



Ombudsman André Marin to receive University of Ottawa honour

TORONTO (September 19, 2012) – Ontario Ombudsman André Marin will be inducted September 30 into the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law’s Common Law Honour Society, the faculty’s most prestigious award for graduates in common law.

The award, to be presented at a gala dinner at the Chateau Laurier, is presented annually to three or four alumni who have used their legal education to achieve great success in their profession and/or made a significant contribution to the community. More about the Common Law Honour Society can be found [here](#).

Mr. Marin is a *Magna Cum Laude* with First Class Honours graduate of the University of Ottawa law school’s National Program. He obtained his LL.L. in 1988 and his J.D. in 1989. He is the first to be honoured by both the common law and civil law sections. Last fall, he received the civil law section’s Ordre du mérite (Order of Merit), which recognizes alumni who have made remarkable contributions to the legal profession and demonstrated exceptional community and social engagement.

The honour for Mr. Marin caps a year in which he also received the Canadian Bar Association’s highest award for a public sector lawyer, the John Tait Award (in August), and the Ontario Bar Association (OBA)’s Distinguished Service Award (in April) for his contributions to the legal profession and significant law-related benefits for the residents of Ontario. He also received the OBA’s Tom Marshall Award of Excellence for his outstanding contribution to the practice of public sector law in Ontario in 2009.

Mr. Marin’s career has been devoted to bringing accountability to public institutions. As Ontario’s Ombudsman since 2005, his high-profile systemic investigations have sparked government reforms affecting millions of Ontarians, from newborn babies to lottery players to citizens whose civil liberties were compromised during last year’s G20 summit in Toronto. He has also shared his investigative expertise with fellow watchdogs around the world, through an innovative training course (known as “Sharpening Your Teeth”) that has been attended by ombudsmen and investigators from more than 30 countries on five continents.

Before becoming Ontario’s Ombudsman, Mr. Marin was Canada’s first military ombudsman for more than six years, and director of Ontario’s Special Investigations Unit from 1996 to 1998. Prior to 1996, he was an assistant Crown attorney in Ottawa.

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