

The Honourable Madam Justice Frances Kiteley

The Honourable Madam Justice Frances Kiteley was appointed a judge of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice in 1995, after a distinguished career of almost two decades in private practice. Justice Kiteley has received many awards for her service to the legal profession, including the 1991 Canadian Bar Association Ontario Branch Distinguished Service Award, the 1992 Women's Law Association of Ontario's President's Award, and the 1994 Law Society Medal.

Justice Kiteley was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1976, after completing her B.A. at York University and her law degree at the University of Western Ontario. She began her career at Atlin, Goldenberg, Cohen, Gamble & Armel, moving to Cassels, Mitchell, Somers, Dutton & Winkler in 1978, and becoming a partner at Symes, Kiteley & McIntyre in 1980. She went on to become a partner at Smith, Lyons, Torrance, Stevenson & Mayer for eight years before being appointed to the bench.

In 1987, Justice Kiteley was elected to her first term as a bencher of The Law Society of Upper Canada. As a bencher, she held several high-profile positions such as chair of the Legal Aid Committee and chair of the Women in the Legal Profession Committee. She was instrumental in bringing the challenges of women in the profession to the attention of Convocation.

She served as a member of numerous Law Society committees, including: the Court Reform Committee, the Special Committee on Paralegals, the Special Committee on Access to Justice and the Pilot Project for Case Management. As a member of the Open Convocation Committee, Justice Kiteley successfully worked to change Convocation from in camera to open meetings.

Justice Kiteley was also active with the Canadian Bar Association (CBA) at both the provincial and national levels, sitting on numerous committees. She also served as co-chair of the Joint Committee on Court Reform (Ontario), chair of the Family Law Section (Ontario and National), chair of the National Legal Aid Liaison Committee (National), co-chair of the National Legal Aid Symposium, and as a member of the CBA's National Council.

As a keen supporter of court technology issues, Justice Kiteley was Ontario's representative on the Judges Technology Advisory Committee of the Canadian Judicial Council, a judicial member of the Ontario E-Filing Implementation Committee, and is currently the co-chair of the board of directors of the Canadian Centre for Court Technology. Justice Kiteley is also the chair of Ontario Justice Education Network's board of directors, as well as a founding member of the board.