

Dr. Dianne Saxe, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario



Dr. Dianne Saxe is the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario (ECO), a tough but fair watchdog over Ontario's environmental, energy and climate performance, and guardian of the *Environmental Bill of Rights (EBR)*. Prior to her appointment in December 2015, Commissioner Saxe was one of Canada's most respected environmental lawyers. She has 40 years' unparalleled experience writing, interpreting, and litigating Ontario's energy and environmental laws. Commissioner Saxe's career began with the Ontario Public Service and two major Bay Street law firms. She then established one of Canada's top environmental law firms.

A Certified Environmental Law Specialist, Commissioner Saxe was recognized in every Canadian and international legal rating service, including acknowledgement as one of the world's top 25 environmental lawyers by Best of the Best, 2008 and as Best Lawyers' first Environmental Lawyer of the Year for Toronto. Some of her numerous tributes and honours include the Award for Distinguished Service, the highest honour granted by the Ontario Bar Association; and the Gold Key Award for exceptional lifetime professional achievement, granted by Osgoode Hall Law School Alumni.

Commissioner Saxe has travelled extensively in Ontario and Canada, both in her professional practice and as a keen canoeist, kayaker and cross-country skier.

Her five-year appointment will be focused on serving the Ontario Legislature, improving the effectiveness of the *Environmental Bill of Rights* and catalyzing better environmental, energy and climate outcomes, for and with the people of Ontario.