

## **Bill Everett, Q.C. is the Newest Resident Neutral at Vancouver Arbitration Chambers**

Vancouver Arbitration Chambers is pleased to announce that effective April 15, 2016 **William (Bill) M. Everett, Q.C., C. Arb.**, has joined VAC as a Resident Neutral, where he will practice as an independent arbitrator and mediator. Bill Everett is a former partner of the Vancouver-based law firm of Lawson Lundell LLP where during a career spanning 44 years he established a reputation as a leading counsel in complex commercial litigation and arbitration matters. He was also recently appointed a Commissioner of the British Columbia Utilities Commission and member of the British Columbia Property Assessment Appeal Board.

“My plan is to build on the experience I already have as an arbitrator and mediator,” says Everett. “VAC gives me the perfect platform to do that.”

**Gerry Ghikas, Q.C., FCI Arb.**, who is the first Resident Neutral at VAC, and a highly-regarded international and domestic arbitrator, welcomes Bill Everett’s arrival: “I have known Bill for many years. He is a first class professional and a fine person, with all of the characteristics you look for in an arbitrator or mediator. I have no doubt that he is going to be very successful.”

Vancouver Arbitration Chambers provides offices and support facilities for a handful of select independent arbitrators and mediators. Located in the prestigious HSBC Building in Vancouver’s business district VAC is operated by Charest Reporting Inc., which also operates arbitration and mediation hearing facilities at the Vancouver Centre for Dispute Resolution in the same building, along with its traditional court reporting business.

**Spencer Charest**, who says that other announcements will soon follow, explains that one of the advantages of tenancy at VAC is that it allows each Resident Neutral to practice independently from the others, avoiding conflicts of interest. “We provide each Resident Neutral with a secure office, and with receptionist, telephone, IT and other services, as well as access to the hearing rooms at VCDR and our court reporting services,” Charest says. “They are in the same suite of offices and can enjoy collegiality with people with similar professional interests, but they each have a stand-alone practice.”

Bill Everett received his LLB from the University of British Columbia. He was appointed Queens Counsel in 1991 and was the 2012 recipient of the UBC Law Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award. He is a Bencher and past President of the Law Society of British Columbia.

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