

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AUGUST 18 1995**

JOHN TAIT RECEIVES 1995 CBA PRESIDENT'S AWARD

OTTAWA – Former Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General John Tait has been named the recipient of the Canadian Bar Association's President's Award. Tait will receive the prestigious award at a Council luncheon on August 19 during the Association's Annual Meeting in Winnipeg (Aug. 20-23).

"This award honours John Tait's contributions to the legal community, particularly in the areas of legislation and law reform," says CBA President Tom Heintzman, Q.C., of Toronto. "Through his efforts, the Association was able to call upon the expertise within its ranks to provide input on proposed legislation."

Born in Montréal, Tait was called to the Québec Bar in 1974. Currently Senior Advisor to the Privy Council Office and Skelton-Clark Fellow at Queen's University, Mr. Tait's distinguished career in public service spans over two decades.

From 1988 to 1994, Mr. Tait held the portfolios of Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General. As Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Law, from 1983 to 1986, Mr. Tait worked extensively in Charter-related work, including equality rights, fundamental freedoms and language rights.

He began his formal studies in 1967 at Princeton University, majoring in Public and International Affairs. A Rhodes scholar, he studied Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Oxford University. A BCL degree from McGill University followed, and he was called to the Quebec Bar in 1974.

The President's Award recognizes outstanding achievement in the areas of legal proficiency, legal scholarship, the legal profession, the law, the CBA and public life. Past recipients include: former Supreme Court Justice Bertha Wilson, former Chief Justice Brian Dickson; legal historian Wilbur Bowker and Judge Jules Deschênes.

Mr. Tait will receive the President's Award at the Council Luncheon on Saturday, August 19 at the Winnipeg Convention Centre (MR 2). This event is open to accredited journalists who have registered with the CBA media Centre (Meeting Room 16) at the Winnipeg Convention Centre.

The Canadian Bar Association represents the legal profession on a national and international level. It is dedicated to improvement in the law and the administration of justice. Some 35,000 lawyers, judges, notaries, law teachers, and law students from across Canada are members.

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