

THOMPSON DORFMAN SWEATMAN LLP

1887-2012 A Short History



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1887-2012 - A SHORT HISTORY



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THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THOMPSON DORFMAN SWEATMAN

Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP (TDS) is one of Manitoba's oldest law firms, having been founded in 1887. As part of our 125th anniversary celebrations, the partners directed that a modest history of the firm be prepared, based on biographies of notable firm members. The purposes of this document are to mark our anniversary and to remind current and future TDS lawyers of the high standards in the practice of law and community service set by earlier members of the firm.

Some of the most significant and well-respected contributors to Manitoba's long and storied legal history have practised as members of TDS. Their contributions to the law and legal framework of this Province helped shape our present society. Various firm members served our community either before or after their tenure with TDS as provincial and federal officials, high court judges, and veterans of the First and Second World Wars.

What follows is an anecdotal history of Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP from its earliest days in the late nineteenth century to the present based on the lives of several generations of lawyers who chose to practise together as partners in our community.



Main Street, 1887, the location of Hough & Campbell Courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba



201 Portage Avenue, today.



EARLY FIRM HISTORY, 1887-1903

The firm was founded under the name Hough & Campbell, and consisted of Isaac Campbell and John Stanley Hough. Campbell and Hough had worked together previously at Archibald, Howell, Hough & Campbell, led by well-known Winnipeg lawyer Heber Archibald. Striking out on their own in 1887, Messrs. Campbell and Hough established a modest office located on the third floor at 362 Main Street, over Alloway and Champion's banking house. Beginning early that same year, the firm purchased advertising space in the Manitoba Daily Free Press (today, the *Winnipeg Free Press*) in order to promote their services to prospective clients.

Campbell and Hough initiated two important firm traditions that became a defining feature of TDS: active and productive participation in Manitoba's legal community, whether at a judicial or academic level, and maintenance of strong relationships with multiple philanthropic and other community institutions within the Province.

LEGAL

OUGH & CAMPBELL, BARRISTERS, Attorneys, &c. Offices: 362 Main Street, over Alloway & Champton's Banking House. seac Campbell. J. Stanle, Hough,

An early advertisement for Hough & Campbell, which appeared in the "Legal" section of the Manitoba Daily Free Press, Saturday February 12th, 1887.

Courtesy of the *Winnipeg Free Press* Archives



Notable Individuals from the Firm's Founding

Isaac Campbell (1853-1929)



One of the founders of the firm, Isaac Campbell was regarded by his contemporaries as one of the leading lawyers of his generation. Campbell was born in Morpeth, Canada (Ontario) in 1853 and educated at Osgoode Hall Law School. He was called to the Ontario Bar in 1878, and practised in Ontario for four years. In 1882, he relocated to Winnipeg and was called to the Manitoba Bar that same year.

Active in politics, Isaac Campbell was elected to Manitoba's Legislative Assembly in 1888 as the MLA for Winnipeg South. He served in this capacity until 1891.

Campbell also served two terms as President of the Manitoba Law Society, from 1891 to 1898, and was Vice-President of the Canadian Bar Association in 1914. He was also the first President of the Manitoba Bar Association.

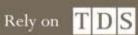
Isaac Campbell was appointed as City Solicitor for the City of Winnipeg in 1888, a post he held until 1906. He was also a Director of

the Winnipeg General Hospital. Campbell was a friend of Sir Wilfrid Laurier who, as Prime Minister of Canada, offered him judicial appointments on three occasions, including as Chief Justice, all of which he declined.

Isaac Campbell was also an avid reader, owning a vast collection of books, including what some claimed was the largest collection in the city devoted to American President Abraham Lincoln. When Mark Twain visited Winnipeg on a lecture tour in 1895, it was as Campbell's guest, and the famed author stayed at Campbell's home.

Isaac Campbell quickly became well known in the legal profession, and more specifically the field of municipal law, thanks in part to his impressive oratorical and communication skills, traits he claimed had been polished during his time in politics. In fact, contemporaries began to refer to him as the "silver tongued orator of the west." During one particular case, where he defended the City against what he claimed were "unreasonable financial demands" from various transportation companies, Campbell was given another nickname, "the people's Isaac."

Isaac Campbell's most famous case occurred in 1889, when he became involved in the trial of a Chicago man accused of murdering a prominent Illinois doctor by the name of Patrick Henry Cronin. The event soon gained international attention and was featured in a number of newspapers across the continent. The suspect had been arrested on June 16, 1889 in Winnipeg, and after refusing extradition to the United States, hired Campbell as his lawyer. The trial, which was cited by the press as the most high profile in the City's young history, lasted approximately one month and resulted in the accused being extradited to Chicago where he was eventually found guilty of murder. The case cemented Isaac Campbell's reputation.





John Stanley Hough (1856-1928)



The other founding member of the firm and, like Isaac Campbell, one of early Manitoba's most well-respected lawyers, was John Stanley Hough, who was born in Prince Edward County, Canada (Ontario) in 1856, and received his legal education at Osgoode Hall Law School. Called to the Manitoba Bar in 1882, Hough became a partner in Archibald, Howell, Hough & Campbell that same year. He practised in that capacity until 1887, when he and Isaac Campbell joined to form Hough & Campbell.

As with Isaac Campbell, Stanley Hough was an active supporter of the Winnipeg General Hospital. He became its President in 1921, and continued in that capacity until 1927.

Mr. Hough was also active within Winnipeg's burgeoning business community, serving as a director of numerous well-known companies in the City. These included the Home Life Assurance Company of Canada, the Royal Exchange Assurance Corporation of England, the North West Fire Insurance Company, the Royal Trust Company and the Royal Bank.

Stanley Hough was a founding member of the St. Charles Country Club, and would be the first in a long line of firm members to have a relationship with the well-known Winnipeg Club.

A lover of architecture, Hough owned a well-known and aesthetically pleasing house on Roslyn Crescent. He was an avid outdoor enthusiast, and a member of the Winnipeg Fox Hunting Club.

Although perhaps not as well-known as Isaac Campbell, Stanley Hough was nonetheless an important individual in the Province's early legal history and was seen as a great benefactor to the community. Upon his death in 1928, the *Manitoba Free Press* commented on its front page that John Stanley Hough was an "outstanding figure in philanthropic circles."

Outstanding Figure in Philanthropic Circles Came to Winnipeg in 1882

The *Manitoba Free Press*, Friday June 8th, 1928. Courtesy of the *Winnipeg Free Press* Archives



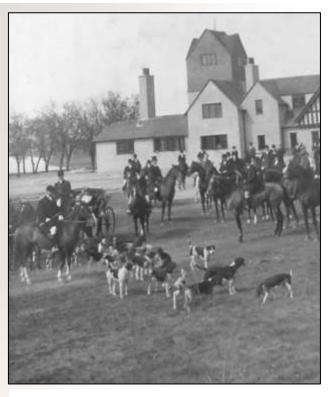


J. Stanley Hough (left) in 1906 as a member of the Winnipeg Fox Hunting Club.

Image courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba



The Winnipeg house of J. Stanley Hough, 280 Roslyn Crescent Image courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba



J. Stanley Hough (far left, on horse) at the inaugural meeting of the Winnipeg Fox Hunting Club, 1904.

Image courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba



EARLY FIRM HISTORY (CONTINUED)

The firm carried on under the name Hough & Campbell until early 1903, when Albert C. Ferguson, a lawyer from the Town of Souris, in southwestern Manitoba, joined as a partner. This prompted a name change to Hough, Campbell & Ferguson. The location of the firm also changed during this era when, in 1908, it moved from its original place on Main Street to a new, more spacious location at 654 Portage Avenue, in the recently built Northern Crown Bank Building.

Mr. A. C. Ferguson has entered the well-known legal firm of Hough & Campbell, which will hereafter be known as Hough, Campbell & Ferguson.

The first printed notice announcing that Albert C. Ferguson (A.C. Ferguson) had joined the partnership of Hough & Campbell. The *Manitoba Free Press*, Saturday July 11th, 1903.

Courtesy of the Winnipeg Free Press Archives

HOUGH, CAMPBELL & FERGUSON, BARristers, etc. Rooms, 10-13 Western Canada Elock, Winnipeg. J. Stanley Hough, K.C.; Isaac Campbell, K.C.; A. C. Ferguson

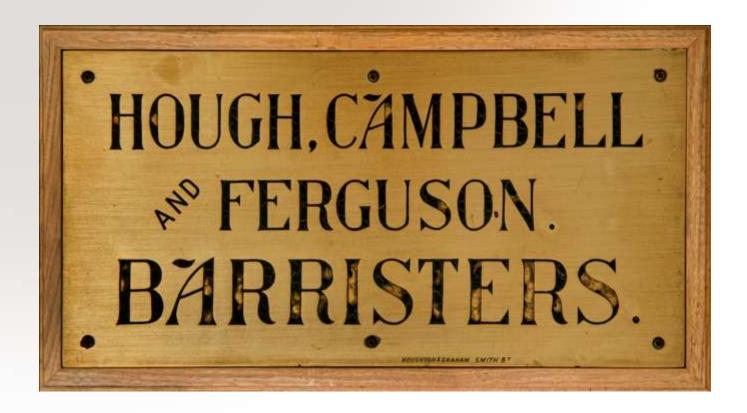
An advertisement for Hough Campbell & Ferguson which appeared in the "Legal" section.

The Manitoba Free Press, Saturday July 11th, 1903.

