



Independent Advisory Board  
for Supreme Court of Canada  
Judicial Appointments

Comité consultatif indépendant  
sur la nomination des juges de la  
Cour suprême du Canada

Dear Madam/Sir,

**RE: Supreme Court of Canada Judicial Appointments Process**

On August 2, 2016, the Prime Minister of Canada established a new process for appointing Supreme Court of Canada Justices (<http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/08/02/prime-minister-announces-new-supreme-court-canada-judicial-appointments-process>). Under the new process, the Independent Advisory Board for Supreme Court of Canada Judicial Appointments has been given the task of identifying suitable candidates who are jurists of the highest caliber and who are **functionally bilingual** and **representative of the diversity** of our great country.

The Prime Minister's mandate letters to Board members (<http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/08/04/mandate-letter-members-independent-advisory-board-supreme-court-canada-judicial>) states that they should develop and submit, no later than September 23, 2016, a list of three to five qualified and functionally bilingual candidates to fill the vacancy resulting from Justice Thomas Cromwell's resignation. The Prime Minister asks that the Board, in making its selection, consider **the custom of regional representation** on the Court as being one of the factors to be taken into consideration.

The Board's Terms of Reference (<http://www.fja-cmf.gc.ca/scc-csc/mandate-mandat-eng.html>), stipulate that members must actively seek out qualified candidates and, in establishing a list of qualified candidates, they seek to support the Government of Canada's intent to achieve a gender-balanced Supreme Court of Canada that also reflects **the diversity of members of Canadian society**, including Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities and members of linguistic, ethnic and other minority communities, including those whose members' gender identity or sexual orientation differs from that of the majority.

As the Board's Chairperson, I encourage you to use your networks and knowledge of the judiciary and legal community in your jurisdictions to identify qualified candidates, and urge them to submit an application through the Office of the Commissioner for Federal Judicial Affairs at the following address: <http://www.fja-cmf.gc.ca/scc-csc/form-formulaire-eng.html>. Your early attention to this matter is much appreciated as the deadline to file an application for appointment to the Supreme Court of Canada is August 24, 2016, at 23:59 PDT.

Yours truly,

The Right Honourable Kim Campbell, P.C., C.C., O.B.C., Q.C.  
Chairperson, Independent Advisory Board for Supreme Court of Canada Judicial Appointments