

John MacLean, CIC.C

Senior Legal Counsel, Legal & Constitutional Law Division
Nunavut Department of Justice

John MacLean joined the Nunavut Department of Justice as Legal Counsel August 2010, and has previously served the Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner of Ontario and the New Brunswick Department of Health. In February 2023, John was promoted to Senior Legal Counsel, with primary practice areas in procurement, construction, and privacy. John is also responsible for developing and delivering training programs for lawyers and clients. He holds a Bachelor of Journalism with combined honours in journalism and history from the University of King's College and a Bachelor of Laws from the University of New Brunswick. In 2016, John completed the Business Leadership Program for In-House Counsel from the Rotman School of Management, and was granted the designation of Certified In-House Counsel-Canada (CIC.C) by the Canadian Corporate Counsel Association.

Law Society Memberships

- Law Society of Ontario (2009-present)
- Law Society of Nunavut (2010-present)

Professional Activities

- President, Law Society of Nunavut (2019-2021)
- Director, Nunavut Lawyers Assistance Program (NuLAP)
- Past-President, CBA Nunavut Branch (2013-14)
- Young Lawyer Representative, Canadian Corporate Counsel Association Executive (2014-15)
- Director, Foundation for the Study of the Processes of Government in Canada (the Forum for Young Canadians), (2013-2019)

Litigation Highlights

- *R. v. Comeau*, 2018 SCC 15 (Lead Counsel for Intervenor AG of Nunavut);
- *Adlair Aviation (1983) Ltd. v. Nunavut*, 2017 NUCJ 19 (Instructing Counsel);
- *Nunavut (Minister of Environment) v. WSCC and Jenkins*, 2013 NUCJ 11 (Lead Counsel);
- Inquest into the High Rate of Suicide in Nunavut (Co-Counsel for the GN)

Publications and Presentations

"5 Things Every Lawyer Should Know About Privacy" (CBA Nunavut Branch)	April 2014
"Courtesy and Good Faith: Ethics and Professionalism Issues for Aboriginal Law Practitioners" (Program Moderator)	June 2014
CCCA In-House Counsel Spring Training Camp (Program Moderator)	April 2015
"Procurement in the North" (Ontario Crown Counsel Summer School)	June 2016
"On Time and On Budget" CCCA Magazine, Fall 2017 Issue	September 2017
"Northern Ingenuity: Thoughts from a GN Counsel on Law, Professionalism, and Procurement" (Presentation to the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General)	December 2017

“Come for the Job but Stay for the People: Public Sector Lawyering in the North” (Presentation to the CBA Public Sector Lawyers Section)	March 2020
“LexisNexis COVID-19 Justice Adapting: Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Yukon Law Societies” (Speaker; national webinar)	May 2020
“In the House with In-House” (CCCA Interview Series)	April 2020
“The Law of Emergencies: Jurisdictional Challenges and the Federal Court Ruling” (Faculty, Osgoode PD)	April 2024