

CANADIAN

Taxpayers

FEDERATION

Fighting for taxpayers

202, 10621 - 100 AVE
FINANCIAL BUILDING
EDMONTON, AB T5J 0B3

PH: 780.448.0159
FX: 780.482.1744
www.taxpayer.com

June 12, 2006

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Mr. John M. Moreau, QC
Commissioner
The Judicial Compensation Commission
310 - 9 Street NW
Calgary, Alberta
T2N 1T4

Dear Mr. Moreau,

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation (CTF) is a non-partisan, non-profit, advocacy organization whose mission is lower taxes, less waste and greater accountability at every level of government. On behalf of our approximately 18,000 supporters in Alberta, we appreciate the opportunity to provide our feedback on judicial compensation.

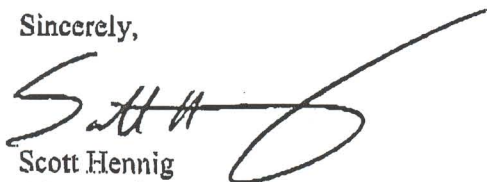
We have seen over the past few years the issue of judicial compensation cause considerable debate across Canada. Most recently we have seen the federal government decide to reduce a judicial increase recommended by a 2004 independent commission. Presumably, they did so because taxpayers and politicians have not received similar levels of increases to their compensation.

The CTF urges the Commission to recommend an annual salary adjustment equal to what our elected officials receive. Currently in Alberta, provincial MLAs, and the councils of both the City of Edmonton and the City of Calgary annually adjust their base salary by the change in the *Average Weekly Earnings of Albertans*, as calculated by Statistics Canada.

Using an impartial, third-party number that accurately reflects the change in the taxpayers ability to pay is in our opinion the most fair way to adjust judicial compensation. Furthermore, it would reduce the likelihood of politicians meddling with the adjustments, as they would have received an adjustment at the exact same level.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Scott Hennig
Alberta Director
Canadian Taxpayers Federation