Courtesy of the Winnipeg Free Press Archives



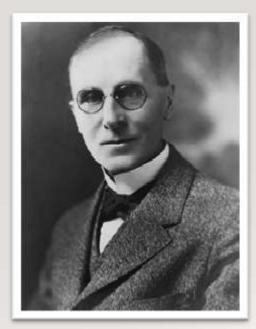
One of the more prominent cases in which the firm was involved during this period occurred during the summer of 1903. Three important land acquisition companies, the Canada Land & Colonization Company, the Northwest Colonization Company and the Red Deer Lumber Company, entered into negotiations to acquire a number of smaller Manitoba land and forestry businesses with the intention of procuring more acreage. Hough, Campbell & Ferguson, the *Manitoba Free Press* noted, were the solicitors for the local businesses and entered into a series of "strenuous negotiations" to ensure adequate compensation for their clients. Although the three land acquisition companies were eventually successful in their takeover bids (also acquiring land in Saskatchewan and British Columbia), the *Manitoba Free Press* would later note that a "fair and reasonable" settlement had been won for the Manitoba companies, thanks in part to the tireless negotiations of Hough, Campbell & Ferguson.





Notable Individuals from this Period

Albert Charles Ferguson (1873-1940)



Born in Almonte, Ontario in 1873, Albert Ferguson would eventually settle with his family in the community of Souris, Manitoba. After completing high school and college, Ferguson returned to Souris where he articled, from 1896 to 1899, under the direction of a local lawyer named Harry Atcheson. He then spent a further two years working for the well-respected George Allen.

Ferguson was called to the Manitoba Bar in 1902. A year later, after moving to Winnipeg, he became a partner in Hough, Campbell & Ferguson, just in time to participate in the 1903 provincial land compensation case referred to above.

Upon his arrival in Winnipeg, Ferguson resided in the recently completed DeBary Apartments, located at 626 Wardlaw Avenue. He would remain there until, following his retirement, he moved to British Columbia. The apartment building still stands today.



Albert Ferguson practised law for nearly 40 years. Like Isaac Campbell, he served as President of the Manitoba Bar Association.

At the time of his death, in 1940, a former associate described Albert Ferguson as a "fair and reasonable man. Someone who possessed an uncanny mind for the law and made sure every one of his clients received his complete and utter attention."



WORLD WAR I AND CONTINUED EXPANSION, 1914-1939

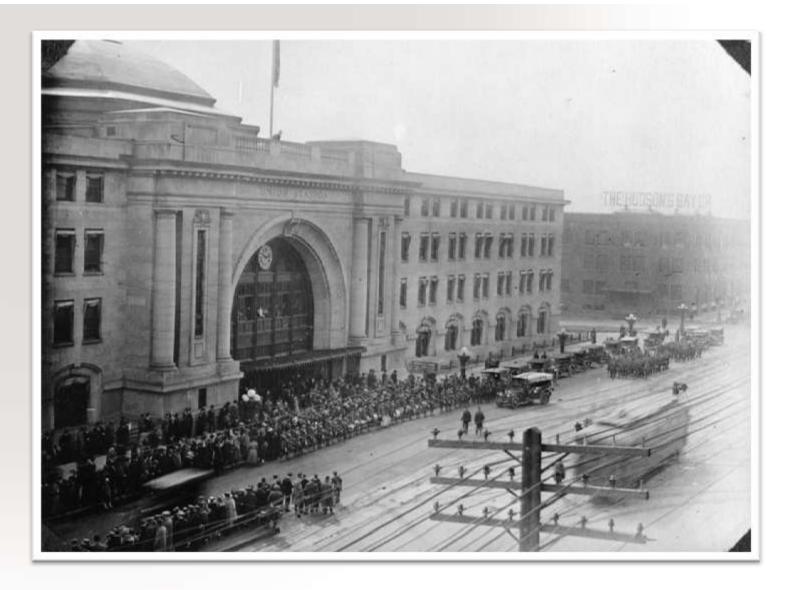
By the time Canada entered the First World War in 1914, Hough, Campbell & Ferguson had firmly established itself as one of the larger law firms in Manitoba. Although a period of general economic stagnation occurred during wartime, the firm continued to grow at a respectable pace. The firm took on Alymer Everett Dilts, and later Edwin Godfrey Phipps Baker, as partners, and officially changed its name to Hough, Campbell, Ferguson, Dilts & Baker in 1919. As was the case with many Canadian businesses at that time, the firm employed a number of war veterans eager to get back to work following the conflict. Among them was Mr. Baker, who would emerge in the post-war era as one of the Province's most well-regarded corporate lawyers.



Armistice Day, November 11th, 1918 at Portage and Main, marking the end of the First World War.

Courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba





Returning World War I veterans at Winnipeg's Union Station, 1919.

Courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba



Notable Individuals from this Period

Edwin Godfrey Phipps Baker (1885-1963)



The son of well-known lawyer George William Baker (who had worked previously at Hough, Campbell & Ferguson), Edwin Godfrey Phipps Baker was born in Winnipeg in 1885, and grew up in the Fort Rouge area. He attended Carlton and Fort Rouge public schools, and then St. John's College, a constituent college of the University of Manitoba.

Baker worked for the Bank of Montreal for five years as a clerk, starting at the age of sixteen. Shortly before his death, he credited his experience working for the bank with helping him develop a better, more concrete understanding of the intricacies of commercial law.

He was called to the Manitoba Bar in 1911, then spent some time at University College in London, England. In 1913, Baker was admitted as a solicitor in British Columbia, where he practised law until the outbreak of the First World War.

In 1914, Baker joined the 5th Garrison Artillery. He served overseas as a member of the 47th Canadian Infantry Battalion, eventually achieving

the rank of Major. The firm's first "war hero," Baker was awarded the Distinguished Service Order and Military Cross.

LONDON GAZETTE, 15 FEBRUARY, 1919.

CANADIAN FORCE.

Maj. Edwin Godfrey Phipps Baker, M.C., 47th Bn., Can. Inf., West Ont. R.

An announcement in the February 15th, 1919 edition of the *London Gazette* referring to Mr. Baker's service with the 47th Infantry Battalion.

Courtesy of Library and Archives Canada



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Following the war, Baker took a special course in law and economics at Caius College, Cambridge before returning to Winnipeg to practise at the firm. He became a partner in 1919, adding his name to its new title, Hough, Campbell, Ferguson, Dilts & Baker.

Baker served as President of the Law Society of Manitoba in 1948. An ardent supporter of an early incarnation of the Conservative Party of Canada, Baker ran as a candidate in the Federal elections of 1935 and 1941. He and his wife were known during this period to host political tea parties at their home for various Conservative organizations.

Tea Planned For Young Conservatives

An advertisement in the Winnipeg Tribune inviting members of Manitoba's "Young Conservatives" to a tea party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Baker, 1939. Among the featured guests that evening, the newspaper mentioned, was 22-year old Dufferin "Duff" Roblin.

Courtesy of the Winnipeg Tribune Archives at the University of Manitoba: Archives & Special Collections

Baker married Allison Hough, daughter of firm founder John Hough, in 1921. When asked by a younger lawyer how he had managed to have such a successful legal career, Baker replied "I was moving all over the place from Winnipeg to Victoria and then over to England, but then I married Hough's daughter and ever since my legal career has been a success."

Baker formally retired from the legal profession in 1961 and died two years later.





Alymer Everett Dilts (1882-1976)



Alymer Everett Dilts was born near St. Catherines, Ontario in April 1882. He became the fourth lawyer of prominence in the firm's history to be born in Ontario, perhaps indicative of the great number of Ontario migrants who were coming to live and work in Manitoba at this time. Before entering the legal profession, Dilts worked as a public school teacher in Ontario, specializing in English literature. He quit his teaching job when he was accepted to Osgoode Hall Law School in order to concentrate full-time on his legal career. After reading an advertisement in the Globe & Mail about the need for professionals in Western Canada, Alymer Dilts moved to Manitoba and began articling with Hough, Campbell & Ferguson under the mentorship of Albert Ferguson. Following his call to the Manitoba Bar, Dilts joined the firm as a partner.

Alymer Dilts practised commercial law until his retirement in 1961. In 1914, he became counsel for the National Talking Machine Company, Limited, a Winnipeg-based manufacturer of turn of the century "talking machines" (phonographs).

Known as an orator, Dilts served on behalf of the Canadian Bar Association as its Manitoba lecturer. In that capacity, he gave speeches at numerous significant legal events around the Province, including one in conjunction with the reopening of the Manitoba Juvenile Court offices in 1945.

Alymer Dilts was an active member of the Canadian Red Cross, serving on its speaker's committee and making numerous financial donations throughout his lifetime. In 1945, he and a committee of 300 Winnipeggers raised \$600,000 for European families rendered homeless during the Second World War. He was also known as an avid horticulturalist and possessed an award-winning home garden. Because of his hobby, Dilts was nicknamed "Gardener" by friends and colleagues.

Upon his death in 1976, Alymer Dilts was recognized by the local press as "one of the earliest lawyers of prominence" in the Province of Manitoba.



THE SECOND WORLD WAR AND EARLY POSTWAR YEARS, 1939-1953

As Winnipeg emerged from the economic turbulence of the Great Depression and entered into the uncertainty of the Second World War, the firm underwent a number of significant changes. Most notably, it brought on as a partner a barrister who would later have a considerable impact on the legal landscape of both the Province of Manitoba and Canada. Esten Kenneth Williams, the future Chief Justice of the Manitoba Court of King's Bench, started at the firm in the early 1940's. Williams worked tirelessly alongside many other new and important contributors to further the interests of what was now called Williams, Dilts & Baker. *The Winnipeg Tribune* commented that the firm had become "one of the most prominent legal firms in the West."



