Sault Ste. Marie
The Hon. Mr. Justice D.J. Nadeau, North Bay
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. A. S. Wilcox, Haileybury

JUDGES OF THE REGION

The Hon. Mr. Justice R. D. Cornell
The Hon. Mr. Justice E. E. Gareau
The Hon. Madam Justice P. C. Hennessy
The Hon. Mr. Justice N. M. Karam
The Hon. Mr. Justice A. D. Kurke
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. S. O'Neill
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. S. Poupore
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. A. Riopelle
The Hon. Mr. Justice P. U. Rivard
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. Y. Tremblay
The Hon. Mr. Justice G. T. Valin
The Hon. Mr. Justice M. N. Varpio
The Hon. Mr. Justice W. L. Whalen

NORTHWEST REGION JUDGES



**The Hon. Madam Justice
Helen M. Pierce**
Regional Senior Judge
July 2009 – December 2014



**The Hon. Mr. Justice
Douglas C. Shaw**
Regional Senior Judge
December 2014 – Present

LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE

The Hon. Mr. Justice F. B. Fitzpatrick
(Small Claims Court)
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. S. Fregeau,
Kenora and Fort Frances

JUDGES OF THE REGION

The Hon. Mr. Justice W. D. Newton
The Hon. Mr. Justice T. A. Platana
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. dePencier Wright

SOUTHWEST REGION JUDGES



**The Hon. Mr. Justice
Thomas A. Heenev**
Regional Senior Judge
May 2012 – Present

LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGES

The Hon. Mr. Justice A. D. Grace, London

The Hon. Mr. Justice P. Henderson
(Family Court)

The Hon. Madam Justice L. C. Leitch
(Bankruptcy)

The Hon. Madam Justice H. A. Rady
(Divisional Court)

JUDGES OF THE REGION

The Hon. Mr. Justice D. Aston

The Hon. Mr. Justice C. Bondy

The Hon. Mr. Justice A. W. Bryant

The Hon. Mr. Justice S. K. Campbell

The Hon. Mr. Justice T. Carey

The Hon. Mr. Justice J. A. Desotti

The Hon. Mr. Justice J. W. Donohue

The Hon. Mr. Justice M. A. Garson

The Hon. Mr. Justice R. C. Gates

The Hon. Mr. Justice A. J. Goodman

The Hon. Madam Justice K. A. Gorman

The Hon. Mr. Justice R. J. Haines

The Hon. Mr. Justice P. B. Hockin

The Hon. Mr. Justice G. W. King

The Hon. Madam Justice D. M. Korpan

The Hon. Mr. Justice I. F. Leach

The Hon. Madam Justice M. E. Marshman

The Hon. Mr. Justice B. W. Miller

The Hon. Madam Justice A. K. Mitchell

The Hon. Mr. Justice V. Mitrow

The Hon. Madam Justice J. N. Morissette

The Hon. Mr. Justice T. J. Patterson

The Hon. Madam Justice R. M. Pomerance

The Hon. Mr. Justice R. M. Raikes

The Hon. Mr. Justice S. Rogin

The Hon. Madam Justice L. C. Templeton

The Hon. Mr. Justice B. Thomas

The Hon. Mr. Justice G. Verbeem

The Hon. Mr. Justice H. Vogelsang

MASTER

Master Lou Ann M. Pope

TORONTO REGION JUDGES



**The Hon. Mr. Justice
Edward F. Then**
Regional Senior Judge
October 2007 – December 2013



**The Hon. Mr. Justice
Geoffrey B. Morawetz**
Regional Senior Judge
December 2013 – Present

TEAM LEADERS

The Hon. Madam Justice A. Harvison Young
(Small Claims)
The Hon. Madam Justice S. G. Himel (Civil)
The Hon. Madam Justice J. E. Kelly (Criminal)
The Hon. Madam Justice F. P. Kiteley (Family)
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. B. McMahon
(Long Trials Criminal)
The Hon. Mr. Justice F. J. C. Newbould
(Commercial)
The Hon. Mr. Justice I. V. B. Nordheimer
(Divisional)
The Hon. Mr. Justice P. M. Perell
(Class Actions)
The Hon. Mr. Justice K. W. Whitaker (Estates)

JUDGES OF THE REGION

The Hon. Mr. Justice S. A. Q. Akhtar
The Hon. Madam Justice B. A. Allen
The Hon. Mr. Justice T. L. Archibald
The Hon. Madam Justice N. L. Backhouse
The Hon. Mr. Justice E. P. Belobaba
The Hon. Madam Justice C. J. Brown
The Hon. Mr. Justice M. F. Brown
The Hon. Mr. Justice K. L. Campbell
The Hon. Madam Justice S. Chapnik
The Hon. Madam Justice V. Chiappetta
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. A. Clark
The Hon. Mr. Justice M. A. Code
The Hon. Madam Justice B. A. Conway
The Hon. Mr. Justice D. L. Corbett
The Hon. Madam Justice K. B. Corrick
The Hon. Madam Justice B. L. Croll
The Hon. Mr. Justice M. R. Dambrot
The Hon. Mr. Justice G. R. Dow
The Hon. Mr. Justice T. Ducharme
The Hon. Madam Justice T. M. Dunnet
The Hon. Mr. Justice S. F. Dunphy
The Hon. Mr. Justice E. G. Ewaschuk
The Hon. Mr. Justice M. D. Faieta
The Hon. Mr. Justice S. E. Firestone
The Hon. Madam Justice M. D. Forestell
The Hon. Madam Justice E. E. Frank

