

## New President of B.C. Branch, Canadian Bar Association

Leigh Harrison

Leigh Harrison has succeeded Barbara Nelson as President of the British Columbia Branch of the Canadian Bar Association on August 27th. He was born in Vancouver in 1949 and graduated from Point Grey High School. He took first year Arts at U.B.C. and then began three years of education by travelling, visiting and working in New Zealand, Australia, Southeast Asia and India. Returning to Vancouver in the fall of 1971 he reentered U.B.C. and majored in English. In 1977 he obtained an LL.B. and then articulated for a year with H. A. D. Oliver, Q.C., and was called to the Bar in 1978. He practised with Garry McShane and Michael Rhodes in New Westminster for a year before moving to Trail where he joined a first year moot partner and Stan Lanyon (now a labour lawyer in Vancouver) in practice. He has continued to practice criminal law in the years since but civil litigation has taken more and more of his time. Though his firm (McEwan, Harrison & Co.) carries on a typically varied small town practice, Leigh has generally refrained from the obscure arts of the solicitor.

In the last few years Leigh has become increasingly keen about running. This development at first led his partners to consider additional insurance on his life, though their anxiety abated as Leigh's collection of T-shirts from various 10 kilometre events expanded. In fact, *they* were the ones who suffered palpitations when a "Trail Times" headline a few years ago read, "Harrison Wins Golden Grind". Unfortunately, though Leigh did finish that notorious race, the winner was another masochist by the same name.

Leigh's community service has included participation on a number of community boards and committees related to recreation and the Arts. He has been active in theatre, though his stage career seems to have waned as his involvement in C.B.A. activities has become more time consuming. He has stopped impersonating cabinet ministers, for one thing.

Leigh has served the C.B.A. as a member of Provincial Council since 1981, and on the executive since 1984. He was Secretary-Treasurer and Vice-President in the two years leading up to his election as President. The British Columbia Branch of the Canadian Bar Association will certainly benefit from his wide experience and his particular insights into the challenges of "small-town" practice. A dedicated family man, good friend, capable practitioner, and valued partner, Leigh will serve us all well as an exemplary representative to and of our profession.

He is married to the former Gillian Scrivner and they have two children, Jeffrey, five, and Gregory, three.

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