

Ottawa, August 4th, 2008.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I have been asked to provide a character reference with respect to Mr. Justice Paul Cosgrove and it is with pleasure that I do so.

I have known Mr Justice Cosgrove since 1982 when I was appointed to the District Court in Ottawa.

Since then I have had many occasions, socially and professionally, to meet with Paul. We have often discussed legal problems we encountered over the years and I learned to appreciate his input in these discussions.

As a person, I have always found Paul to be sociable, friendly, communicative, honest and helpful.

As a jurist, he has shown himself to be compassionate and knowledgeable, always ready to help. He is a person of integrity and anxious to be fair and dispense justice. He will listen to advice proffered but once he has made up his mind on any subject, will pursue it with conviction.

His life as a jurist was one of integrity, fairness and, as far as I am aware, competent.

Of one thing, I am sure, and that is that any decision he made, was made only after he had given it much thought and was based on his true feelings about what was fair and just.

In short, I believe Paul Cosgrove to be a man of great integrity who took his work very seriously and did what he thought was the right thing to do.

I consider Paul a friend and a person I feel fortunate to have known.

Yours very sincerely,

Gene Merwin