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## CANADA APPOINTS NEW COMMISSIONERS TO INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today announced the appointment of two new commissioners to the International Joint Commission (IJC). James A. Macaulay, Q.C. and Gordon W. Walker, Q.C. will each begin three-year terms with the Commission, effective immediately.

"The IJC has played an important role in the transboundary environmental relationship between Canada and the United States for over 80 years," said Mrs. McDougall. "It has proven to be an effective binational organization for addressing water quantity, quality, and air pollution concerns."

Mrs. McDougall also expressed her appreciation to the outgoing commissioners, the Honourable E. Davie Fulton, P.C., Q.C. and Robert Welch, Q.C., for their service to the IJC.

The International Joint Commission was created by the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909. The Commission is made up of three commissioners from Canada and three from the United States. It administers the Boundary Waters Treaty and has an important responsibility in implementing the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

Media Relations Office  
External Affairs and International Trade Canada  
(613) 995-1874

## BACKGROUNDER

### THE INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION

- The International Joint Commission is a Canada/United States binational organization established by the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909. The Commission, with three Canadian and three American commissioners, met for the first time in 1912. Its mandate is to help prevent and resolve disputes which concern water quantity and quality and air pollution along the Canada/U.S. boundary.
- The Commission must approve applications for the use, obstruction or diversion of waters that flow along, or across, the boundary if the proposal would affect the natural water levels or flows on the other side.
- The Commission investigates specific issues and monitors situations when requested by the governments. Implementation of Commission recommendations made under such references is at the discretion of the two governments.
- The commissioners act as a single body seeking common solutions rather than as separate national delegates representing the positions of their governments. Experts from both countries serve on technical boards for the Commission and carry out the required studies and field work.
- The Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, first signed in 1972 and replaced in 1978, commits each country to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Great Lakes Basin ecosystem. The Commission monitors and assesses progress under the Agreement and advises the governments on matters related to the quality of the boundary waters of the Great Lakes system.
- Headquarter offices are in Washington and Ottawa. The signing of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement in 1972 resulted in the opening of an additional office in Windsor, Ontario.

JAMES ARCHIBALD MACAULAY, Q.C.

James A. Macaulay was born on December 30, 1928. He was educated at St. Patrick's College, Ottawa, and Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and obtained his law degree from the University of British Columbia. He was called to the British Columbia bar in 1957. He practises law with the firm Macaulay and McColl in Vancouver.

Mr. Macaulay was a Lieutenant in the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry from 1950 to 1952, serving in the Second Battalion in Korea, in 1951.

GORDON WAYNE WALKER, Q.C.

Gordon W. Walker was born on September 10, 1941 in St. Thomas, Ontario. He obtained his Bachelor of Law degree from the University of Western Ontario in 1967 and became a member of the Law Society of Upper Canada in 1969.

Mr. Walker has served in public office since 1967, when he was elected as City of London Councillor. He was a Member of the Ontario Legislature from 1971 to 1983 and served as Minister of Correctional Services, Consumer and Commercial Relations, Industry and Trade, and Secretary for Justice.

Since 1985, Mr. Walker has been a partner in the firm of Walker and Wood, with offices in London and Toronto, specializing in administrative law with an emphasis on intergovernmental relations.