

CHAPTER 8

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Commission recommends that:

Recommendation 1

The salary of puisne judges be established as follows:

Effective April 1, 2000: \$198,000, inclusive of statutory indexing effective that date;

Effective April 1, 2001: \$200,000, plus statutory indexing effective that date;

Effective April 1, 2002 and 2003, respectively: the salary of puisne judges should be increased by an additional \$2,000 in each year, plus statutory indexing effective on each of those dates.

(Section 2.4)

Recommendation 2

The salaries of the Justices of the Supreme Court of Canada, and the Chief Justices and Associate Chief Justices should be set, as of April 1, 2000 and inclusive of statutory indexing effective that date, at the following levels:

Supreme Court of Canada:	
Chief Justice of Canada	\$254,500
Justices	\$235,700
Federal Court and Tax Court:	
Chief Justices	\$217,100
Associate Chief Justices	\$217,100
Superior and Supreme Courts and Courts of Queen's Bench:	
Chief Justices	\$217,100
Associate Chief Justices	\$217,100

As of April 1 in each of 2001, 2002 and 2003, these salaries should be adjusted to maintain the same proportionate relationship with the salary of puisne judges established as of April 1, 2000.

(Section 2.6)

Recommendation 3

Incidental Allowances be adjusted to a level of \$5,000 per year effective as of April 1, 2000.

(Section 3.1)

Recommendation 4

Northern Allowances be adjusted to a level of \$12,000 per year effective as of April 1, 2000.

(Section 3.2)

Recommendation 5

Effective as of April 1, 2000, Representational Allowances be set as follows:

Chief Justice of Canada	\$18,750
Chief Justices of the Federal Court of Canada and the Chief Justice of each province	\$ 12,500
Supreme Court of Canada Puisne Judges, Trial Chief Justices, Other Designated Chief Justices and Senior Judges	\$ 10,000

(Section 3.3)

Recommendation 6

Effective as of April 1, 2000, contributions toward a judicial annuity be reduced from 7% of salary to 1% of salary for the period during which a judge is entitled to receive a full annuity but continues to work in either a full-time or supernumerary capacity.

(Section 4.6)

Recommendation 7

Effective as of April 1, 2000, the relevant regulations under the *Income Tax Act* be amended to afford judges the opportunity to contribute to RRSPs at the time they

cease making contributions to the judicial annuity scheme, on the same basis as public servants are now allowed to do.

(Section 4.7)

Recommendation 8

Effective as of April 1, 2000, judges have the right to elect supernumerary status for a period not exceeding 10 years upon attaining eligibility for a full pension.

(Section 4.8)

Recommendation 9

Effective as of April 1, 2000, to be eligible for early retirement with a pro-rated pension, a judge must serve at least 10 years and must be at least 55 years of age.

(Section 4.9)

Recommendation 10

Effective as of April 1, 2000, a pro-rated pension, available to any judge who has served at least 10 years and is at least 55 years of age, be calculated as $\frac{2}{3}$ of salary in the year that early retirement is elected, multiplied by the number of years of service divided by the number of years which the electing judge would have been required to serve in order to earn a full annuity.

(Section 4.9)

Recommendation 11

Effective as of April 1, 2000, the pro-rated pension not be payable without actuarial reduction prior to the judge attaining age 60 and that the amount of the pension be indexed by the Consumer Price Index in each year that it is deferred.

(Section 4.9)

Recommendation 12

Should a judge who is eligible for early retirement wish to elect a pro-rated annuity that is payable immediately, the value of the annuity be reduced by 5% per year for every year that the annuity is paid in advance of age 60.

(Section 4.9)

Recommendation 13

Effective as of April 1, 2000, the annuity provisions of the *Judges Act* be amended to provide judges with the option to elect a survivor's benefit of 60% of the judicial annuity, with a consequent reduction in the initial benefit calculated to minimize any additional cost to the annuity plan.

(Section 4.10)

Recommendation 14

Effective as of April 1, 2000, judges have the further flexibility to elect a survivor's benefit of up to 75% of the annuitant's pension, with an actuarial reduction to initial benefits that will make the election as close to cost neutral as possible.

(Section 4.10)

Recommendation 15

Subsection 44(3) of the *Judges Act* be repealed.

(Section 4.10)

Recommendation 16

Effective as of April 1, 2000, a Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada who retires and who, with the certification of the Chief Justice is required to participate in judgments for up to six-months following retirement, be compensated at full salary (calculated at the time of retirement) for the time that he or she so serves, and be entitled to an appropriate portion of the Incidental and Representational Allowances.

(Section 4.12)

Recommendation 17

A separate plan, under the general framework of the PSMIP, be created promptly for the Judiciary so as to provide the Judiciary with basic life insurance, post-retirement life insurance, and supplementary life insurance benefits that are, in all material respects, the same as those now enjoyed by members of the Executive Plan.

(Section 5.1)

Recommendation 18

Incumbent judges, at the time of introduction of the new plan, have the option, at their sole discretion, of opting out of insurance coverage or electing to accept coverage of 100% of salary, rather than 200% of salary.

(Section 5.1)

Recommendation 19

The Government take all available steps with the trustees of the applicable health benefits plan to effect a change under the plan to the hospital benefits available to the Judiciary, so as to increase such hospital benefits from \$60.00 per day to \$150.00 per day at no cost to judicial participants in the plan.

(Section 5.2)

Recommendation 20

Effective as of April 1, 2000, survivors of members of the Judiciary who die by accident or an act of violence occurring in the course of, or arising out of, the performance of their judicial duties should receive survivor benefits at the maximum level and on the same basis as now provided for the most senior category of public servants for whom such benefits are currently provided.

(Section 5.3)

Recommendation 21

When the dental plan is amended to provide coverage to retirees, retired judges be eligible to participate on the same terms and conditions as other retirees.

(Section 5.4)

Recommendation 22

The Government pay 80% of the total representational costs of the Conference and Council incurred in connection with their participation in the process of this inquiry as of May 31, 2000, such payment by the Government not to exceed the aggregate amount of \$230,000, inclusive of the amount of \$80,000 already contributed by the Government as of the date of this report and any extraordinary and explicitly identifiable increase to the budget of the Council in order to fund the participation of the Judiciary in the work of this Commission, and that the remainder of such costs be paid by the Conference and Council in such proportion as they deem appropriate.

(Section 6.5)