The Front Page caption from the *Winnipeg Free Press*, announcing the end of the Second World War on May 8th, 1945.

Image courtesy of the Winnipeg Free Press Archives



Notable Individuals from this Period

Esten Kenneth (E.K.) Williams (1889-1970)



Born in Parkhill, Ontario in 1889, Esten Kenneth Williams attended law school at Osgoode Hall and was called to the Ontario Bar in 1911. He arrived in Manitoba and was called to the Manitoba Bar later that year. Mr. Williams taught at the Manitoba Law School from 1915 to 1934.

In 1920, while teaching at the Law School, E.K. Williams was active in drafting the Canadian Bar Association's canon on legal ethics. In 1921, he published *Canadian Law of Landlord and Tenant*, which became the landmark legal textbook for landlord and tenant law in the country. In 1930, Williams drafted the Province's *Highway Traffic Act*, the first comprehensive motor vehicle statute in Canada. In 1939, he chaired a committee that produced new rules for the Court of King's Bench.

In 1941, Williams became a partner at the now renamed, Williams, Dilts & Baker, having spent the previous eight years at the firm of Aikins, Loftus, Aikins, Williams and MacAulay. Continuing the now

well-established firm tradition, Williams served as President of the Law Society of Manitoba from 1941 to 1943.



E.K. Williams, 1941 upon being named President of the Law Society of Manitoba. The Winnipeg Tribune, 1941.

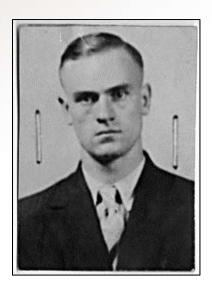
Courtesy of the Winnipeg Tribune Archives at the University of Manitoba Archives and Special Collections



E. K. Williams was named to several Royal Commissions during his career. In 1929, Premier Bracken ordered a Royal Commission to investigate the controversial Seven Sisters power contract. The Government of Manitoba had decided that the hydroelectric potential of the Seven Sisters Falls should be developed privately rather than through public funding. The Province agreed to lease the site to the Winnipeg Electric Company, and to purchase power from the company over a long-term basis. Opponents of the Premier accused him of taking bribes from the Winnipeg Electric Company in exchange for this contract. Williams was assigned as commission counsel. The Royal Commission investigated these charges and found the government innocent of any wrongdoing.

In 1931, Williams was appointed Commissioner for the Royal Commission to inquire into charges against Manitoba Pool Elevators Limited. He was asked to investigate charges made by J.R. Murray, who was the Vice President of a large local wheat company, that the Manitoba Pool Elevators were robbing their members (Manitoba farmers) of financial capital by overages and under-grading the wheat. After much deliberation, the Commission found the charges to be without merit.

In 1946, Williams was appointed the chief counsel for the newly created Royal Commission on Espionage. The Federal Government set up the commission to investigate charges made by a Russian embassy clerk named Igor Gouzenko. Gouzenko claimed that the Soviet Union was operating a spy ring in Canada. The hearings were of such a delicate nature that they were conducted *in camera*. Many witnesses were denied counsel but still compelled to testify, and suspects were held incommunicado. As counsel for the Commission, Williams was responsible for many of its procedures and would later defend his actions, stating that "it was not only Canadian security that was at stake at the time but Canada's role as a trusted ally and important intermediary between Great Britain and the United States."



Igor Gouzenko, 1946.

Courtesy of Library and Archives Canada



In 1946, E.K. Williams was appointed Chief Justice of the Manitoba Court of King's Bench, a position he held until his retirement in 1962.

> Chief Justice E. K. Williams The new chief justice of the Manitoba king's bench was counsel for the Kellock-Taschereau cominvestigating the mission espionage cases in the east. He is senior partner in the firm of Williams, Dilts, Baker, Laidlaw, Shepard and Hamilton.

Announcement in the Winnipeg Free Press, Wednesday, December 11th 1946, concerning the appointment of E.K. Williams as new Chief Justice of the Manitoba King's Bench.

The Winnipeg Free Press, December 11th, 1946.

Quite apart from his distinguished career as a legal academic in Manitoba, Williams had been instrumental in the development of a permanent law school in the Province, something he repeatedly claimed was the finest achievement of his legal career. The school was sponsored by the Province's Law Society and the University of Manitoba. It was to be used as an educational centre to train "ambitious and educated" local lawyers. Williams supplied many of his lecture notes from his time at Osgoode Hall, which were then used to form the basis of the new school's curriculum.

In 1947, after the death of Chief Justice H.A. Robson, Chief Justice Williams was elected the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, which was responsible for the Law School. He served in that capacity until his retirement in 1962. The library at the Faculty of Law at the University of Manitoba is named in his honour.

In 1953, E.K. Williams received an honorary Doctorate of Laws from the University of Manitoba. In 1954, Thomas Walter Laidlaw, a partner at the firm and his contemporary, had this to say about Chief Justice Williams at a portrait unveiling at the Law School: "The University, the Law Society and the practice of law in general owes him an enormous debt for the wisdom and judgement he has contributed in making everything run so effectively and smoothly."

Chief Justice Williams summed up his time as a judge in 1961 when he declared "the judges, and perhaps only the judges, are not swayed by public opinion or the opinions of any group of the public, nor are they responsive to such pressures. They are not the servant of any government, of any party or of any group. They are the impartial servants of the law, and this must be so if Canadians are to remain free."

Samuel Freedman, who served as the Chief Justice of the Province of Manitoba from 1971 to 1983, identified E.K. Williams as an important influence over his career, having been mentored by him during the late 1930's.

Chief Justice Williams retired, in ill health, in 1962. He died in England in 1970.





Thomas Walter Laidlaw (1897-1965)



Thomas Walter Laidlaw was born in Carberry, Manitoba in 1897, the grandson of a well-known Protestant cleric, John Black. Thomas Laidlaw was educated in the Province and received his law degree from the University of Manitoba in 1921. Following law school, he became a Crown prosecutor for Province of Manitoba.

As a Crown prosecutor, Laidlaw was involved in Manitoba's most celebrated criminal trial of the 1920's. It involved San Francisco native Earle Nelson, a serial killer dubbed by the media "The Strangler," who had been accused of killing 21 people throughout Canada and the United States. In June of 1927, The Strangler had been apprehended in Killarney, Manitoba following the murder of two local women, thus ensuring his trial would be held in Manitoba. Acting for the prosecution, Laidlaw successfully convinced a jury of Nelson's guilt, prompting a guilty verdict and eventual execution by hanging. The case received international attention and members of the New York Times, Globe and Mail and Los Angeles Times were sent to Winnipeg to cover the story.

Thomas Laidlaw served as a faculty member, and later Dean, of the Manitoba Law School, his alma mater, from 1934 to 1945. He was an active member of the Canadian Bar Association and served as its Secretary-Treasurer for four years. He also served as a Bencher for the Law Society of Manitoba from 1949 to 1958. A progressive contributor to

the community, Laidlaw was active in his parish, St. Stephens-Broadway Church, and his local Royal Canadian Legion.

Like Edwin Godfrey Phipps Baker, Laidlaw saw active combat during the First World War. He served with the 196th Western Universities Battalion and the First Canadian Mounted Rifles, being deployed overseas as early as 1916. In part due to this war experience, Laidlaw was named the Commanding Officer of the Canadian University Naval Training Division in World War II, a non-combatant role that allowed him to remain in Winnipeg.

Following the war's conclusion in 1945, Thomas Laidlaw was made a partner in the firm, whose name was subsequently changed to Williams, Dilts, Baker, Laidlaw & Shepard.





Clarence Day Shepard (1913-2000)



Clarence Day Shepard was born in Winnipeg in 1914. He attended McGill University and graduated from the Manitoba Law School in 1937. During the Second World War, he served overseas with the Fourth Canadian Armoured Division and was an air liaison officer with the RCAF.

In 1945, following his military discharge, he became a partner in the firm, and its name changed to Williams, Dilts, Baker, Laidlaw & Shepard. A year later, after E.K. Williams became Chief Justice of the Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench, the firm became known as Dilts, Baker, Laidlaw & Shepard.

Shepard was a lecturer at the Manitoba Law School from 1946 to 1953, a Bencher of the Law Society of Manitoba from 1952 to 1957, and Chairman of the Winnipeg Civic Election Committee from 1950 to 1953. He also served for several years as transportation counsel for the Province of Manitoba.

Clarence Day Shepard withdrew from the firm in 1957 when he was appointed Chief Commissioner of the Federal Board of Transport

Commissioners, the youngest person to serve as Chief Commissioner since the first Board was first appointed 53 years earlier. In or about 1959, Shepard resigned to take a position as general counsel with Gulf Canada (then British American Oil Corporation), one of the country's largest oil and natural gas producers, and a year later became Vice-President and Director. He was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors in 1964 and Chief Executive Officer in 1976. He retired in 1979.





THE ARRIVAL OF D.A. THOMPSON AND THE CHRISTMAS FIRE, 1953-1968

In the optimistic years following World War II, the firm continued to expand and develop. Important figures during the early post-war years included D.A. Thompson, Gordon C. Hall, Archibald S. Dewar, and Walter L. Ritchie.

One of the most notable incidents to occur during these years involved a significant non-legal matter. In 1955, the Huron and Erie Building, which housed the firm, burned to the ground on Christmas Day, destroying the firm's third-floor offices as well as 20 other adjoining businesses. The fire was the third largest in the City's history, and the original estimated total loss was around \$1,000,000. The neighbouring building, 234 Portage Avenue, also received extensive smoke and water damage. Firefighters had to battle the blaze for 18 straight hours, from 2:45 a.m. to 8:45 p.m., and two of them were seriously injured during the ordeal.

