

HUNTER, Stephen

Hunt(er)'s over for new judge

By Tom Gavey

The Intelligencer

Stephen Hunter says now is an "exciting time" to join the province's judiciary.

The Belleville lawyer has been appointed a Justice of the Ontario Court (Provincial Division) as of June 1. The announcement was made Friday by Attorney General Howard Hampton.

"... This is an exciting time with the province in the process of court reform and I want to be part of that," says Hunter.

Hunter will fill a vacancy in Morrisburg and serve in the east-

ern region, which covers an area west to Trenton and east to Ottawa. He says he and his family will continue to live in the Quinte area.

Hunter, 41, obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from Queen's University in Kingston before moving to Halifax to complete his law degree at Dalhousie University. He's a graduate of Moira Secondary School.

He was called to the Bar in April, 1976 and that same month opened a law partnership in Belleville with Robert Reynolds. Hunter was recently recognized as a specialist in civil and criminal litigation and certified by the Law Society of Upper Canada.

Active in local justice organizations, Hunter is a member of the Hastings County Criminal Lawyers Association and the local Courts Delay Reduction Committee.

He is a founding member of the Hastings County Sexual Abuse Committee and in March was recognized with an honorary lifetime membership to the Hastings County Children's Aid Society for his work with that group.

He says the firm will make an announcement soon on what changes will be made with his departure.

"I hope to take a commonsense approach to matters. The court is there to serve the public needs and not the other way around," says Hunter.



Stephen Hunter

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