The Hon. Mr. Justice A. M. Gans
The Hon. Madam Justice N. E. Garton
The Hon. Mr. Justice B. T. Glustein
The Hon. Mr. Justice R. F. Goldstein
The Hon. Madam Justice S. Goodman
The Hon. Mr. Justice G. A. Hainey
The Hon. Madam Justice C. J. Horkins
The Hon. Mr. Justice P. G. Jarvis
The Hon. Mr. Justice E. R. Kruzick
The Hon. Mr. Justice T. R. Lederer
The Hon. Mr. Justice S. N. Lederman
The Hon. Madam Justice W. Low
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. A. B. Macdonald
The Hon. Mr. Justice I. A. MacDonnell
The Hon. Madam Justice W. Matheson
The Hon. Mr. Justice P. T. Matlow
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. D. McCombs
The Hon. Mr. Justice T. J. McEwen
The Hon. Madam Justice F. E. McWatt
The Hon. Madam Justice R. E. Mesbur
The Hon. Mr. Justice G. Mew
The Hon. Madam Justice A. M. Molloy
The Hon. Mr. Justice P. Moore
The Hon. Mr. Justice E. M. Morgan
The Hon. Mr. Justice F. L. Myers
The Hon. Mr. Justice A. J. O'Marra
The Hon. Mr. Justice B. P. O'Marra
The Hon. Mr. Justice V. Paisley
The Hon. Mr. Justice L. A. Pattillo
The Hon. Mr. Justice M. A. Penny
The Hon. Mr. Justice C. Perkins
The Hon. Madam Justice A. Pollak
The Hon. Mr. Justice M.G. Quigley
The Hon. Madam Justice L. B. Roberts
The Hon. Madam Justice H. E. Sachs
The Hon. Madam Justice M. A. Sanderson
The Hon. Madam Justice G. F. Spiegel
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. M. Spence
The Hon. Mr. Justice C. Speyer
The Hon. Madam Justice N. J. Spies
The Hon. Madam Justice S. M. Stevenson
The Hon. Madam Justice E. M. Stewart
The Hon. Mr. Justice D. G. Stinson

The Hon. Madam Justice K. E. Swinton
The Hon. Madam Justice J. A. Thorburn
The Hon. Mr. Justice W. B. Trafford
The Hon. Mr. Justice G. Trotter
The Hon. Mr. Justice J. C. Wilkins
The Hon. Madam Justice D. A. Wilson
The Hon. Madam Justice J. M. Wilson
The Hon. Mr. Justice H. Wilton-Siegel

MASTERS

Master L. A. Abrams
Master C. Albert
Master R. Brott
Master R. Dash
Master Andrew T. Graham
Master J. Haberman
Master T. Hawkins
Master M. J. Jean
Master B. McAfee
Master R. A. Muir
Master D. E. Short
Master C. T. Wiebe

