



November 22, 2016

Press Release: Stephen A. Thiele, Partner, Gardiner Roberts LLP to receive 2017 Honsberger Award from the Toronto Lawyers Association

The TLA Board of Trustees is pleased to announce Stephen A. Thiele as the 2017 recipient of the Honsberger Award. The TLA's mandated Three Pillars, Information, Education & Advocacy, are impeccably represented by Mr. Thiele's dedication to his Legal, Political and Social Community.

Mr. Thiele's life's work has been the embodiment of "Think Globally, Act Locally". As the Director of Research for Gardiner Roberts, Mr. Thiele has helped shape the legal arguments in countless high profile cases which have gone on to influence society in myriad ways - in one specific Supreme Court of Canada decision, shaping today's electoral legislative reform. The ideas and arguments evidenced in his varied bibliography of writing have added to a wider legal understanding outside the courts.

The reach of Mr. Thiele's charitable works has supported people on a spectrum from local to international. As a long time Rotary Club member and executive, he has organized and fundraised for humanitarian efforts to help children's organizations around the world such as the Kim Phuc Foundation (the young girl who's photo came to represent the Vietnam War in many people's minds), as well as youth baseball and hockey clubs found in his immediate community.

His civic interests have also taken him to contribute to the political process on the federal, provincial and municipal stage exhibiting a desire to bring people together in a common cause. Whether by seeking election to a school board, helping his neighbourhood organize environmental initiatives, or being nationally recognized as one of the 100 Canadians integral to the merger of the Federal Progressive Conservative and Alliance Parties, Mr. Thiele has worked to ensure that fairness, accountability and access remain an important part of the political establishment. He is a strong advocate for public education, working on the Advisory Committee to the TDSB and the Somali Parent Liaison Coalition.

In summary, Mr. Thiele's ongoing contributions to the education of legal minds, advocacy on behalf of the unrepresented, and informing the precepts of legal logic and theory make him an extraordinary representative of what the Honsberger Award is meant to celebrate.

The award will be presented to Mr. Thiele at the TLA's annual Awards of Distinction Reception to be held on March 2nd, 2017, at the King Edward Hotel.

For a full list of past recipients, please see [TLA Awards Webpage](#)

Stephen A. Mullings
President