



STRONG  
*Foundations*

B i s h o p   &   M c K e n z i e   C e l e b r a t e s   1 0 0   Y e a r s



STRONG  
*Foundations*

*As we celebrate our firm's 100th anniversary,  
we were inspired to create this piece in honour and  
remembrance of the people and events that helped  
to shape Bishop & McKenzie over the last century.*



# E. T. Bishop

## THE LEGACY BEGINS

# 1903-38

Provincial Archives of Alberta B7802

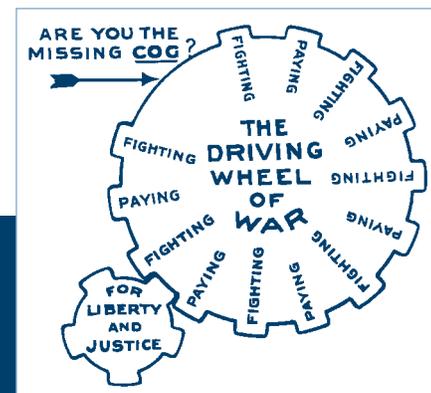


Edward Thomas Bishop, 1902

It was a bold — even daring — move when 26-year-old Edward Thomas (E.T.) Bishop picked up stakes and moved west. But, when E. T. established his legal practice in Edmonton, little did he know the opportunities that the frontier town would offer, or that he would be building the foundation of an enterprise that would continue to thrive and grow 100 years after he first opened his office doors.

Born and raised in St. Thomas Ontario, E.T. Bishop studied law at the University of Toronto's Osgoode Hall, much to the dismay of his father who (according to family legend) had a less than favorable opinion of the legal profession. However, in spite of his father's objections, E.T. completed his degree and was admitted to the Bar of Ontario in 1902.

After graduation, E.T. moved to Edmonton and opened his practice in an office on Jasper Avenue and 101 Street. While he began as a generalist, he went on to develop



WWI Canadian Patriotic Fund poster

Provincial Archives  
of Alberta P4907a

### *The war to end all wars – and its impact at home –*

Over the past century, far-flung events have reached into the very heart of Bishop & McKenzie, affecting the firm's evolution in a real and profound way. This was never more evident than in the second decade of the firm's existence...

By 1909, E.T. Bishop had taken on two partners and the firm had become "Bishop, Grant & Delavault". But in 1914, events in Europe would profoundly change the face of the world – and the firm. Only two years after the outset of World War I, E.T. was forced to change the firm's name to Bishop & Giroux. Grant and Delavault, Bishop's original partners, had become two of the nearly 60,000 Canadian fathers, sons and brothers who did not return from the battlefields of Europe.

a specialization in company law – an unusual (and far-sighted) move for a sole practitioner in a primarily agricultural town. Eventually, he became recognized by his peers for his skill in this area, and frequently performed corporate work for many of the city's larger law firms.

The practice continued to grow steadily, with E.T. taking on various partners over the years. He reached a significant professional milestone in 1925 when he was appointed a King's Counsel. He practiced as E.T. Bishop, K.C. from that point until 1938, when his son Edward Eversley (Ted) Bishop joined the practice. But it would be several years before the two Bishops would work together: with the outbreak of war in 1939, Ted enlisted in the R.C.A.F. and did not return from military service until 1946.

Sadly, the father and son partnership would last for less than a year. E.T. Bishop died at the age of 71 in 1947, leaving the firm in Ted's capable hands.

#### ◆ Signs of the times:1903

Edmonton's population: 6,995

Stanley Cup champion:  
Ottawa Silver Seven

Turkey dinner costs 20 cents

First edition of the Edmonton  
Journal published on Nov. 11

World News

Average annual household  
income: \$703 US/CDN

Crayola Crayons are introduced

1st World Series  
of Baseball played

Ford Motors incorporates  
and sells first Model A Car

*A frontier town* ~ Edmonton in 1903 was essentially a frontier town of less than 7000 inhabitants – in fact, Jasper Avenue was little more than an unpaved street with wooden sidewalks. Although not much is known about his motives for moving to Edmonton, it is easy to imagine that E.T. saw the area as a land of opportunity – the perfect place for an ambitious young man to build a career. And he was right. Thanks to a massive wave of immigration and the city being named as the capital of the newly formed province of Alberta in 1906, Edmonton became a bustling centre of government and commerce.



Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, 1903

# From Friendship

## TO PARTNERSHIP

# 1938-52



Ted Bishop, 1937



Ken McKenzie, 1939

The Great Depression of the 1930s hit the Canadian prairies harder than almost any other area. With unemployment hovering around the 30 percent mark throughout much of the decade, there were few jobs in any profession. So when Ted Bishop graduated from the University of Alberta's electrical engineering program in the mid-1930s, there was little choice but to enroll in the three-year program at the U of A's Faculty of Law. And because classes in the Faculty often had less than 20 students, it was not surprising that Ted Bishop, a senior, and Ken McKenzie, a freshman, became friends.

When Ted was admitted to the Bar in 1938, there was as little work for a new lawyer as there had been for a new engineer years before. So, even though his father changed the firm's name to Bishop & Bishop, Ted returned to work in the mountain parks where he had spent many summers during university. When World War II broke out, Ted joined the R.C.A.F. where he flew patrols on Canada's west coast and on missions from England through the Mediterranean, the Middle East and India.

Ken McKenzie graduated from law school in 1939 and was soon hired by Alberta's Attorney General to assist the province's Legislative Counsel in revising the Statutes

*The Rocky Mountain Goats* ~ When Ted Bishop met Ken McKenzie at the U of A, it was the beginning of a friendship that would last over 50 years. The two had many shared interests, including a love of the outdoors. During the 30s, along with many other U of A students, Ken and Ted spent their summers working in the tourist industry in Banff, which gave them the chance to indulge their passion for mountaineering and hiking. The close-knit group of friends who returned to the U of A in the fall formed a campus club, appropriately called The Rocky Mountain Goats, which later evolved into the Delta Mu chapter of the Phi Kappa Pi fraternity, where both Ted and Ken were members.



of Alberta. He worked on the project for nearly two years before enlisting in the Canadian army, serving on Canada's west coast, in England, and in Belgium and Holland. After the German surrender Ken joined the No. 1 Canadian Court-Martial Centre and participated in trying hundreds of court-martials before leaving the army.

### After the War – The Friends Come Home

After returning to Edmonton, Ken — determined to be his own boss — turned down an offer from the Attorney General to become the Legislative Counsel of the provincial legislature. But starting a legal practice was slow going, so he came upon a solution to earn an income while building his clientele. He and Clifton Purvis were hired to split the position of Prosecutor at the City of Edmonton Police Court, but since Purvis's private practice often kept him away from the Police Court, McKenzie spent more and more time as a prosecutor, and less time building his own practice.



Kenneth A. McKenzie,  
Canadian Officers Training Corps., circa 1940



Ted, Ken and friends on Icefields, Mt. Bryce, B.C., circa 1940

◆ ◆ ◆ From Friendship to Partnership  
1938-52

By 1948, Ken was working almost full time as a prosecutor when the Attorney General renewed his previous offer. This time, Ken accepted. From 1948 to 1952, he drafted all provincial legislation, including statutes designed to regulate the oil and gas industry – especially important work in light of the oil boom that swept across Alberta following the discovery of oil at Imperial Leduc #1.

Ted Bishop entered his father's practice after the war, but there was still little demand for legal services in Edmonton. So, Ted took advantage of several opportunities while searching for a specialization that would allow him to build a clientele: working at the

Canadian pavilion at the New York World's Fair and as a ski instructor at Vancouver's Grouse Mountain. He returned to Edmonton with a strategy for building his practice: concentrating on patents, trademarks and copyrights (see "An Inventive Nature"). He soon became so busy that he hired patent agent Ken Curry to manage much of the patent work, which freed up Ted's time to take advantage of the huge volume of new oil industry business. Ted quickly developed a reputation for excellent service among the oilmen, and business was soon booming. But when Ted became too



Leduc #1, 1947



Ken McKenzie at his desk, circa 1947

busy, he had little time to serve new clients, who went to other firms for legal services. Business would rapidly drop off, he would gradually build up his clientele again, and the cycle would repeat itself.

## The Partnership Begins

Ted recognized that the boom and bust cycle could be minimized if he brought on a partner to share the workload, and knew that the volume of work needed to sustain a partnership was clearly there. Ted approached his old university friend, Ken McKenzie, and the two began to discuss partnership.

A key factor in persuading Ken to make the move to private practice was the philosophy he shared with Ted Bishop: both men believed in the importance of their overall quality of life both at work and at home. Ted's proposition also afforded Ken the opportunity to fulfill his long-time aspiration of being in private practice.

And so, in late December 1952, Ted Bishop and Ken McKenzie, friends for over 15 years, became partners in "Bishop, Bishop & McKenzie".

*An inventive nature* ~ On his return from World War II, Ted Bishop came upon an innovative solution for a legal specialization that demonstrates his resourceful and insightful nature...