RETIRED JUDGES

JAN. 1, 2013 – DEC. 31, 2014

CENTRAL SOUTH REGION

HAMILTON

The Hon. Mr. Justice John Cavarzan
1991 – 2013

The Hon. Mr. Justice David Crane
1992 – 2013

The Hon. Mr. Justice Donald Taliano
1983 – 2014

CENTRAL WEST REGION

GUELPH

The Hon. Mr. Justice Kenneth Langdon
1990 – 2013

MILTON

The Hon. Mr. Justice John Murray
2004 – 2014

EAST REGION

OTTAWA

The Hon. Madam Justice Monique Métivier
1995 – 2014

The Hon. Mr. Justice Albert Roy
1995 – 2014

NORTHWEST REGION

KENORA

The Hon. Mr. Justice Edward Stach
1991 – 2013

THUNDER BAY

The Hon. Mr. Justice John F. McCartney
1996 – 2014

CENTRAL EAST REGION

BARRIE

The Hon. Mr. Justice Peter Howden
1992 – 2014

SOUTHWEST REGION

LONDON

The Hon. Mr. Justice Douglas McDermid
1976 – 2013

WINDSOR

The Hon. Mr. Justice Quinn
1996 – 2014

The Hon. Madam Justice Mary Jo Nolan
2005 – 2014

TORONTO REGION

The Hon. Mr. Justice Colin Campbell
1998 – 2013

The Hon. Mr. Justice Peter Cumming
1995 – 2013

The Hon. Madam Justice Susan Greer
1991 – 2014

The Hon. Madam Thea Herman
2003 – 2013

The Hon. Madam Justice Gloria Klowak
1990 – 2013

The Hon. Madam Justice Ellen Macdonald
1991 – 2013

IN MEMORIAM

JAN. 1, 2013 – DEC. 31, 2014



The Honourable Mr. Justice Thomas Dunn
September 18, 1940 – July 18, 2013

Date of Appointment: March 22, 1991
Region / Centre: Central West / Brampton



The Honourable Madam Justice Joan Lax
December 26, 1944 – November 4, 2013

Date of Appointment: January 1, 1996
Region / Centre: Toronto



The Honourable Mr. Justice Barry Matheson
June 28, 1939 – June 16, 2014

Date of Appointment: March 17, 1998
Region / Centre: Central South / Welland



SECTION 5
REGIONAL STATISTICS

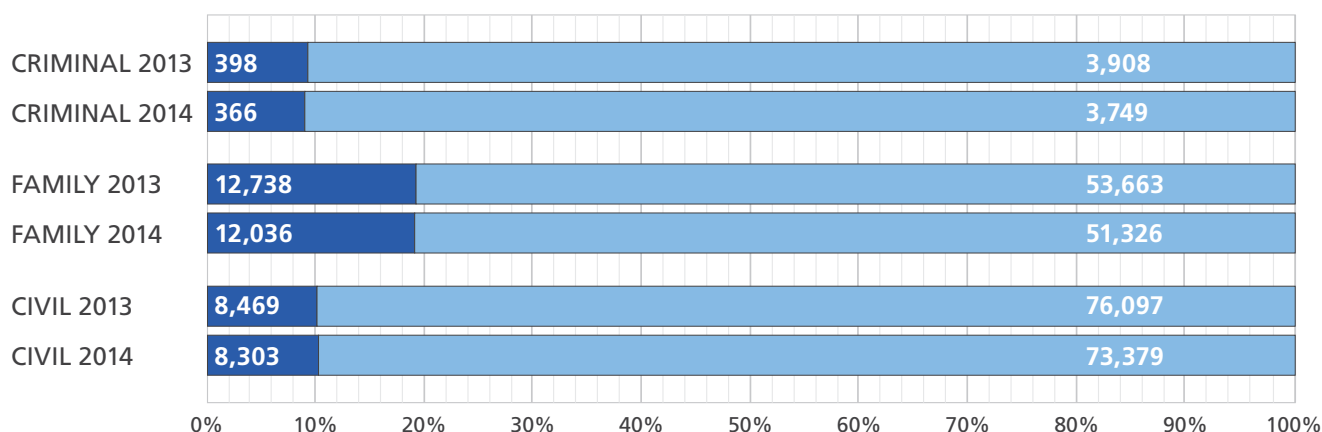
Oshana Courthouse | Palais de Justice



REGIONAL STATISTICS

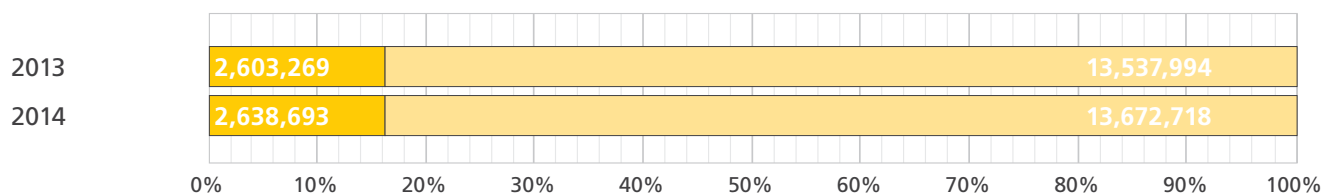
Central East Region

NEW PROCEEDINGS: BY BUSINESS LINE AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF PROVINCIAL TOTALS



2013	REGION	PROVINCE	%	2014	REGION	PROVINCE	%
CRIMINAL:	398	3,908	10%	CRIMINAL:	366	3,749	10%
FAMILY:	12,738	53,663	24%	FAMILY:	12,036	51,326	23%
CIVIL:	8,469	76,097	11%	CIVIL:	8,303	73,379	11%
TOTAL:	21,605	133,668	16%	TOTAL:	20,705	128,454	17%

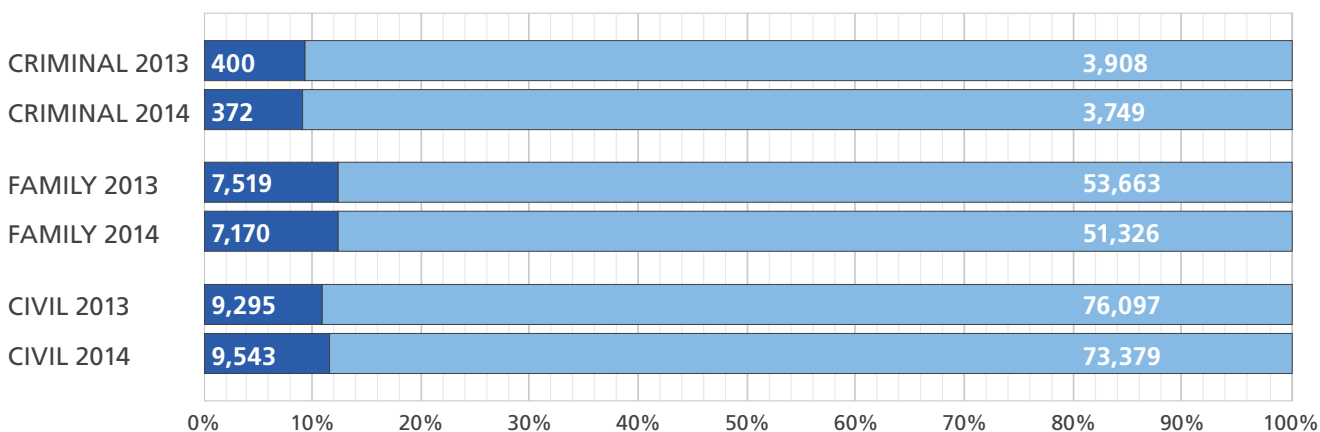
POPULATION: CENTRAL EAST REGION AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE PROVINCIAL POPULATION



2013	REGION	PROVINCE	%	2014	REGION	PROVINCE	%
POPULATION:	2,603,269	13,537,994	19%	POPULATION:	2,638,693	13,672,718	19%

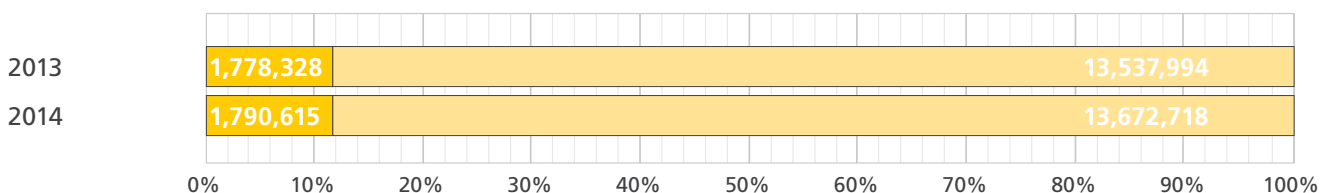
Central South Region

NEW PROCEEDINGS: BY BUSINESS LINE AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF PROVINCIAL TOTALS



2013	REGION	PROVINCE	%	2014	REGION	PROVINCE	%
CRIMINAL:	400	3,908	10%	CRIMINAL:	372	3,749	10%
FAMILY:	7,519	53,663	14%	FAMILY:	7,170	51,326	14%
CIVIL:	9,295	76,097	12%	CIVIL:	9,543	73,379	13%
TOTAL:	17,214	133,668	13%	TOTAL:	17,085	128,454	13%