Downtown Building Just Mass of Rubble

Caption from the *Winnipeg Tribune*, December 27th, 1955 describing the effects of an 18-hour fire on the Huron & Erie Building, home of Thompson, Shepard, Dilts & Jones.

Courtesy of Mr. Bruce Thompson







Firefighters attempt to quell the blaze at the Huron and Erie Building, Christmas Day 1955. The building, which housed the offices of Thompson, Shepard, Dilts & Jones, had a reported \$1,000,000 worth of damage.

The Winnipeg Free Press, Tuesday, December 27th, 1955.

Courtesy of Mr. Bruce Thompson

Bruce Thompson, a current firm member, says that "the fire is the most momentous memory I have. I was 18 years old at the time. Gordon Dilts called my dad and said, 'Don, we're finished.' I'll never forget that. The entire centre of the building had fallen through and the rest was covered in incredibly thick layer of ice. On D.A.'s desk, there was a cheque he had left prior to Christmas and we found it intact, completely frozen to the desk. Luckily, most of the firm's files and records were able to be recovered."

Despite the blaze, the firm was soon up and running in its new temporary home, the Electric Railway Chambers.

"My father had a friend, the manager of Montreal Trust Company, just across the street in the Electric Railway Chambers, by the name of Clarence Lowe," continued Thompson. "Because of Mr. Lowe, the firm was able to move into some empty office space. They were open for business on the first business day (December 28, 1955) after the fire which occurred on Christmas Day of that year. I remember that, for a long while, you could still smell the smoke in most of the books in the library. There are still some books, I know, that have that smell today. The fire was a seminal event; it inspired the firm to rise again."

Advertisement from the Winnipeg Free Press highlighting the



firm's re-opening. December 27th, 2012. Courtesy of Mr. Bruce Thompson





Photograph of firefighters on Christmas Day 1955, trying to stop a fire at the Huron and Erie Building.

The Winnipeg Free Press, Tuesday, December 27th, 1955.

Courtesy of Mr. Bruce Thompson



Notable Individuals from this Period

Donald Alexander (D.A.) Thompson (1904-1992)



Donald Alexander Thompson, one of Manitoba's best-known post-war era lawyers, was born on February 12, 1904 in Winnipeg. The son of Frank W. and Mabel (née Summerhayes), Mr. Thompson attended school in both Winnipeg and Regina before enrolling at the University of Manitoba Law School, from which he graduated in 1924 with the Gold Medal. One year later, he was called to the Manitoba Bar and joined the law firm which, in due course, became known as Aikins, MacAulay, Thompson, Tritschler and Hinch. D.A. Thompson left the Aikins firm in 1953 to become the senior partner of Thompson, Dilts, Baker, Laidlaw & Shepard. Shortly thereafter, Messrs. Alymer Dilts, Phipps Baker and Tom Laidlaw retired and Mr. Thompson and partner Clarence Shepard invited then associates Gordon Dilts and David Jones to become partners. The firm name was consequently changed to Thompson, Shepard, Dilts & Jones.

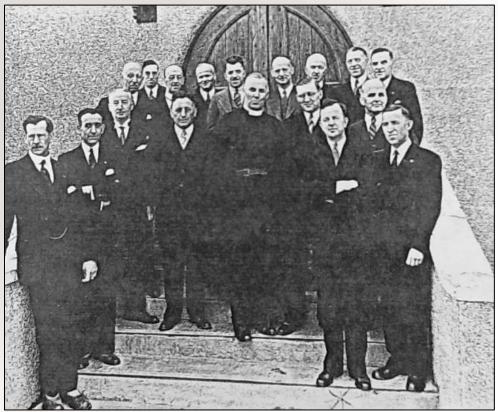
Over the course of his legal career, D.A. Thompson received many accolades: an honorary Doctorate of Laws from the University of Manitoba in 1969, an honorary Doctorate of Canon Law from his *alma mater*, St. John's College, in 1973 and, as a former Bencher and

President, he was made a lifetime Bencher of the Law Society of Manitoba.

Outside the law, Mr. Thompson wore many hats, including that of President of the Boy Scouts of Canada. In 1968, he was responsible for uniting the French Canadian section of the organization with the rest of its Canadian chapters, and for this, was awarded the prestigious Vanier Medal, presented by the Governor General of Canada on behalf of The Institute of Public Administration of Canada. Other accolades given to him by the Boy Scouts were the Acorn and Silver Wolf awards.



D.A. Thompson was very active in the Anglican Church of Canada, a relationship that he first developed as a young man teaching Sunday School. He went on to become the Chancellor of the Diocese of Rupert's Land. In 1990, Mr. Thompson was responsible for convening the Supreme Court of the Anglican Church, which had not occurred since 1893, and his input in this regard was directly responsible for solving a serious church dilemma involving the ordination of priests.



D.A. Thompson (front row, second from right) and members of the Vestry of St. James Anglican Church, 1930.

Image courtesy of the Provincial Archives of Manitoba

Perhaps his most meaningful non-legal honour came in 1969, when Mr. Thompson was awarded the Order of the Buffalo Hunt by the Province of Manitoba. The award, a precursor to the Order of Manitoba, was the highest honour the Province could bestow at the time on individuals who "demonstrated outstanding skills in the areas of leadership, service and community commitment."

At various times during his career, D.A. Thompson served as President of Stovel Press Limited, Vice-Chairman of the Manitoba Hydro Electric Board, and as a director of Dominion Malting Company, McCabe Grain Company, Stanley Brock Limited, Canada Safeway Limited, Canada Cement Limited, Montreal Trust Company and the H. T. Thorlakson Research Foundation. His other volunteer roles included acting as a member of the Advisory Board of Misericordia General Hospital and the Social Service Audit of Winnipeg, as Vice-President of the Community Welfare Planning Council of Greater Winnipeg and as Vice Chancellor of the University of Manitoba.

1887-2012 - A SHORT HISTORY



"Mr. Thompson ran a tight ship," says legal assistant Sibyl Cornelsen. "He treated the firm like family. This was the first place (legal firm) to introduce a company pension plan. That made a huge difference in my life."

"I remember him being a sweet man. Very smart," says firm comptroller Ainslie Brown. "He always made sure we were taken care of. He introduced our pension plan, something which has been very important for me. Mr. Thompson was very accepting of everyone. He never had the attitude that some people were better than others."

"D.A. Thompson first hired me. I became the firm's sixteenth lawyer," says retired firm member Barré Hall. "You can quote me on this: D.A. Thompson was the smartest lawyer I ever came across in my life."

"His standards were very high, some would say unattainably high," says Bruce Thompson. "He was greatly respected by all; and some were even a little afraid of him."

"Don Thompson had a good brain. I consider him one of the best lawyers of his generation," said Alan Sweatman. "He worked hard; and he didn't take kindly to those who only cared about themselves."

Upon celebrating his 65th year at the bar in 1990, Mr. Thompson had this to say about his legacy and legal career. "I've done a lot of things in my life and enjoyed doing them, but my main preoccupation in life has been the law and getting the firm to where it is today – wherever that is."

In 2010, the firm named its principal meeting place the "D.A. Thompson Boardroom" in his honour.



Winnipeg lawyer regarded as a man for all seasons

Caption for a 1990 article profiling D.A Thompson's 65 years at the Manitoba Bar.

The Winnipeg Free Press, Saturday, November 17th, 1990.

Courtesy of the Winnipeg Free Press Archives

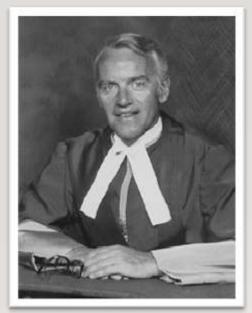


The accompanying photo, 1990.

Courtesy of the Winnipeg Free Press Archives



Gordon Clarke Hall (1921-1990)



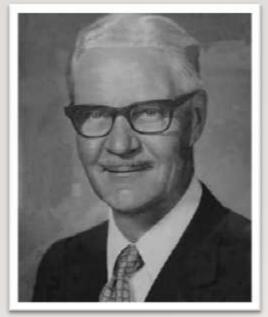
Gordon Clarke Hall arrived at the firm in 1956, prompting a name change, to Thompson, Shepard, Dilts, Jones & Hall. Gordon Hall was born in Cranbrook, British Columbia in 1921. He served overseas during World War II as a Lieutenant with the First Canadian Parachute Battalion. On his return from the war in 1945, he enrolled in the Manitoba Law School. He articled under noted barrister Paul G. DuVal, was called to the Manitoba Bar in 1948, and then practised law for eight years with Guy, Chappel, DuVal & Wilson, before leaving to join the firm.

Gordon Hall was appointed a Judge of the Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench in 1965, and elevated to the Court of Appeal in 1971. While a Judge of the Court of Appeal, he was asked, in 1982, to review the salaries for city councillors and Provincial MLA's; in 1985, to recommend changes to the federal grain transportation payment system; and, in 1986, to review the electoral boundaries within the Province. He retired in 1989.

Mr. Justice Hall was the founder and first President of the Canadian Judge's Conference. He served as Chair of the Board of the Winnipeg Foundation from 1973 to 1990, as Director and Chairman of the Manitoba Institute of Cell Biology, as Director of the Vintage Locomotive Society, and was a founding Director of the Canadian Nature Federation.



