



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

For Immediate Release

October 26, 2018

Lorne Gibson Sworn In as Alberta's First Election Commissioner

Edmonton – Lorne Gibson was officially sworn in as Alberta's first Election Commissioner today at a ceremony hosted by the Honourable Robert E. Wanner, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.

"Mr. Gibson brings to the role of Election Commissioner close to 20 years of varied electoral experience and expertise," said Speaker Wanner. "Both, undoubtedly, will serve him well in establishing the many processes and policies that will become the framework for the new Legislature office."

Prior to his appointment as Election Commissioner Mr. Gibson worked as a professional election administrator and consultant, providing services and expertise in jurisdictions across Canada and around the world. This included seven years as an electoral management consultant with Elections Saskatchewan and the completion of several election-related projects for Elections Canada as well as the electoral offices of Nova Scotia, the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and British Columbia.

Internationally his consulting services have taken him to Zimbabwe, where he trained campaign finance observers for presidential elections; the Seychelles, where he was the electoral team expert on a Commonwealth Secretariat mission to observe and report on presidential elections; the Ukraine, where he was part of an observation mission involving presidential and Assembly elections; and in Iraq, where he worked for the International Foundation for Electoral Systems, assisting the Independent High Electoral Commission with strategic planning for elections.

Previous to his work as a consultant he served as Alberta's fifth Chief Electoral Officer from 2006 to 2009 and as Deputy Chief Electoral Officer with Elections Manitoba from 1998 to 2006.

Born and raised in Winnipeg, Manitoba, he obtained his bachelor of arts degree majoring in psychology and sociology and a master of arts degree majoring in sociology from the University of Manitoba.

The Election Commissioner will be responsible for ensuring compliance with and enforcement of certain obligations of entities regulated by the *Election Act* and *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*. In this capacity the Election Commissioner will be responsible for fully investigating complaints, levying administrative penalties, issuing letters of reprimand, entering into compliance agreements and recommending prosecutions.

Alberta's Election Commissioner is a nonpartisan officer of the Legislature appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly.

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