

Georges A Goyer, QC Memorial Award for Distinguished Service

On November 4, 2009, lawyers, Jerry McHale, QC, Acting Deputy Minister, Justice Services Branch, Ministry of Attorney General and Art Vertlieb, QC of the firm Vertlieb Dosanjh in Vancouver, received one of the Canadian Bar Association BC Branch's highest honours, the Georges A. Goyer, QC Memorial Award. The award was presented to Mr. McHale and Mr. Vertlieb at the 2009 Bench and Bar Dinner in Vancouver.



The Goyer Award was created in 1992 to recognize exceptional contributions to the legal profession, to jurisprudence, or to the law in British Columbia. The award was established in memory of Georges A. Goyer, QC, a respected member of the BC Branch who passed away after a courageous battle with cancer.

Mr. McHale was bestowed the Goyer Award for his commitment to alternative dispute resolution, his contributions to jurisprudence, and for his storied accomplishments as a public servant. Mr. Vertlieb was recognized for his long career as a passionate advocate for clients, and his exceptional efforts to establish both the Lawyers Assistance Program of British Columbia and the Trial Lawyers Association of British Columbia.

CBABC President James M. Bond, who chaired the selection committee, said "We had an unprecedented number of nominations for the Goyer Award this year, and we are extremely pleased to bestow our most prestigious Award on two such deserving individuals. While Mr. McHale, QC and Mr. Vertlieb, QC represent very different areas of the profession, they both share the qualities which are emblematic of this Award - dedication to the law, the people of British Columbia and the legal profession."