Archibald S. Dewar (1916-2001)



Archibald S. Dewar was born in Winnipeg on July 26, 1916. After graduating from United College, he joined the Winnipeg Police Department, where he served as a constable from 1938 to 1940. During World War II, he served with the Royal Canadian Artillery, attaining the rank of Major, and was awarded the United States Bronze Star, a decoration that is awarded for "bravery, acts of merit or meritorious service."

After the war, Dewar enrolled in the University of Manitoba Law School, from which he graduated in 1948, and began his legal practice with the firm of MacArthur & Evans.

In 1949, Archie Dewar moved to Ottawa and became a solicitor in the Legal Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare. In 1950, he returned to Winnipeg to become a Crown Attorney for the Department of the Attorney General, and quickly gained recognition as an exceptional trial lawyer. Perhaps his most famous case was heard in 1957 and involved Mary Ross, a 21-year-old from St. Boniface who had

been accused of murder. As head prosecutor, Dewar argued that Ms Ross had locked the murder victim, Rene Tavernier, in his apartment bedroom following a heated argument, where she then killed him with a loaded shotgun. Ms Ross was found guilty of manslaughter.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE LONDON GAZETTE, 4 APRIL, 1946

Maj. Archibald Stewart DEWAR.

The *London Gazette* made reference to Mr. Dewar after he had been honoured with the United States Bronze Star. April 4th, 1946. Courtesy of Library and Archives Canada

Following the Ross case, in 1957, Dewar returned to private practice, becoming a partner at the then re-named Thompson, Dilts, Jones, Hall & Dewar. He remained with the firm until his appointment to the Bench.

In 1973, Dewar was appointed Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench for Manitoba. Highly respected, he remained Chief Justice until his retirement in 1985.

As with many of his predecessors at the firm, Dewar was also active with the Law Society of Manitoba, first as a Bencher, then as an Honorary Secretary. Outside the legal community, he served as a member of the Winnipeg Advisory Board of The Salvation Army. He was a supporter of the St. Andrews Society of Winnipeg, and was made Honorary President in 1999. He was also, among other things, an honorary life governor of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires, Manitoba Division.

1887-2012 - A SHORT HISTORY



"Archie Dewar could be a very serious man, but he was a very good lawyer," says retired firm member Barré Hall. "I remember when I was interviewed for my job here. It was D.A. (Thompson) and Archie (Dewar) who conducted the interview, except D.A. did all the talking and Archie just sat there looking serious and stroking his chin. I was a little intimidated to say the least. Roy Gallagher and Archie Dewar were the top litigators in Manitoba for a period of time."



Archibald S. Dewar prosecuted Mary Ross (above, leaving a court room) for the violent murder of Rene Tavernier in 1957.

The Winnipeg Free Press, February 7^{th} , 1957.

Courtesy of the *Winnipeg Free Press* Archives



Walter L. Ritchie (1928-2011)



Walter Legget Ritchie was born in Vancouver in 1928. He moved to Manitoba as a young boy, and grew up on Morley Avenue, attending Riverview and Lord Roberts Schools and Kelvin High School. He attended the Manitoba Law School, and began articling with the firm, then known as Dilts, Baker, Laidlaw & Shepard, in 1949. On graduating from the Law School and being called to the Bar in 1953, he became an associate with the firm, and became a partner in 1961. He succeeded D.A. Thompson as Managing Partner in 1973, a post he held until 1990. In 1999, he was honoured for his 50 years with the firm.

Walter Ritchie was highly skilled in civil litigation, competition, municipal and labour law. In Manitoba's legal community, he was admired as a tactician, a tough negotiator, and a principled advocate.

Mr. Ritchie appeared in all levels of courts, including the Supreme Court of Canada, and in the courts of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. He also had the distinction of succeeding on three separate cases before the Supreme Court, where he acted on behalf of a union

(Manitoba Govt. Employees Assn. v. Govt. of Manitoba et al.,) management (International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 2085 et al. v. Winnipeg Builders' Exchange et al.,) and objecting employees (Walker v. Manitoba Labour Board), respectively.

Walter Ritchie was Chief Electoral Officer for Winnipeg South in the 1958 Federal election. In 1980, he was appointed by the Lieutenant Governor as Chairman of the Elections Commission of the Province of Manitoba under *The Elections Finances Act*.

In 1986, he was elected a Fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, the only Manitoban to have been so honoured at that time. The Academy's purpose, as outlined by its mandate, is to promote reforms in the law by facilitating the administration of justice and promoting the rule of law internationally.

"Walter Ritchie was conscious that he came from humble roots," says current firm member Robin Kersey. "It motivated his work ethic and how he dealt with people. He was a fair person, someone who wanted to ensure that people were dealt with fairly. In fact, he was always fair to the other lawyer as well, he would disclose everything. I view Mr. Ritchie as being responsible for the moulding of the firm, alongside Mr. Thompson."

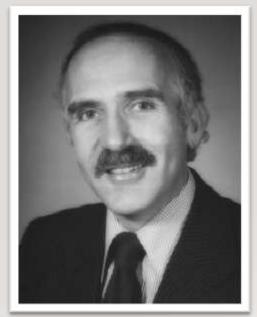
"I credit Walter Ritchie with telling me to pursue my passion in the law," says current firm member Don Baizley. "His advice helped me get into the type of legal work I am involved in today."

Continuing the firm's long-established traditions, Walter Ritchie served on numerous boards and foundations in Winnipeg. He was also an avid genealogist, compiling a genealogical survey of his entire family history. He was recognized by the Riverview Community Centre as a "famous resident" under the banner, "Another Morley man makes good."





Guy Joseph Kroft



Guy Joseph Kroft is the son of well-known Manitoba grain executive Charles Kroft and his wife, Heloise. Charles Kroft also founded Conviron Controlled Environments Limited, which today is the world's largest manufacturer of controlled environment systems.

Guy Kroft joined Thompson, Shepard, Dilts & Jones in 1955 as a student. After he graduated from the Manitoba Law School and was called to the Bar in 1959, he became an associate with the firm. He later became a partner and continued to practise in that capacity until 1979.

In February 1979, Kroft was appointed a Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench for Manitoba. In 1993, he was appointed a Judge of the Court of Appeal, where he served until his retirement in 2007.

In 2002, Mr. Justice Kroft was appointed to the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission. The Commission, under the direction of the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada, was to determine new voting

boundaries and federal electoral districts within each province.

Mr. Justice Kroft served on the Board of Governors for the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba and was previously the Foundation's President. Following in his father's footsteps, he was active with the Winnipeg Foundation and served on its Board from 1993 to 2005.

At the ceremony dedicating the D.A. Thompson Boardroom in 2010, Mr. Justice Kroft recounted how he was the first member of Winnipeg's Jewish community to be invited (by D.A. Thompson) to join one of the old-line establishment law firms in Manitoba.

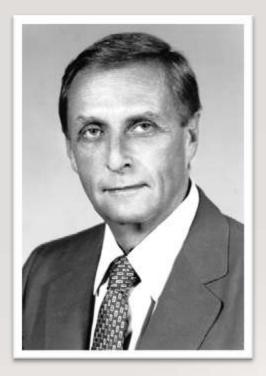


A Winnipeg Free Press article detailing Guy Joseph Kroft's appointment to the Manitoba Court of Queen's Bench. February 22nd, 1979.

Image courtesy of the Winnipeg Free Press Archives



Ross A.L. Nugent



Ross Nugent graduated from the University of Manitoba with his LL.B. in 1949, and Masters of Law in 1956. He was called to the Bar in 1950.

Mr. Nugent practised as a solicitor with the City of Winnipeg Law Department from 1952 to 1960, and as the Deputy City Solicitor from 1960 to 1968. In 1968, he joined the firm of Thompson, Dilts & Company as a partner, and continued practising with the firm until his retirement in March 2012.

Ross Nugent's practice focused primarily on the areas of the development and valuation of properties and businesses, including municipal planning, expropriations and realty and business assessments.

He served as special counsel to the Government of Manitoba in drafting *The Expropriation Act* of Manitoba, enacted in 1972.

He acted on countless expropriation matters, including matters relating to the formation of Whittier Park. Several years later, he acted for a majority of the Portage Avenue land owners when their lands were expropriated by the three levels of government to make way for Portage Place Shopping Centre. He subsequently acted for Cadillac

Fairview, the developer of the Shopping Centre.

In an important assessment case, he successfully represented taxpayers on an appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada relating to the municipal tax assessment of a number of properties in downtown Winnipeg.

He also acted for the University of Manitoba and the University of Winnipeg on the assessment of their lands and buildings until the City changed the way in which taxes were paid by the University to grants in lieu of taxes. In 1996, he was asked by Mayor Susan Thompson to participate in the City of Winnipeg Assessment Inquiry.

Ross Nugent served as a Bencher of the Law Society of Manitoba. He lectured on real estate and administrative law in the Bar Admission Courses from 1968 to 1980. Over the years, he appeared many times as a guest speaker at a wide variety of conferences and programs.

Ross Nugent was widely recognized, in the City, the Province and nationally, for his work in expropriation and municipal assessment. In 1983, the Land Value Appraisal Commission went on record publicly describing him as "the most eminent expropriation compensation counsel in Manitoba".

In addition to his legal work, Mr. Nugent has been active in the community, having served as President of the Red River Exhibition Association and as honorary legal counsel to the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, the Performing Arts Consortium of Winnipeg Inc., and the Friends of Elmwood Cemetery Inc. He was also a member of The City of Winnipeg's Citizen's Committee to draft the Access to Information By-law and its Citizen's Committee on Fair Taxation.