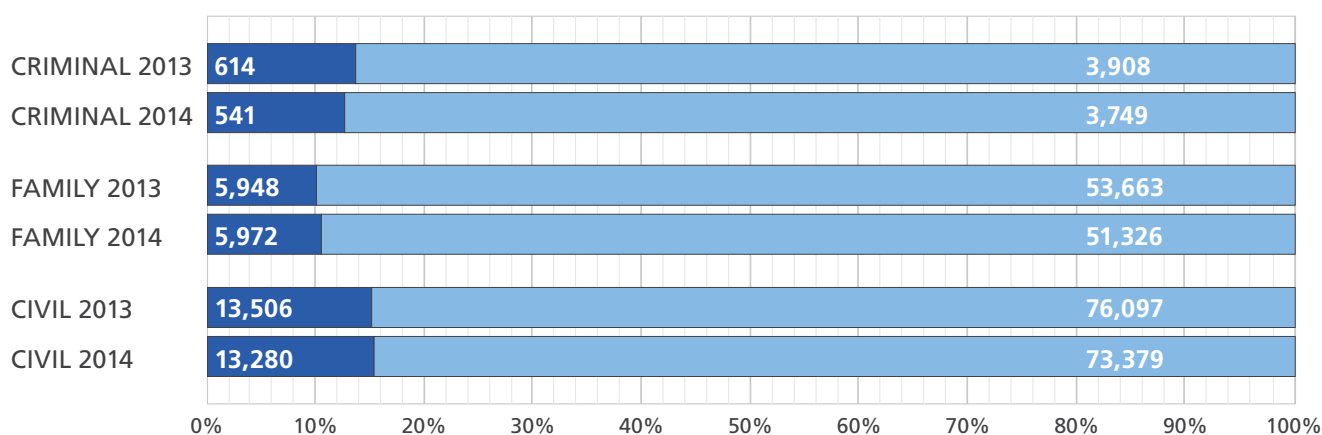
POPULATION: CENTRAL SOUTH REGION AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE PROVINCIAL POPULATION



2013	REGION	PROVINCE	%	2014	REGION	PROVINCE	%
POPULATION:	1,778,328	13,537,994	13%	POPULATION:	1,790,615	13,672,718	13%

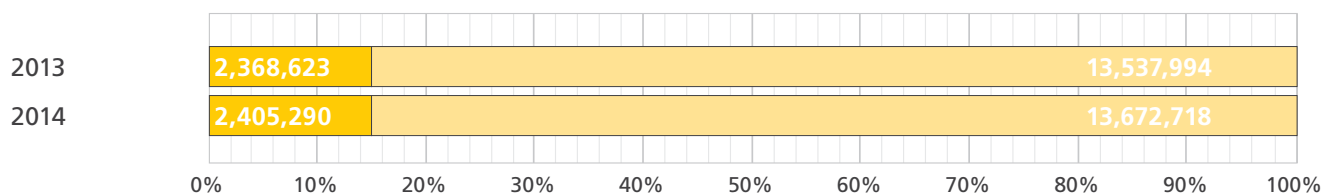
Central West Region

NEW PROCEEDINGS: BY BUSINESS LINE AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF PROVINCIAL TOTALS



	2013			2014		
	REGION	PROVINCE	%	REGION	PROVINCE	%
CRIMINAL:	614	3,908	16%	541	3,749	14%
FAMILY:	5,948	53,663	11%	5,972	51,326	12%
CIVIL:	13,506	76,097	18%	13,280	73,379	18%
TOTAL:	20,068	133,668	15%	19,793	128,454	15%

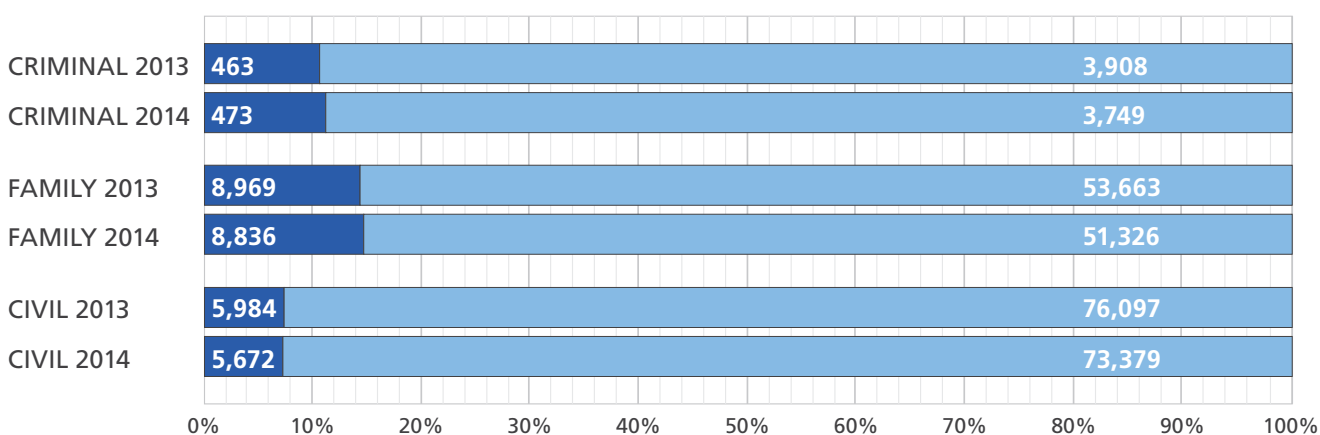
POPULATION: CENTRAL WEST REGION AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE PROVINCIAL POPULATION



