

Media Release



The Hon Martin Pakula MP
Attorney-General
Minister for Racing

Tuesday, 3 March, 2015

NEW JUDGE OF APPEAL APPOINTED

Attorney-General Martin Pakula today announced the appointment of Victorian Solicitor-General Stephen McLeish SC to the Court of Appeal.

Mr McLeish's appointment follows his outstanding work providing counsel to the Victorian Government over the past four years, as well as his many achievements in the legal field.

He brings a wide understanding of the law to the Court of Appeal with more than 27 years of experience since graduating from Melbourne University in 1987 and being admitted to practice in Victoria in 1988.

Formerly an associate to Chief Justice of Australia Sir Anthony Mason and a solicitor for Arthur Robinson & Hedderwicks, Mr McLeish completed a Master of Laws at Harvard in 1991.

An expert in constitutional law, Mr McLeish was a member of the Victorian Bar from 1993 to 2011 and was appointed as Senior Counsel in 2007.

He has also been published in the areas of public and corporate law, and has served on a number of Victorian Bar committees – including the Human Rights Committee.

The Victorian Government will shortly seek expressions of interest for a new Solicitor-General.

Quotes attributable to Attorney-General Martin Pakula

"Stephen McLeish is widely regarded as one of the best legal minds in the state – with outstanding qualifications, significant experience and a diligent record of service to the people of Victoria."

"Highly respected within the legal community, Mr McLeish has proven to be a wise sounding-board for his peers, who often seek his advice and guidance."

"I thank Mr McLeish for his tireless work as Solicitor-General, and congratulate him on his well-deserved appointment to the Court of Appeal – where I know his service to the justice system will once again be invaluable."