David A. Balfour (1937-1991)



David A. Balfour was born in Winnipeg in 1937, but spent most of his childhood in Flin Flon. He graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1961 with a Bachelor of Arts, and in 1965 with a law degree. Following his call to the Manitoba Bar in 1966, Balfour joined the firm as an associate, having previously worked as a summer student. He subsequently became a partner in the firm, and practised law in this capacity until his death in 1991.

During his career, Mr. Balfour was regarded as the leading authority in mining and oil and gas law in the Province and was routinely consulted by major firm clients in those businesses with respect to the conduct of their operations in Manitoba. In that regard, working in cooperation with officials from the provincial land titles system, he assisted in authoring legislation which created pipeline titles in Manitoba, a development which greatly simplified financing their construction across the Province.

Dave Balfour was active in the Red Cross for most of his life, serving as Canadian President from 1975 to 1977. He was also President of the Canadian Disaster Relief Fund from 1978 to 1983, and President of Winnipeg Meals on Wheels from 1979 to 1981.



IRWIN DORFMAN, ALAN SWEATMAN AND THE ARRIVAL OF THE **COMPUTER AGE, 1968-1987**

As the firm marched into the 1970's with D.A. Thompson steadfastly at its helm, revolutionary changes in technology began to alter the way law was practised. From Xerox machines and electric typewriters to the personal computer, clients began expecting service at a much faster pace. Eventually, instead of taking days, information could be transmitted in a matter of seconds. As a result, the firm did much to "keep up with the times," ensuring it would not be left behind as businesses everywhere began embracing the technological revolution.

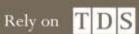
"I remember the Xerox machine was the talk of the office when I first started in 1968," says Sibyl Cornelsen. "The firm later moved to a department with the first word processors. When we were first introduced to computers, it was a big deal. The fax machine too, although it took eight minutes a page."

"Within two years of me being hired (1978), we had become computerized," says Ainslie Brown. "People expected things much more quickly, but computer technology gave you the ability to analyze things better. In '78 or '79, we went to a mainframe system with 'dumb terminals'. In '95 we went to desktop P.C.'s, and since then we've kept up with the times."

"The concept of voicemail didn't emerge until the 1980s" says Bruce Thompson. "As to deliveries in Canada, before the days of courier services, we would use a method which as I remember we called the 'Pilot's Pouch'; this was an arrangement with the national airline to deliver urgent mail in pouches to various destination cities in Canada. Sometimes, where we needed even more certainty of delivery, we would put a law student on a plane to handdeliver mail that had to be in the destination city sooner than regular mail could get it there."

"When I started (in 1967) you sent the other lawyer you were working with a letter which would take a day or so to arrive on his desk," says current firm member and former Managing Partner, Michael Sinclair. "Then came the fax machine, then the word processing machines, which had their own department. Then finally, e-mail, and clients began to expect answers as soon as they asked a question. The pace obviously quickened. Yet on the other hand, technology has created some great advances. For example, I can communicate with clients all over the world, including California where I am right now, and we don't have to meet nearly as much as we used to. It can all be done electronically."

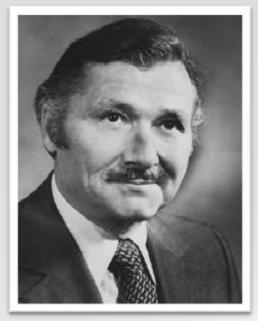
Also during this period, two of the firm's most prominent lawyers arrived as partners. Irwin Dorfman and Alan Sweatman came from decidedly different backgrounds, but shared a passion for the law and a strong work ethic.





Notable Individuals from this Period

Irwin Dorfman (1908-1993)



Irwin Dorfman was born in Winnipeg in 1908. Educated at St. John's Technical High School, Mr. Dorfman graduated from the Manitoba Law School in 1931, receiving the Gold Medal for academic excellence. After articling with the firm of Sparling & Sparling, he formed a partnership with A.M. Shinbane.

During the Second World War, Irwin Dorfman was Director of the Trans-Migration Bureau of the Joint Distribution Committee in New York City, an organization which raised funds and assisted Jewish refugees who were fleeing Nazi-occupied countries in Europe. Mr. Dorfman later said that his time at the Trans-Migration Bureau was one of the most significant events in his life. In addition to his work with the Bureau, in 1939, as a member of the Joint Distribution committee of the Canadian Jewish Committee for Refugees, Irwin Dorfman helped raise \$30,000 to aid European Jews who had been affected by homelessness. In 1944, he became involved with a local group, The Friends of Hebrew University, that provided a financial contribution to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Irwin Dorfman joined Thompson, Dilts, Jones, Hall, Dewar & Ritchie as a partner in 1966. When Archibald S. Dewar was appointed Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench in 1973, the firm's name was changed from Thompson Dewar Sweatman to Thompson Dorfman Sweatman. He continued to practise law as a partner in the firm until his death.

Irwin Dorfman served as President of the Manitoba Bar Association from 1965 to 1966, President of the Law Society of Manitoba from 1971 to 1972, and President of the Canadian Bar Association from 1975 to 1976. He was the first Jewish President in the Canadian Bar Association's history. He became a Life Bencher of the Law Society in 1972.

Irwin Dorfman also served for three years as a Governor of the Canadian Tax Foundation, and was a Trustee of the Foundation for Legal Research. He acted as Chairman of the Special Committee for reviewing and revising the Manitoba Corporations Act, and served as special counsel for the Federal Department of Justice.

In 1973, as a member of the Canadian Bar Association, Mr. Dorfman was credited with introducing a resolution directed to the Federal Government which would legally ensure that information filed on income tax returns would be kept confidential, except for use in tax cases. The eventual passing of the resolution by the Trudeau government was considered a major victory for privacy laws. "It is a fundamental principle of Canadian law that no person should be compelled other than on a privileged basis, to provide evidence against himself except in specifically defined circumstances," the resolution stated.



Irwin Dorfman remained active within Winnipeg's Jewish community throughout his life, serving as President of the Winnipeg branch of B'nai B'rith, as a Board member for the Shaarey Zedek Synagogue and as President of the Shaarey Zedek Brotherhood. He also served on the Board of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. In 1977, he received an honourary Doctorate of Laws from the University of Manitoba.

"Mr. Dorfman was a good lawyer to work with," says current firm member and former Managing Partner, Michael Sinclair.

"I always remember him as a very hard worker," says Ainslie Brown.

"(Irwin) Dorfman was known as one of the hardest working guys at the firm," says Robin Kersey. "In fact, the story goes that he took a case file with him to the hospital on the day he died."



Alan Sweatman (1920-2012)



Alan Sweatman was born in 1920 and received his post-secondary education at the University of Manitoba. In 1942, while a student at the University, he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Navy, becoming a navigator and Lieutenant. Mr. Sweatman was initially stationed at the Navy's famous "Triangle Run," between New York City, Halifax and St. John's Newfoundland but subsequently saw action in the North Atlantic and his ship engaged the enemy off the coast of France on D-Day.

After the war, Alan Sweatman enrolled at the University of Manitoba Law School. He graduated in 1948. He practised in the early years of his career with Pitblado Hoskin, having articled to Isaac Pitblado, and quickly established himself as a highly skilled practitioner in his field, building a solid reputation as a lawyer who carried "moral authority with him into every venture and conversation." In 1970, he joined Thompson, Dilts & Company as a partner. With the retirement of Gordon Dilts, the name of the firm became Thompson, Dewar, Sweatman.

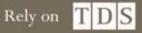
"Alan Sweatman was probably the leading commercial lawyer in Winnipeg during his prime," says current firm member Jim Ripley.

In 1978, Mr. Sweatman was profiled in a Winnipeg Free Press article as being "one of that rare breed who understands business" and "one of the top corporate lawyers in Winnipeg."



Announcement in the Winnipeg Free Press following Alan Sweatman's appointment as central Canadian chairman of "National Brotherhood Week." Monday February 1st, 1971.

Image courtesy the of Winnipeg Free Press Archives





Mr. Sweatman served as President of the Law Society of Manitoba from 1974 to 1975, and became a Life Bencher of the Law Society in 1975.

Alan Sweatman was also active outside the legal profession, sitting at one time on the boards of many major companies and being, in the words of journalist and historian Peter C. Newman, "at the very marrow of the City's establishment." He served on the boards of, among others, The Toronto-Dominion Bank, Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co., Limited and Greyhound Lines of Canada Ltd. He advised Inter-City Gas Corporation (which was later acquired by Manitoba Hydro) both as a lawyer and a director, from the time of its start-up providing natural gas to communities in Manitoba, through its development as a national business with operations across much of Canada. Regarding his active participation in the business world, Sweatman had this to say, "I guess what attracts me is the interest that it gives you, the associations, the insight into how various organizations operate."

Alan Sweatman was a longstanding member of St. Charles Country Club and initiated the resolution that led to the admission of Jews to the Club. In addition, he served as its President from 1965 to 1967. He was Chairman of the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews, and Chairman (by default) of the Committee to Save the Jets when the Winnipeg Jets NHL hockey team was threatened with relocation in 1995.

"He was fair minded," says Jim Ripley. "He also could be very imaginative. He once believed a client had a plan unfair to its minority shareholders. To make the point, he wrote a play, complete with stage directions. The play traced the successful efforts of a minority shareholder to defeat the client's plan. He sent the play to the client, instead of sending a letter advising against the plan. In another situation, Mr. Sweatman became irritated with the use by a lawyer on the other side of a transaction of the term 'in the event that' instead of 'if'. He wrote a poem about the transaction based on Rudyard Kipling's 'If', but instead of the lines beginning with 'If', they began with 'In the event that'. He had no patience for pretentiousness or for sneakiness or cleverness. I considered it a tremendous privilege working for him."