	2013			2014		
	REGION	PROVINCE	%	REGION	PROVINCE	%
POPULATION:	2,368,623	13,537,994	17%	2,405,290	13,672,718	18%

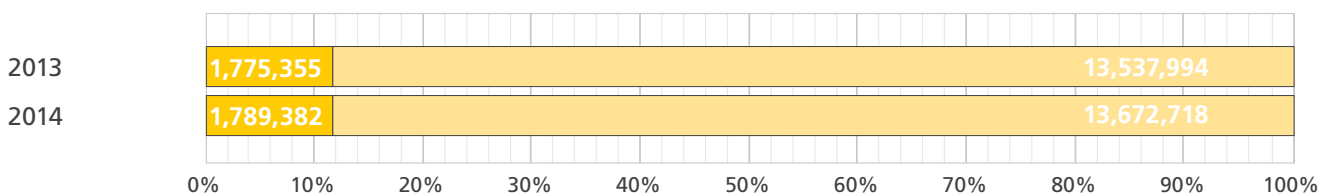
East Region

NEW PROCEEDINGS: BY BUSINESS LINE AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF PROVINCIAL TOTALS



2013	REGION	PROVINCE	%	2014	REGION	PROVINCE	%
CRIMINAL:	463	3,908	12%	CRIMINAL:	473	3,749	13%
FAMILY:	8,969	53,663	17%	FAMILY:	8,836	51,326	17%
CIVIL:	5,984	76,097	8%	CIVIL:	5,672	73,379	8%
TOTAL:	15,416	133,668	12%	TOTAL:	14,981	128,454	12%

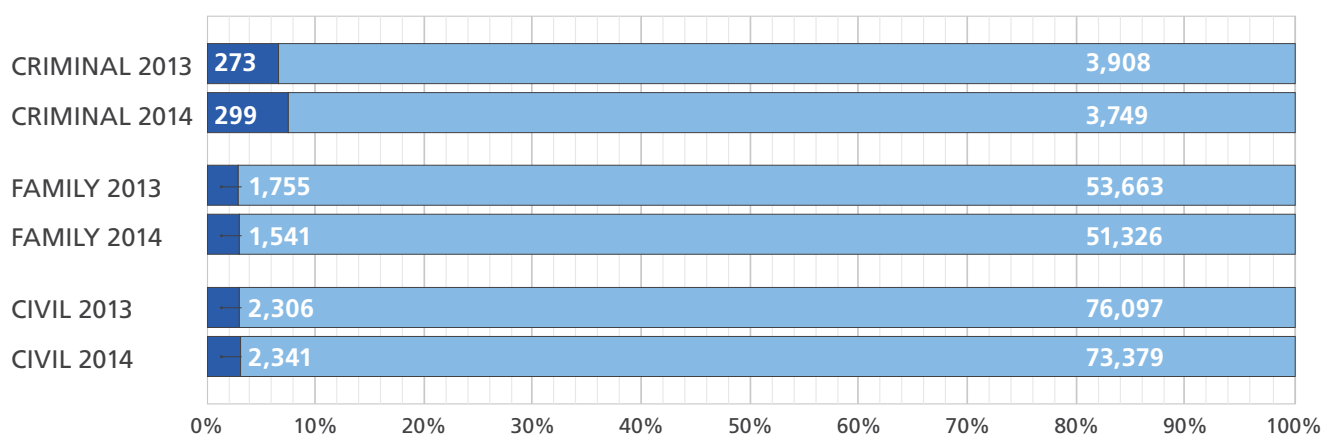
POPULATION: EAST REGION AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE PROVINCIAL POPULATION



2013	REGION	PROVINCE	%	2014	REGION	PROVINCE	%
POPULATION:	1,775,355	13,537,994	13%	POPULATION:	1,789,382	13,672,718	13%

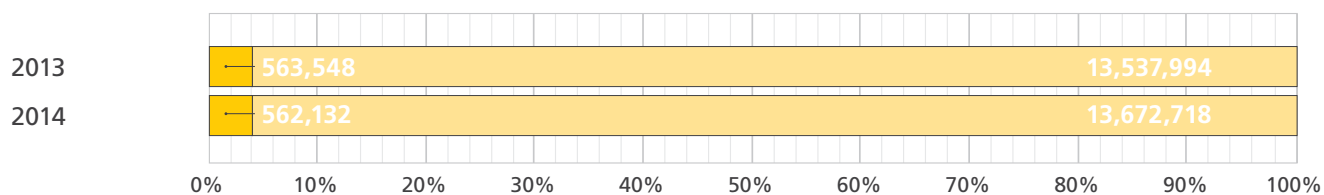
Northeast Region

NEW PROCEEDINGS: BY BUSINESS LINE AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF PROVINCIAL TOTALS



2013	REGION	PROVINCE	%	2014	REGION	PROVINCE	%
CRIMINAL:	273	3,908	7%	CRIMINAL:	299	3,749	8%
FAMILY:	1,755	53,663	3%	FAMILY:	1,541	51,326	3%
CIVIL:	2,306	76,097	3%	CIVIL:	2,341	73,379	3%
TOTAL:	4,334	133,668	3%	TOTAL:	4,181	128,454	3%

