Stuart McCormack – Professional Biography

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Barrister and Solicitor (Retired) | Former Municipal Councillor | Corporate and Organizational Governance

An accomplished legal professional and community leader, Stuart brings extensive experience in law, municipal government, organizational governance, financial oversight and international collaboration. With a distinguished career spanning more than three decades in private legal practice and leadership positions, his background offers valuable insight into public policy, institutional accountability and effective governance.

From 1987 to 2014, he was a partner at Stikeman Elliott LLP, one of Canada's leading law firms. During his tenure, he established the firm's national Intellectual Property (IP) practice group and served as Managing Partner of its Ottawa office from 2003 to 2013. He also served eight years as a member of the firm's Partnership Board, gaining considerable experience in organizational leadership, strategic planning and financial and operational oversight.

Earlier in his career, from 1982 to 1985, he worked with Sony Corporation in Tokyo, Japan, specializing in licensing, trademark matters and global anti-counterfeiting initiatives. This international experience broadened his understanding of intellectual property protection and international business relationships.

His commitment to public service and community involvement includes serving as a Niagara-on-the-Lake Town Councillor from 2018 to 2020. He subsequently chaired the Finance and Audit Committee of the Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library from 2018 to 2022, contributing to financial accountability, oversight and responsible organizational management.

His broader governance and leadership experience includes serving as Chair of International Science & Technology Partnerships Canada (2008–2014) and Chair of the Canada-Israel Research Development Foundation (1995–2007). His contributions to national and international initiatives also include an appointment by the Prime Minister to the National Advisory Panel on Advanced Industrial Materials (1990–1992) and representing Canada with the Human Frontier Science Project in France (1987–1989).

Throughout his career, he has demonstrated a strong commitment to responsible leadership, sound governance, public service and collaborative decision-making. His combination of legal expertise, municipal government experience and board-level leadership provides a valuable foundation for contributing to the Niagara-on-the-Lake Residents Association and its mandate of ensuring residents' perspectives are respected and considered in decisions affecting the community.