"I wasn't entirely sure about the law at first," said Alan Sweatman. "I wanted to write for the (Winnipeg) Free Press and work as a reporter. I came to this firm because I was asked by Don (D.A.) Thompson to work with him and (Irwin) Dorfman. They promised me more cases and lots of space, so I accepted."

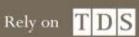
"Mr. Sweatman led a very fascinating life," said Sibyl Cornelsen. "He had stories forever, about the war and the law."

"Alan Sweatman coming to work here was an acquisition that was critical to the firm's current success," said Don Baizley.

"Alan Sweatman was terrific to work for," says Barré Hall. "He was a powerhouse at the firm, plus he had a tremendous sense of humour. I remember him bringing in a ping pong table to our old office. Mr. Sweatman technically never retired."

"Alan Sweatman was an excellent lawyer and a wonderful mentor," says Michael Sinclair.

"The most important qualities a lawyer can have are curiosity, honesty, a capacity to enjoy whatever crosses your desk and a lot of luck," said Sweatman. "My advice to new lawyers? Try and pick a good firm."





Richard Jamieson Scott



Richard Jamieson Scott graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Arts in 1959, and an LL.B. in 1963, receiving the Gold Medal in his graduating class in law. He first came to work for Thompson, Dilts, Jones, Hall, Dewar & Ritchie in 1962, as a student, working closely with Archie Dewar and Rees Brock. Following his call to the Manitoba Bar, Scott joined the firm as an associate, and subsequently became a partner. He quickly rose in the ranks of the firm's litigators, and on the departure of Dewar to the Court of Queen's Bench and Brock to practise in Vancouver, assumed the leadership role for the litigators at the firm.

In 1978, Dick Scott served on the Tritschler Commission, which examined hydro-electric development in Manitoba. The Commission (named after Chief Commissioner George E. Tritschler) undertook an in-depth examination of Manitoba Hydro, with particular emphasis on the development and economic efficiency of the Churchill River Diversion and the Lake Winnipeg Regulation project.

Dick Scott was the President of the Law Society of Manitoba from 1983 to 1984. While practising, he worked extensively with Legal Aid Manitoba.

Mr. Scott was appointed a Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench for Manitoba in June 1985 and, a few months later, was named Associate Chief Justice of that Court. In July 1990, he was appointed Chief Justice of Manitoba, the presiding judge of the Manitoba Court of Appeal. As of the date of publication of this history, Chief Justice Scott's pending retirement had been announced.

In 2000, the University of Manitoba recognized Chief Justice Scott's many years of service to the Province's legal community by awarding him an honorary Doctorate of Laws.



Cheryl Marlene Davidson (Hall) (1951-1997)



Cheryl Davidson graduated from the University of Manitoba Faculty of Law in 1976, and was called to the Bar in 1977. She came to Thompson, Dorfman, Sweatman in 1981, having spent the first few years of her practise with the firm of Arpin & Company. She quickly distinguished herself as one of the preeminent family law practitioners in Manitoba, sought out by clients and other counsel alike. She had a no-nonsense approach, refusing to permit her clients to wallow in self-pity, or alternatively gloat about any perceived advantage. She practised family law with the firm, first as associate, then a partner, until 1989.

Ms Davidson was elected President of the Manitoba Bar Association in 1985, becoming the first woman to occupy that position. She also served as Chairperson of the Law Society of Manitoba's discipline committee.

Ms Davidson was appointed a Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench, Family Division, in 1989, and continued to hold that office until her untimely death in 1997.

Ms Davidson had been a supervisor and lecturer for the Intensive Family Law Course at the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Law. Following her death, Madam Justice Davidson's friends and family established the Honourable Cheryl Davidson Memorial Bursary in her honour. The bursary provides financial assistance to law students who find themselves in financial need.



Upon her death in 1997, Cheryl Davidson received praise in the *Winnipeg Free Press*, September 12th, 1997.

Article courtesy of the *Winnipeg Free Press*Archives.



Nathan Nurgitz



Nathan (Nate) Nurgitz was born in Winnipeg in 1934. He graduated from the University of Manitoba with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1954, and a Bachelor of Laws degree in 1958, and was called to the Bar in 1959.

Active in politics, Nurgitz served as an alderman of the City of West Kildonan from 1963 to 1969. From 1970 to 1971, he was National Vice-President, then President, of the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada.

From 1968 to 1975, he sat as a Magistrate in the City of West Kildonan. He was elected a Bencher of the Law Society of Manitoba in 1978, then re-elected in 1980.

In 1979, Nate Nurgitz joined Thompson, Dorfman, Sweatman. He became a partner in 1980, and remained with the firm until 1993.

Also in 1979, Mr. Nurgitz was appointed to the Senate of Canada, representing the senatorial division of Winnipeg North, and served in that capacity until 1993. As a Senator, he served as Chair of the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs, as Co-Chair of the Joint Committee of the Senate and

House of Commons on Scrutiny, and on numerous committees related to, among other things, agriculture and forestry, foreign affairs, banking, trade and commerce, and national finance. He was elected Chair, Canadian Group, Inter-Parliamentary Union in 1987, then re-elected in 1989 and 1990, and led delegations to Europe (including Eastern Bloc countries), Asia and Central and South America.

Nate Nurgitz was also the co-author, with prominent political strategist Hugh Segal, of *Strong and Free* and *No Small Measure*.

In 1993, Nurgitz was appointed a Judge of the Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba, and held that office until his retirement in 2009. In 2005, he was also appointed a Deputy Judge of the Nunavut Court of Justice. He took an active interest in the field of mediation, and completed a course of study on this subject at Harvard University.

In 2009, he returned to the firm after retiring from the Bench. He retired from the firm and the practise of law as of June 30, 2012.





Other Currently Serving Public Appointees

As at the date of preparation of this history, the following individuals, all of whom practised law at TDS until the dates of their appointments, and who have not otherwise been mentioned herein, continue to serve the people of the Province of Manitoba. There are many others, too numerous to mention, who have practiced law at TDS and gone on to other careers either in the law or elsewhere. We are grateful for their contributions to the firm. The currently serving appointees are:

- The Honourable Mr. Justice Alan D. MacInnes of The Court of Appeal;
- The Honourable Associate Chief Justice A. Lori Douglas of the Court of Queen's Bench (Family Division);
- The Honourable Associate Chief Justice William J. Burnett of the Court of Queen's Bench;
- The Honourable Mr. Justice Albert L. Clearwater of the Court of Queen's Bench;
- The Honourable Madam Justice Karen I. Simonsen of the Court of Queen's Bench;
- The Honourable Mr. Justice Shane I. Perlmutter of the Court of Queen's Bench;
- William D. Hamilton, Chairperson, Manitoba Labour Board.



THE MOVE TO 201 PORTAGE AND MERGER WITH THE ADVOCACY **GROUP FROM DOOLEY OLSON, 1987-1990**

In 1987, Thompson, Dorfman, Sweatman celebrated its 100th anniversary. Three years later, the firm changed location, moving its offices from the Bank of Canada Building to the newly built 33 storey Toronto-Dominion Centre at 201 Portage Avenue.

"The move to the TD building in 1990 was a milestone for the firm. It was subject to much internal discussion prior to it happening," says Bruce Thompson. "and we considered three options: there was the "build" option, (we would construct our own building), the "stay" option (we would stay in the Bank of Canada Building where we then were), or the "move" option (we would move to the newly constructed TD Building). Al Sweatman was the great proponent of the "move" option and we did finally decide to move to the TD Building (201 Portage Avenue), where of course the firm remains to this day."

"This office is incredible. We've been here 22 years," says Sybil Cornelsen. "They went to a lot of trouble to create a work-friendly environment for everybody that is still functional today."

"The new office has a larger floor space," says Ainslie Brown. "When we moved here, our space approximately tripled. Everything is state of the art here."



The move to 201 Portage Avenue was not the only change of significance during this period. In 1987, Alan W. Scarth (formerly of Scarth Simonsen and later, Dooley Olson & Wiens) joined TDS as a partner. Later, those lawyers with the now renamed Dooley Olson & Wiens who practiced in the areas of litigation and labour and employment law also joined the firm.



"We joined TDS because it was the best fit for us, and for them too, I think. We were very similar," says current counsel to the firm and former Scarth, Dooley, Olson & Wiens partner E. William Olson. "We felt that TDS had always been strong on the litigation side of the law through the likes of Dick Scott (now Manitoba Chief Justice Richard Scott). We knew exactly who we were partnering with. We didn't have to go through any major changes when we joined TDS, we did mesh very well."



THOMPSON DORFMAN SWEATMAN LLP 1990-2012

The firm now includes 75 lawyers and students and can provide service in over 20 areas of legal practice, including such non-traditional areas as sports and entertainment law. The firm offers video conferencing services and legal advice in English, French, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and Russian.

In 1990, Thompson, Dorfman, Sweatman became a founding member of the Lex Mundi professional services network, the world's leading association of independent law firms. Through Lex Mundi, the firm provides its clients with access to more than 20,000 lawyers practising in 160 elite firms in over 100 countries around the world, including every province in Canada and every American state. From its beginning, the purpose of Lex Mundi has been to enable its members to exchange professional information about local and global practice and the development of law, to facilitate and disseminate communications among its members, and to improve its members' abilities to serve the needs of their respective clients. Lex Mundi also provides pro-bono legal service to social entrepreneurs all over the world, through its affiliate, the Lex Mundi Pro Bono Foundation.