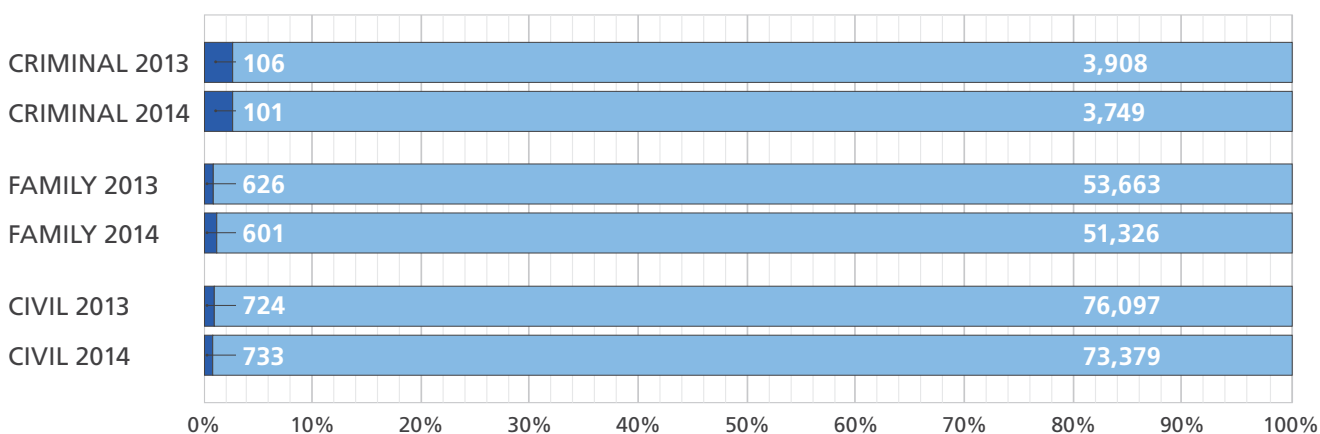
POPULATION: NORTHEAST REGION AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE PROVINCIAL POPULATION



2013	REGION	PROVINCE	%	2014	REGION	PROVINCE	%
POPULATION:	563,548	13,537,994	4%	POPULATION:	562,132	13,672,718	4%

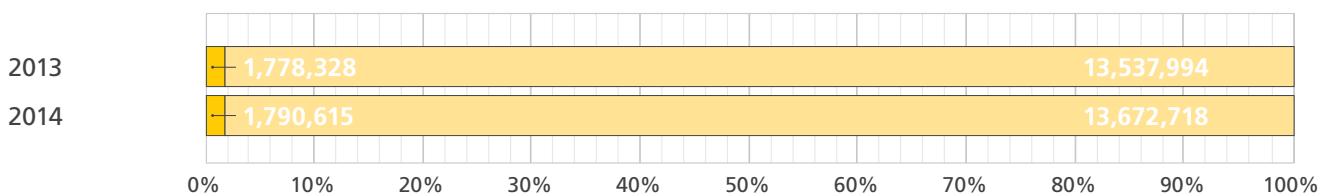
Northwest Region

NEW PROCEEDINGS: BY BUSINESS LINE AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF PROVINCIAL TOTALS



2013	REGION	PROVINCE	%	2014	REGION	PROVINCE	%
CRIMINAL:	106	3,908	3%	CRIMINAL:	101	3,749	3%
FAMILY:	626	53,663	1%	FAMILY:	601	51,326	1%
CIVIL:	724	76,097	1%	CIVIL:	733	73,379	1%
TOTAL:	1,456	133,668	1%	TOTAL:	1,435	128,454	1%

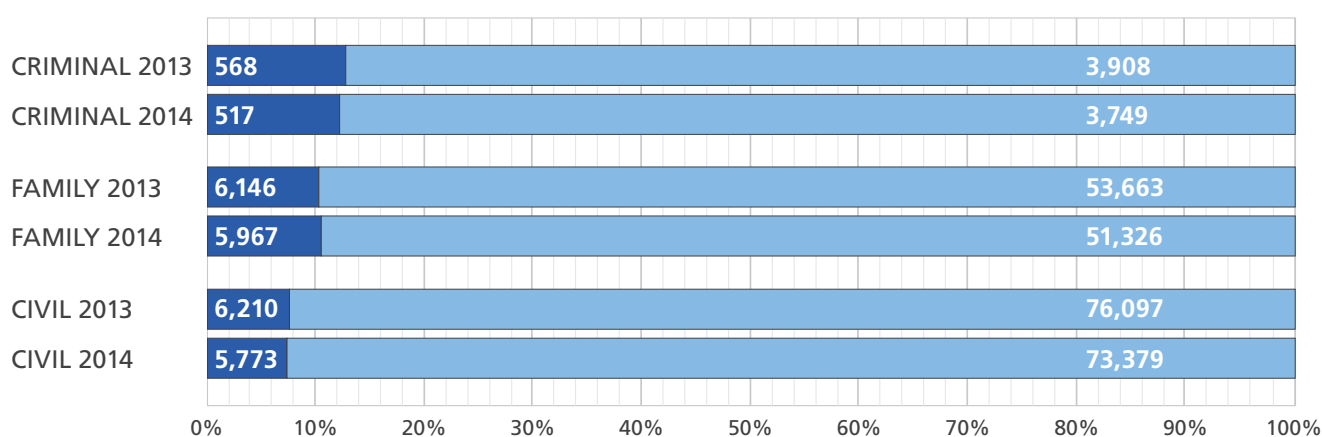
POPULATION: NORTHWEST REGION AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE PROVINCIAL POPULATION



