

# **MICHAEL D. WERIER**

Lawyer – Arbitrator – Mediator

## ***Personal Background***

- Born March 2, 1952 in Winnipeg, Manitoba
  - Life-long resident of Winnipeg
  - Married to Lainey Danzker
  - Two children, Steven and Nessa
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## ***Education***

- 1969 Grant Park High School
- 1972 B.A. (Political Science and Economics) University of Manitoba
- 1975 LL.B. Law School, University of Manitoba
- 1976 Called to the Bar of the Province of Manitoba
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## ***Professional Work History – Overview***

### **1975 – 1976**

- Articled to Joseph O'Sullivan and Sidney Schwartz at the firm then known as Norton, O'Sullivan, Schwartz.

### **1976 – 1978**

- Associate Lawyer.

### **1978 – 2017**

- Partner in various firms including D'Arcy & Deacon LLP until January 1, 2017.
- The focus of the earlier years of practice were devoted primarily to all types of litigation, including appearances at all levels of Courts and Administrative Tribunals.
- Specialty areas included civil litigation, all aspects of health care law, First Nation law, and labour and employment law.
- Arbitrator and mediation practice commenced in 2002.

### **January 1, 2017 to Present**

- Private Practice as Michael Werier Law Corporation continuing practice as Arbitrator, Mediator and legal counsel.
- Counsel to D'Arcy & Deacon LLP.

**2005 to Date**

- Arbitrator and Mediator (see details below).

**2007 - 2010**

- Sessional Instructor in Employment Law at the University of Manitoba Law School.
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***Arbitration & Mediation Experience***

- Arbitrator and Mediator in the public and private sector for rights and interest arbitrations, and for civil disputes.
  - Interest arbitrations involving Police, Fire Paramedics, University of Manitoba and Brandon Professors, Province of Manitoba Home Care Workers, Province of Manitoba Corrections Officers, Legal and Lawyer Crown Attorneys, Physicians, Teachers.
  - Mediated successful resolution of University of Manitoba and UMFA contract.
  - Manitoba Labour Board list of expedited arbitrators 2006 to present.
  - Canada Labour Code unjust dismissal and grievance Arbitrator, Federal Minister of Labour.
  - Adjudicated on several essential services disputes at Winnipeg hospitals.
  - Chairperson, Public Hearings into proposed changes to *Employment Standards Code of Manitoba, 2007*.
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***Tribunal, Project & Academic Appointments***

- **Vice-Chairperson**, Manitoba Labour Board, 2006 to present (part-time).
- **Chairperson**, Public Hearings into Proposed changes to *Employment Standards Code of Manitoba, 2007*.
- **Chairperson**, Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba Board of Directors, 2009 to present.
- Board Member, Association of Workers Compensation Boards of Canada, 2009 to present.
- **Chairperson**, Manitoba Labour Management Review Committee, 2006 to present. This Committee, among other things, reviews proposed changes to labour and employment law by the Government of Manitoba.
- **Chairperson**, Judicial Compensation Committee (Province of Manitoba Provincial Judges) 2002, 2005, 2011, 2013, and 2017.

- Commissioner for Salaries, Allowances and Retirement Benefits for Members of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly, 2007, 2012, 2017.
- Appeals Commissioner (Allowances Claims), Members of the Manitoba Legislature, 2011 to present.
- Sessional Lecturer, University of Manitoba Law School, 2007 – 2010.
- Northern Flood Agreement Arbitrator (adjudicating claims relating to flooding due to Hydro projects), 2015 to present.
- **Chairperson**, Legislative Review Committee, reviewing changes to the *Workers Compensation Act* in accordance with the Act, 2016 – 2017.
- **Chief Adjudicator**, Human Rights Adjudication Panel, Human Rights Code of Manitoba, appointed 2019.
- Commissioner on Physical Accommodation for Members of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly, Report dated January 28, 2016.
- Arbitrator of Disability Claims under the City of Winnipeg Civic Employees Disability Plan, 2015 to present.
- Report to City of Winnipeg on salary levels of City Councillors on Governance Committee of Council, 2011.

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### ***Presentations & Legal Education***

- Myers Labour Law Conference, “The perspective of the Arbitrator”.
- Manitoba Labour Board Seminar, Decision Making – Standard of Proof and Credibility, 2011.
- Manitoba Council of Administrative Tribunals, “Adequacy of Reasons”, 2015.
- Canadian Association of Counsel to Employers, “Collective Bargaining Strategies and Interest Arbitration”, September 2016.
- Association of Workers Compensation Boards of Canada, Panel Discussion, “Navigating the Tripartite Agreement”, June 12, 2018.
- Served in the past as a Seminar Leader, Bar Admissions Course in Administrative Advocacy.
- Guest Lecturer, University of Manitoba Law School, Art of the Deal, Executive Employment Agreements.
- Mid Winter Bar Association Meeting, Presentation on Administrative Advocacy.

***Memberships***

- Member of Manitoba Bar Association
  - Member of Canadian Bar Association
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***Volunteer & Past Community Activities***

- Chairperson, Board of Directors, Winnipeg Jewish Child & Family Services
  - Board Member and Secretary Treasurer, Jewish Foundation of Manitoba
  - Board Member and Vice President Community Relations, Jewish Federation of Winnipeg
  - Board of Directors, Winnipeg Blue Bombers
  - Board of Directors, “Shakespeare in the Ruins”
  - Board of Directors, MANTRA (Manitoba Tobacco Reduction Alliance)
  - Served on various committees for fund raising for charitable causes, including St. Boniface Research Foundation Golf Tournament, United Way Lawyers Division.
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***Recognition***

Selected by peers for inclusion in publication “Best Lawyers in Canada” in Labour and Employment Law and Alternative Dispute Resolution, including Lawyer of the Year for Manitoba.