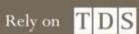
"Legal problems have many common elements throughout the world," says current firm member and TDS Managing Partner, Don Douglas. "Being in Lex Mundi allows us to connect with firms and lawyers on a professional basis with whom we might never otherwise have the opportunity to deal."

In 2008, TDS became the first law firm in Manitoba to create its own distinct marketing department. Today, the marketing department focuses on client relations initiatives, business development, and branding, and uses social media, including YouTube, The Law Blog, LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter and the quarterly e-newsletter Rely on TDS to share legal information with clients and to help the firm's lawyers connect with clients abroad.

In May 2009, TDS and Anita Wortzman announced the launch of Acumen Corporate Development Inc. Since its inception, Acumen has been providing North American companies with a "structured, comprehensive approach to the planning and execution of growth by way of acquisition, financing and other strategic opportunities."

"Acumen works with clients through the entire business growth cycle, from strategic planning, acquisitions, due diligence, data management, integration, corporate governance to strategic execution," says President and CEO Anita Wortzman. "Acumen provides clients that either do not have an internal corporate development team or lack capacity, with the required resources to plan and execute their growth strategy. We chose TDS because we thought they would be the best partner. The firm has been very progressive, especially from a marketing perspective, something that is integral to business success in this day and age. It was simply the right home and a mutually beneficial relationship for both Acumen and TDS."

Finally, in late June 2010, the firm merged with Perlov, Stewart LLP and its team of lawyers. I. David Perlov, Allan L.V. Stewart, Peter A. Sim and Gerald S. Ashcroft were introduced into the TDS family, continuing their roles as business and family lawyers.





IN CONCLUSION: TDS AT 125, THE FIRM'S LASTING LEGACY

After 125 years as a law firm in the Province of Manitoba, Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP is excited to embark on a new chapter in its history.

"TDS is internally cohesive. There are no politics at this firm," says Managing Partner, Don Douglas. We have a seven-person management committee and, except on rare occasions involving personnel issues, our meetings are open to all partners to participate. This policy was something that was welcomed by the partners when it was introduced. Another important aspect is that, at TDS, you can remain a 'lawyers' lawyer'. By that I mean, we allow our lawyers to avoid the administrative aspects of running a law firm if they so choose. We also understand how important family is, and are very accommodating in that regard and take pride in our generous parental leave policy."

"It's been a great place to work. Great people work with you," says Ainslie Brown. "They take care of their employees and are great about vacations, benefits and the like. There are a lot of social activities and planned events for employees and their families, things like the staff Christmas party, family Christmas party and a baseball night every summer."

"The company has always been fair," says Sibyl Cornelsen. "I've stayed because this is a professional place, the staff has always been treated fairly."

Says Jim Ripley, "The legacy of the firm is an emphasis on excellence and integrity in all that we do, whether for clients or for the community. We would hope that people say 'TDS has excellent, hardworking and honest lawyers'."

"TDS would take hardworking lawyers regardless of their background," says Robin Kersey. "Mr. Thompson wanted a firm where people worked hard, that's all that mattered here. It's important to stress that there are good lawyers at every firm, but there is a civility and fairness at TDS. We always approach things fairly."

"The firm understood the importance of mentorship for forming work habits and ethics," says Don Baizley. "I was fortunate in that I was able to learn from a number of great lawyers who were all older than me. The top guys were all people who were professionals who didn't care about money. Their generosity was critical. They created the positive cultures. They made sure the young lawyers were treated fairly and paid accordingly. A new generation of young lawyers and professionals are working at the firm now. They are very impressive."

"The legacy of the firm is that it is a place where people can reach their full potential," says Michael Sinclair. "When I first started, we weren't that much smaller than the well-known firms in Toronto. As a result, we practised law at the same level and you had lawyers who were operating at the highest standard possible. That was passed down to the younger generation of lawyers here and continues to be done to this very day. That same level of excellence remains."

"We are doing better now than we ever did," says Bruce Thompson.





Our People Today

As we reflect on the past and look to our future, we'd like to acknowledge all the individuals who were at the firm as of July 1st, 2012.

Partners

Richard H.G. Adams Robert J.M. Adkins Glen W. Agar Gerald S. Ashcroft Donald G. Baizley, Q.C. Paul J. Brett Michael A. Choiselat Silvia V. de Sousa Donald G. Douglas James G. Edmond Douglas J. Forbes Adrian B. Frost Peter J. Glowacki Elmer J. Gomes A. Blair Graham, Q.C. Maria L. Grande Antoine F. Hacault

M. Lynne Harrison Jeffrey B. Hirsch Leilani J. Kagan Jamie A. Kagan Robin M. Kersey Jeffrey A. Kowall Keith D. LaBossiere Janice Y. Lederman Kenneth S. Maclean Barry N. MacTavish Ross A. McFadyen Gordon A. McKinnon Albina P. Moran Robert W. Olson E. William Olson, Q.C. Chrys Pappas, Q.C.

Sacha R. Paul William G. Percy Jeff D. Pniowsky Pamela G. Reimer James A. Ripley Sheryl A. Rosenberg P. Michael Sinclair, Q.C. Arthur J. Stacey John D. Stefaniuk Lisa J. Stiver B. Douglas Tait Gregory J. Tallon Bruce S. Thompson Andrew L. Thompson Lynda K. Troup Jonathan M. Woolley

Associates

Alex S. Bainov Renée G.L. Howard Allan L.V Stewart Melissa D.L. Beaumont Hayley B. Main Stéphanie M. Tétreault Andrea R. Doyle Melissa M. Malden Peter S. Toni Allison E.M. Fenske Terra L. Welsh Jennifer E. McRae Brandi R. Field Drew W. Mitchell Laura C. Workman Michael J. Guthrie I. David Perlov Leandro D. Zylberman Bailey J. Harris Peter A. Sim Scott J. Hoeppner Danny C. Spencer

Articling Students

Lewis H. Allen Cheryl C. Pearson Meghan C. Ross Matthew D.Dalloo Erika A. Robson Andrew D.F. Sain



Legal Assistants

Barbara Allan Diane Fedak Edith Pottinger Jennifer Anderson Colleen Gray Kim Riley Patricia Banera Marilyn Hebert Charlene Ritchot Caressa Heinrichs Jackie Bannatyne

Marcy Rosentreter Evelyn Bartisz Liz Horne Jane Ross Maureen Beal Kerry Hunt Marion Rozenuk Corrine Scott Annette Beaton Lori Jantz Jo-Ann Berard Catherine Janusz Sandra Smith Nancy Bjornson Tracey Jarrin Kylie Spinks Janice Brickey Kelsey Kasprick Candace Stanley Sarah Brown Lisa Kolbuck Susan Sullivan Laura Koster Tracy Cadotte Sara Thomas Heather Campbell Sheelagh Kyne Terry Tremorin Marilyn Chubaty Nicole Laliberte Alice Vincent Sibyl Cornelsen Susan Lemoine Charlene Wintink Kim Wynnobel Anna Lundberg Barbara Lyle

Gisela Couto Anne Cucca Krysta DeBeer Tammy Mador Georgette Dobush Heather Martinez Donna Dolphin Susan Mason

Christine Duffy Arlene McCann-Solberg

Tracy Edge Carolyn Miller Leslie Eskra Trista Nast Amy Esteves Ashley Pososki

Administration & Office Facilities

Kim Hallick David Bailey Angela St. Germain Paulett Hanson Lorraine Barnett Alix Sereacki Ainslie Brown Deanne Luna Tammy Zacharias Bonnie Cole Susan Rae Wendy Zibresky

Accounting

Jodi Bradley Marie Markmann Katherine Victorino Hazel Cyr Suzanne Zelinski June Matsumoto Kayla Ezekiel Janice Prokopowich

Corporate Services

Pat Golas Karen Kindratsky Stacy Regunay Shauna Harrison Snezana Mackenzie Erica Urias Barbara Munro Betty Hildebrandt



Marketing

Kevin Gordon Mark Howe Taryn Foreman

Systems Operations

Trevor Anderson Dean Murfitt Iain Rae

Brad Johnson John Prettie

Word Processing Department

Gail Beaudin Annette Chammartin

Acumen Corporate Development Inc.

Gil Grenier Richard Leipsic Anita Wortzman



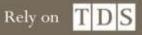
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John Stanley Hough

- Photograph of John S. Hough, date unknown. Image Courtesy Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP.
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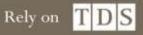
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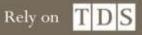
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Nathan Nurgitz

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Conclusion

- Interview with Mr. Don Douglas, conducted on Monday January 23rd, 2012.
- Interview with Ms Ainslie Brown, conducted on Thursday February 2nd, 2012.
- Interview with Mrs. Sibyl Cornelsen, conducted on Thursday February 2nd, 2012.
- Interview with Mr. Jim Ripley, conducted on Monday February 2nd, 2012.
- Interview with Mr. Robin Kersey, conducted on Monday February 2nd, 2012.
- Interview with Mr. Don Baizley, conducted on Monday January 23rd, 2012.
- Interview with Mr. Barré Hall, conducted on Thursday February 2nd, 2012.
- Interview with Mr. Michael Sinclair, conducted on Friday February 3rd, 2012.
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- Photograph of 201 Portage Avenue, the current home of Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP. Courtesy Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP.
- Photograph of interior of 201 Portage. Courtesy Thompson Dorfman Sweatman.
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