

# Moira R. Váně

## Education

- Bachelor of Laws, University of Alberta
- Bachelor of Arts, Criminology Major, Simon Fraser University
- Le Petit Séminaire de Québec, Diplôme D'Études Secondaires

## Experience

2012-present      **Public Prosecution Service of Canada**      Alberta

### **Crown Prosecutor**

- Represented the Crown in the prosecution of criminal and quasi-criminal offences found in the *Criminal Code* and Federal statutes and regulations.
- Prepared memos and opinions in many of these legal areas.
- Collaborated with Federal investigative agencies and contributed to policies, practices and procedures.
- Reviewed files with thousands of documents, prepared charge reviews and gave investigative advice.
- Delivered presentations for specialized investigators on a variety of topics, including mock trials at RCMP Academy (Depot Division), disclosure and note taking, confidential informants, voluntariness, *Charter* and caution issues, search warrants, and regulatory enforcement.

2018-2019      **Minister's Office - Justice and Solicitor General**      Alberta

### **Chief of Staff and Special Legal Advisor**

- Served as the coordinator and legal expert for Government of Alberta matters that required analysis, providing advice primarily to the Minister of Justice and Premier's Executive Team.
- Ensured that elected leadership and principal political staff in the Premier's and Ministers' Offices were presented with timely and accurate information and analysis on government, opposition party, and stakeholder legal recommendations and policies, ensuring a menu of options to pragmatically deal with legal matters.
- Participated in crafting policy, provided advice on government and ministry issues, and lead and participated in assigned projects to ensure timely responses, good procedures, or alternate solutions were offered.

2003-2012      **Alberta Justice**      Edmonton, St. Paul and Medicine Hat, AB

### **Crown Prosecutor**

Conducted Regulatory Prosecutions. Have worked in the Forestry, Gaming and Liquor, Advanced Education, Apprenticeship, WCB, and Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) Portfolios. Was also the first dedicated Animal Protection prosecutor in Canada for Agriculture and the ASPCA. As the dedicated prosecutor, I focused

on setting and achieving new records in sentencing. During the last two years at Alberta Justice my focus was exclusively in OHS, primarily fatalities.

- Prepared memos and opinions in many of these areas.
- Provided pre-charge screening and advice during investigations.
- Conducted a sensitive prosecution of a prosecutor for the Federal Department of Justice.
- Conducted Youth and Adult Criminal Court docket and prosecutions in St. Paul, Cold Lake, Lac La Biche, Lloydminster, Vermilion, Wainwright, Vegreville, Medicine Hat and Brooks.
- Engaged in the ECR protocol to resolve matters in a timely and just fashion.
- Gained extensive court experience, strengthened writing, research and analytical skills.

Fall 2003                      **United Nations Development Program**                      Bratislava, Slovakia  
**Internship**

- Worked in the Gender Division of the UNDP's Head Office.
- Compiled data on and researched the status of women in politics in Central and Eastern Europe. Gained experience in Gender Based Analysis and how it works to ensure that the impacts and potential impacts of policies and programs can be identified so that they can have fair and intended results across the population. Specific research focus was on the writing of laws with GBA+.

**Professional  
development**

- Government of Alberta and Government of Canada School of Public Service Courses: Accelerating Women's Leadership, GOA (2017), Having difficult conversations (G131 - 2017), Creating a respectful workplace (G417-2017), Performance Management for the Govt of Canada (G140- 2017), Becoming a Supervisor: the basics (G312-2017) , Overcoming your own unconscious bias (W006-2020), Understanding unconscious bias (W005-2021), Canada Labour Code Part II (Z065-2020), Certificate of Completion Introduction to Gender Based Analysis + (2020), Harassment and violence prevention for employees (W101-2021), Bridging the diversity gap (W003-2021), Harassment and Violence Prevention for Managers(W102-2022)
- LESA, Immigration Fundamentals, 2017
- School for Prosecutors, Level Two, Advanced Issues for Prosecutors-Wiretap, 2015
- Media training by Hill & Knowlton Strategies, 2015
- School for Prosecutors, Level One, Prosecution Fundamentals, 2012
- Attended Alberta Crown Prosecutors' Conferences, 2003-2011
- ASLET Homicide Investigators Conference, 2010
- Search Warrant Drafting Course by CISA at K Division HQ, 2008
- Crown Prosecutors' Continuing Legal Education: Impaired Driving, 2006
- Crown Prosecutors' Continuing Legal Education: Advocacy, 2005
- Institut de développement professionnel en langue française, Sudbury, 2005
- Crown Prosecutors' Continuing Legal Education: Crimes Against the Person, 2004

- Edmonton Police Service Sexual Assault Investigators' Conference, March 2004
- Family Violence Police Training, October, 2004

### Training delivery

- Tedx Talk at the University of Alberta, "The power of personal activism", March 10, 2019
- Lecturer at the University of Alberta, Department of Agriculture, "Prosecuting animal welfare laws in Alberta", (2009-2019)
- Organized and presented on several topics at the Regulatory Investigators fall training session, 2014
- Delivered presentation on s. 10 of the *Charter* to national audience at Regulatory Prosecutors Conference, 2013
- Presented on Confidential Informants at the Environment Canada Operations Managers Training School, 2013
- Conducted courtroom training for Parks Canada new recruits at RCMP Academy, Depot Division, 2012
- Provided Law Enforcement OHS training to provincial and federal investigators, 2011, 2012
- Paper preliminary inquiry training, 2012

### Accomplishments, Interests

- Winner of the 2022 Women in Law Leadership Award – Leadership in the Profession – Government/In-house
- Winner of the Director of Public Prosecutions Workplace Excellence Award, Diversity and Inclusion in the workplace, 2021
- Women's Law Forum - Canadian Bar Association, Executive member, 2018-2020
- Vice-President of the Alberta Crown Attorneys Association, 2008-2009
- Co-Chair, Alberta Crown Attorneys Association's Parental leave subcommittee, 2007-2011
- Winner of Edmonton's *Top 40 Under 40* by Avenue Magazine, 2009
- 2003 Winner of the Alberta Law Review William Morrow Legal Essay Contest, Law or Administration of Justice in the North
- French Member of Laskin Moot Team, a bilingual Canadian Moot, 2000-2001, 2001-2002

### Community involvement

- Benchler, Law Society of Alberta (2020-present)
- Founder of the Iris Barry Yake memorial robe bank (2020)
- Vice President Communications, Association of Justice Counsel (2019-present)
- Governing Council, Association of Justice Counsel (2019-present)
- Intervivos leadership mentor (2019-2020)
- Alberta Lawyer's Assistance Society, peer supporter (2012-present)
- Founder, coordinator, New Parents' Peer Support, ASSIST (2016-present)
- Extensive Condominium Board leadership experience, (2012-present)

- Volunteer for Crossroads, a sex trade worker outreach program (1999-2018)
- Organizing Committee member for Art on the Block, Art Gallery of Alberta (2007-2009)
- Founder and President of the NWT Students Coalition (1999-2001)

## Languages

- Bilingual in French and English