2013	REGION	PROVINCE	%	2014	REGION	PROVINCE	%
POPULATION:	239,772	13,537,994	2%	POPULATION:	239,513	13,672,718	2%

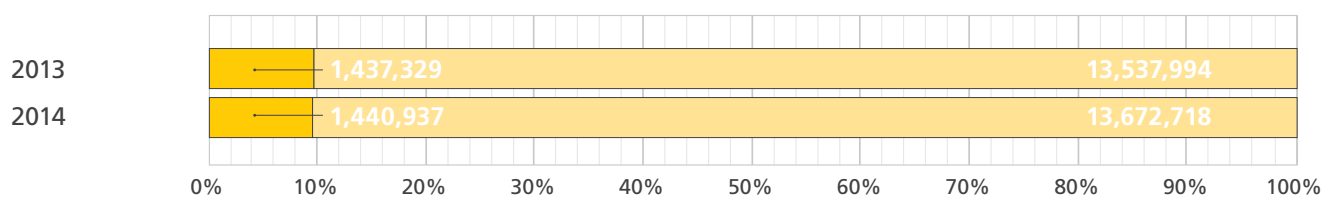
Southwest Region

NEW PROCEEDINGS: BY BUSINESS LINE AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF PROVINCIAL TOTALS



	2013			2014		
	REGION	PROVINCE	%	REGION	PROVINCE	%
CRIMINAL:	568	3,908	15%	517	3,749	14%
FAMILY:	6,146	53,663	11%	5,967	51,326	12%
CIVIL:	6,210	76,097	8%	5,773	73,379	8%
TOTAL:	12,924	133,668	10%	12,257	128,454	10%

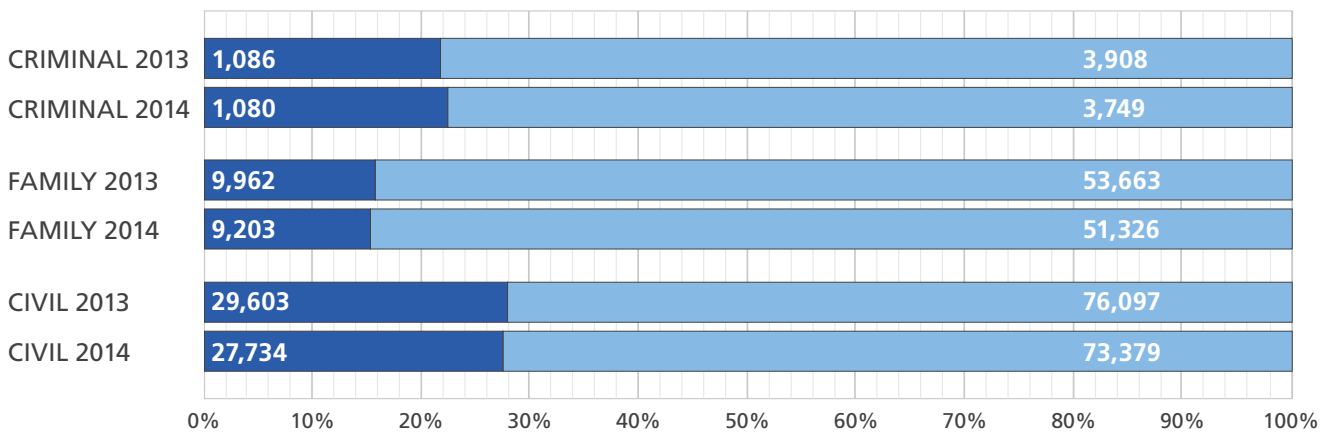
POPULATION: SOUTHWEST REGION AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE PROVINCIAL POPULATION



