

criminal cases from all courts in 1933 (23-24 Sec. V, c.53, s.17 (Cda.)). In 1949, the Supreme Court Act was amended to prohibit appeals from any judgment of any court in Canada to the Judicial Committee (13 Sec. VI, c.37, s.3 (Cda.)), so that all appeals, both civil and criminal, to the Judicial Committee were ended.

Federal Court of Canada

As a result of a sweeping revision in 1970, the Exchequer Court of Canada, established in 1875, has been replaced by the Federal Court. This Court consists of two divisions, Trial and Appeal, with a total of 12 judges. Both divisions sit throughout Canada. There is a new retirement age of 70 for these judges. They hold office during good behaviour and are only removable by the Governor General on address of the Senate and House of Commons. The Federal Court of Appeal has as part of its jurisdiction the competence to review all decisions and orders of a judicial or quasi-judicial nature rendered by federal boards or other tribunals, on questions of error in law, excess of jurisdiction, or failure to apply the principles of natural justice. The intent of this reform is to speed up proceedings and to encourage the development of a coherent body of administrative law. The Trial Division's jurisdiction includes jurisdiction in respect of such matters as admiralty, patents, customs and excise, and income tax. It also has jurisdiction in claims involving industrial property and in suits involving the Crown in right of Canada. In effect, the Crown in right of Canada is now in the same position before the court as an ordinary litigant.

An appeal lies to the Supreme Court of Canada from any judgment of the Federal Court of Appeal with leave of that Court when, in the opinion of the Court of Appeal, the question involved in the appeal is one that ought to be submitted to the Supreme Court for decision. Further, an appeal to the Supreme Court lies from a final or other judgment or determination of the Federal Court of Appeal, whether or not leave to make such appeal has been refused by the latter Court, when, in the opinion of the Supreme Court, the question involves a matter of public or legal importance. As with civil appeals to the Supreme Court of Canada, the former automatic right to appeal from a judgment of the Federal Court of Appeal in cases in which the amount in controversy exceeds \$10,000 has been repealed as of January 27, 1975. An appeal to the Supreme Court continues to lie from any decision of the Federal Court of Appeal in the case of a controversy between Canada and a province or between two or more provinces.