



June 3, 2022

Dear Friends:

At a Court of Appeal meeting today, I advised my colleagues of my intention to retire on August 31, 2022. I hope you will forgive this group message, but I want to make sure that you hear this news from me.

While this date is about 11 months before my mandatory retirement – my 75th birthday on July 30, 2023 – I believe the time is right for the Court of Appeal and it is right for me.

It is right for the Court, because it is as healthy and vibrant as it has ever been. We have made a successful leap into the digital age, and I don't think we will ever look back. We are at full strength, with a succession of stellar appointments over the past eight years joining an already strong and seasoned roster of outstanding colleagues. Our exceptional management and administrative staff and our team of brilliant lawyers and clerks provide a supportive work environment that is second to none.

As we emerge from the challenges of the pandemic, which have been much of our focus over the past two years, there is an opportunity to chart a new course for the future of the Court. A new Chief Justice will be able to build on what we have achieved, set new priorities for the future, and implement them over the long term.

The time is right for me because I have accomplished what I set out to achieve when I was appointed Chief Justice eight years ago. My health is good, and Elyse and I are ready for some new adventures. Our five daughters, their partners and our ten grandchildren, will be a big part of those adventures.

Serving on the Court of Appeal for Ontario has been the greatest privilege of my professional career. The opportunity to serve the public and the justice system as Chief Justice has been an unparalleled honour. Every recipient of this letter has made a difference in my life, through their personal encouragement and support or through their contributions to the administration of justice, and in many cases, through both. I will be forever grateful to you. I know there will be opportunities for a more personal good-bye over the course of the next three months.

With my thanks and best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "George R. Strathy", with a horizontal line underneath.