	2013			2014		
	REGION	PROVINCE	%	REGION	PROVINCE	%
POPULATION:	1,437,329	13,537,994	11%	1,440,937	13,672,718	11%

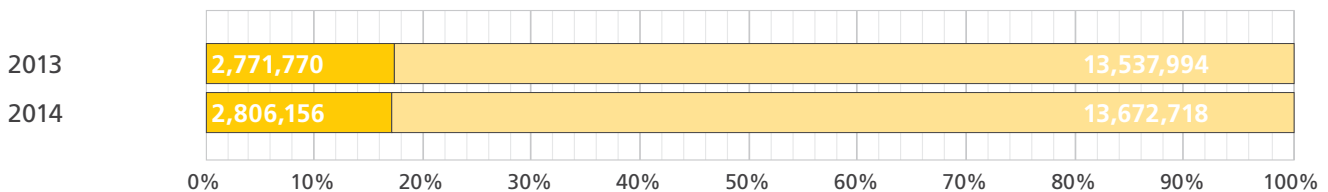
Toronto Region

NEW PROCEEDINGS: BY BUSINESS LINE AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF PROVINCIAL TOTALS



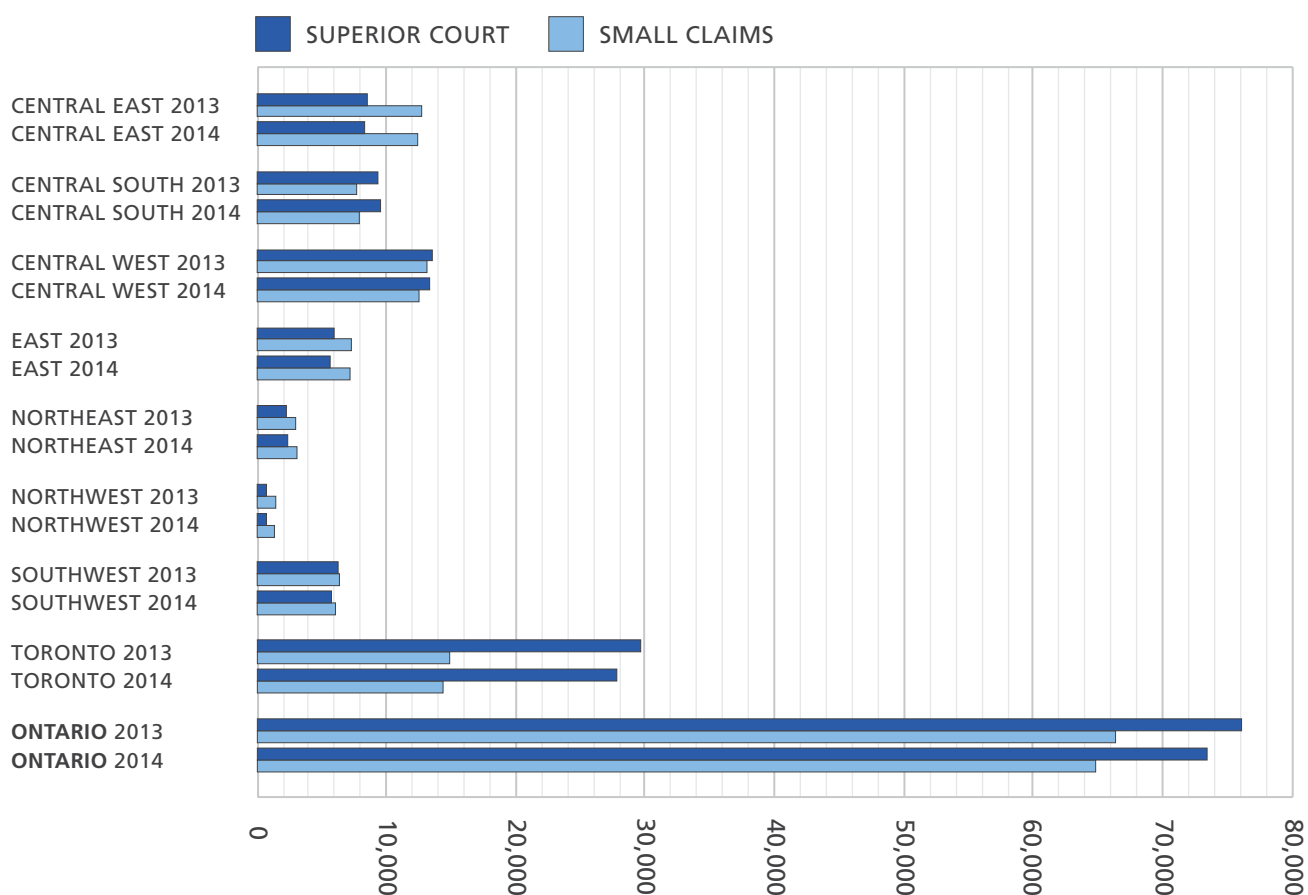
	2013			2014		
	REGION	PROVINCE	%	REGION	PROVINCE	%
CRIMINAL:	1,086	3,908	28%	1,080	3,749	29%
FAMILY:	9,962	53,663	19%	9,203	51,326	18%
CIVIL:	29,603	76,097	39%	27,734	73,379	38%
TOTAL:	40,651	133,668	30%	38,017	128,454	30%

POPULATION: TORONTO REGION AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE PROVINCIAL POPULATION



	REGION	PROVINCE	%
2013 POPULATION:	2,771,770	13,537,994	20%
2014 POPULATION:	2,806,156	13,672,718	21%

Comparison Between New Civil Proceedings: Superior Court and Small Claims Branch



	2013	2013	TOTAL	2014	2014	TOTAL
CENTRAL EAST:	8,469	12,694	21,163	8,303	12,437	20,740
CENTRAL SOUTH:	9,295	7,724	17,019	9,543	7,895	17,438
CENTRAL WEST:	13,506	13,090	26,596	13,280	12,529	25,809
EAST:	5,984	7,243	13,227	5,672	7,203	12,875
NORTHEAST:	2,306	2,995	5,301	2,341	3,073	5,414
NORTHWEST:	724	1,414	2,138	733	1,305	2,038
SOUTHWEST:	6,210	6,335	12,545	5,773	6,046	11,819
TORONTO:	29,603	14,846	44,449	27,734	14,345	42,079
TOTAL ONTARIO:	76,097	66,341	142,438	73,379	64,833	138,212

ENDNOTES AND PHOTO DESCRIPTORS

¹ *Listening to Ontarians: Report of the Ontario Civil Legal Needs Project* (May 2010), online: The Law Society of Upper Canada <http://www.lsuc.on.ca/media/may3110_oclnreport_final.pdf>.

² Michael Trebilcock, Anthony Duggan & Lorne Sossin, eds., *Middle Income Access to Justice*, (Toronto: University of Toronto, 2012) at 275.

³ This report also reflects a change in our reporting period. Our previous reports described the court's work over the previous two government fiscal years (April 1 to March 31, annually). However, as the court uses the calendar year for scheduling. This report covers the past two calendar years, 2013 and 2014, and now aligns more perfectly with the court's own practices.

⁴ *Meaningful Change for Family Justice: Beyond Wise Words* (April 2013), online: Action Committee on Access to Justice in Civil and Family Matters <<http://www.cfcj-fcjc.org/>>.

⁵ *Access to Civil and Family Justice: A Roadmap for Change* (October 2013), online: Action Committee on Access to Justice in Civil and Family Matters <<http://www.cfcj-fcjc.org/>>.

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