

Bruce MacFarlane, Q.C.

Biography

Bruce MacFarlane, Q.C. is currently on a secondment from Manitoba Justice as a Professional Affiliate, Faculty of Law at the University of Manitoba where he teaches about wrongful convictions and also researches and writes on criminal law subjects, acting as a general resource to faculty members and students.

He received his B.A. from the University of Winnipeg in 1970 and his LL.B in 1973 from the University of Manitoba. He also graduated from the Canadian Centre for Management Development in 1992. He was called to the Bar in the Province of Manitoba (1974), Saskatchewan (1979), and Alberta (1987), and was appointed Queen's Counsel by the Government of Canada in 1987. He is currently a member of the Bars (and Law Societies) of the Provinces of Manitoba and Alberta.

From 1993 to 2005 he was the Deputy Attorney General for the Province of Manitoba. In 2005, he was appointed by the Attorney General of Manitoba to develop a comprehensive, "full-system" strategy to counter Organized Crime in Manitoba. Prior to his current appointment to the University of Manitoba, his past professional experience has been: Assistant Deputy Attorney General (Criminal Law) for Canada (Ottawa), Director of the Federal Department of Justice in the Province of Alberta (Edmonton), Director of Legal Services for the RCMP (Department of Justice-Canada), and Prosecuting counsel, Department of Justice (Canada) in Winnipeg.

His scholarly writings date from 1973 to 2006, and he is co-author of a legal textbook "Drug Offences in Canada" (first edition 1979 now in its third edition).

During the last several years he has undertaken national and international initiatives designed to prevent wrongful convictions, and to raise awareness within the legal profession of the circumstances that can lead to wrongful convictions.

He currently has his own website at <http://www.canadiancriminallaw.com>.