



ARBITRATION PLACE

An all-encompassing approach

## The Honourable Robert J. Sharpe joins Arbitration Place

March 9, 2020 (Toronto) — Arbitration Place proudly announces that the Honourable Robert J. Sharpe, a former Justice of the Court of Appeal for Ontario, has joined Arbitration Place. He will work in Canada and internationally.

Mr. Sharpe brings to arbitration and mediation his broad and deep experience as a trial and appellate judge, litigation counsel, law teacher both in Canada and England, law school dean, legal scholar and author of many articles and a range of leading legal books, including on the law of injunctions and specific performance.

“Bob Sharpe’s distinguished record as an academic, judge and writer will quickly propel him to the forefront in the world of Canadian and international arbitration,” said the **Right Honourable Beverley McLachlin, P.C., C.C., FCI Arb**, former Chief Justice of Canada, who has become a highly regarded international and Canadian arbitrator also based at Arbitration Place. “He has penned a host of seminal judgements on commercial issues, and his grasp of the law in this area is unmatched. Throughout his career, he has excelled at untangling complex fact situations and finding clear and fair legal solutions. Justice Sharpe is a welcome addition to the Arbitration Place roster.”

Mr. Sharpe was a highly respected judge of the Court of Appeal for Ontario for over 20 years, from 1999 to 2020, and routinely sat on bilingual appeals. From 1995 to 1999, he was an Ontario Superior Court of Justice trial judge. After receiving his D.Phil. from Oxford in 1974, he was called to the Ontario Bar and practiced in Toronto as litigation counsel. Mr. Sharpe was then a law professor at the University of Toronto from 1976 to 1988 and served under former Canadian Chief Justice Brian Dickson as Executive Legal Officer at the Supreme Court of Canada for two years. Mr. Sharpe was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Toronto in 1990, where he served until his appointment to the Ontario Superior Court. In 2011, while continuing as an appellate judge in Ontario, he was appointed as a Visiting Professor at Oxford University.

“I am delighted and honoured to be joining Arbitration Place and its impressive roster of arbitrators and mediators” said Mr. Sharpe. “After 25 years on the bench as a trial and appellate judge, I very much look forward to becoming involved in the world of arbitration and alternative dispute resolution.”

“Bob Sharpe is a wonderful addition to our roster, which is now over 30 strong,” said **Kimberley Stewart**, CEO of Arbitration Place. “I warmly welcome him. I have been amazed with all that I have heard from our arbitrators and others about Bob’s wisdom, common sense, humanity, decency, efficiency, work ethic and legal knowledge. He will enjoy great success as an arbitrator and mediator in this next stage of his career.”

Mr. Sharpe is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, recipient of the Ontario Bar Association Distinguished Service Award, Senior Fellow of Massey College and recipient of the Mundell Medal for Distinguished Contribution to Law and Letters and honorary doctoral degrees from the Law Society of Upper Canada and the University of Windsor.

“A keen scholar, a great judge and a tireless and thoughtful arbitrator, Bob will be the ideal choice as chair of a panel (or sole arbitrator) in the most difficult cases,” said the **Honourable Ian Binnie, C.C., Q.C.**, another much sought after arbitrator based at Arbitration Place.

Robert Sharpe has authored and co-authored books on a range of topics including injunctions and specific performance, habeas corpus, interprovincial product liability litigation, Canadian constitutional law and litigation (The Charter of Rights and Freedoms), on famous trials (The Currie Libel Trial; The Persons Case: The Origins and Legacy of the Fight for Legal Personhood; and The Lazier Murder), and a biography of former Canadian Chief Justice Brian Dickson.

Most recently he wrote “Good Judgment: Making Judicial Decisions”, a book in which he discusses the role of judges in the common law tradition, what judges do, what is properly within their role and how they approach their decision-making task.

Mr. Sharpe is currently President of the Osgoode Society for Legal History and a patron of the Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal.

*For more information, or to arrange an interview with the Honourable Robert Sharpe or an Arbitration Place Representative, please contact Kim Stewart at [kim@arbitrationplace.com](mailto:kim@arbitrationplace.com).*

## **About Arbitration Place**

Arbitration Place operates fully integrated arbitration centres in downtown Toronto, the heart of Canada’s financial industry, and Ottawa, Canada’s national capital. Featuring a roster of internationally renowned resident and member arbitrators, it offers an ‘all-encompassing approach’, which includes state-of-the-art hearing and breakout rooms, concierge-level administrative services, an on-site commercial kitchen staffed by a team of chefs, and in-house legal counsel to act as a tribunal secretary.

Arbitration Place also hosts an on-site court reporting service that offers a complete portfolio of reporting, transcription, and videography services — staffed with personnel that have the highest certification standards, and years of experience handling arbitral proceedings.