In the 1940s, Albertans were generating a huge number of patent applications for farm machinery and other agricultural contraptions. But there was no patent attorney in Edmonton: inventors had to send their ideas to an unknown attorney in Ottawa. Understandably, they were reluctant to give away their secrets, and would have preferred to discuss their inventions face to face with a knowledgeable person. With his background in both engineering and law, Ted Bishop was the perfect person for this role. He recognized the gap and stepped into it, using his skills to establish himself as the area's first patent attorney.

### ◆ Signs of the times: 1939

Edmonton's population: 90,419

Grey Cup champion:  
Ottawa Rough Riders

Cost to rent an average  
sized house: \$10 per month

#### World News

Best picture: Gone with  
the Wind

Germany invades Poland,  
and WWII begins. Canada  
joins later that year

Top song: Over the Rainbow  
by Glenn Miller

Batman & Superman  
comics debut



Combined Churn & Butter  
Worker Schematic, circa 1952

# The Early Days

## THE PARTNERSHIP BEGINS

# 1952-62



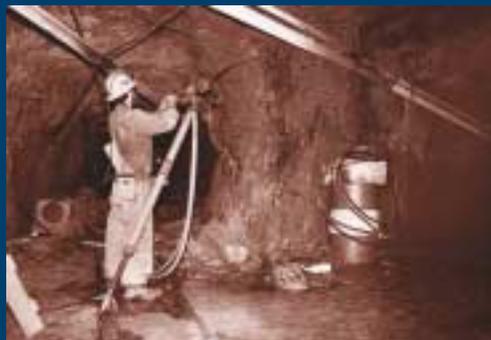
In the first year of their partnership, Ted Bishop and Ken McKenzie were kept busy with a high volume of work related to the oil industry, often dealing with businesses from the Southern US that were entering the Alberta marketplace. Ted's early work in the oil industry had built a strong reputation for the firm, and he performed a great deal of work in preparing prospectuses and obtaining Securities Commission approval for oil companies who wished to raise additional capital by selling shares to the public.



Ted Bishop and Ken McKenzie, 1950

### The firm grows – new business strategies

Starting in about 1953, a combination of circumstances caused many of the Edmonton-based oil companies and oil related services to relocate to Calgary, taking their legal business with them. However, the partners approached the loss of the oil industry business with a sense of optimism. Their long-term goal for the firm was to create a broad-based corporate commercial practice, and this change in circumstance offered them the



Provincial Archives of Alberta J44775.5

An important new client base arises from the mining boom of the 1950s



opportunity to expand their practice into different areas. They looked for — and found — several innovative ways to build up a more diverse legal practice (see “Hitting the Road”, following page).

The gap left by the departing oil companies was also filled by additional new business resulting from a mining boom in the Northwest Territories, Northern Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Uranium, copper and gold took the place of oil and natural gas, and the firm found that the needs and problems of this new wave of entrepreneurs — miners, prospectors and investors — were very similar to those of their oil industry clients.

As business grew, the partners — astute businessmen as well as skilled lawyers — recognized the importance of having a plan for future growth in place. Their strategy centered on taking on one articling student each year so that they could closely assess the student’s potential as an associate and prospective partner. And because they were a small firm, they were able to offer a high quality of articles to students. They succeeded

*If these walls could talk – the Alexandra Building* – The new partnership set up shop on the fifth floor of the Alexandra Building on 100 A Street, a location with its fair share of character. During the Depression and the war years, the building had earned a shady reputation as a house of ill repute – rooms were rented to ladies of the night, and bootleg liquor could be had after hours. In the 50s, the building’s owner saw the need for office space and converted the fifth and ground floors to offices. But the building presented some challenges: the elevator was old and broke down frequently – forcing clients to walk up five flights of steps. But Ted and Ken demonstrated their “can-do” attitude to customer service by sub-leasing a first floor office so that they could run downstairs to meet clients when the elevator was out of service.

#### ◆ Signs of the times: 1952

Edmonton’s population:  
169,196

Stanley Cup champion:  
Detroit Red Wings

#### World News

CBC TV begins broadcasting  
in Montreal

Mickey Mantle hits his first  
grand slammer

Edmonton Waterloo Mercurys  
(Team Canada) won the gold  
medal at the Olympics in  
Oslo, Norway



Alexandra Building  
Provincial Archives of Alberta B4174

# ◆ ◆ ◆ The Early Days – The Partnership Begins

## 1952-62

### ◆ Signs of the times: 1952

Mayor: William Hawrelak  
(1951-59, 1963-65, 1974-75)

Grey Cup game results:  
Toronto Argonauts (21)  
vs. Edmonton Eskimos (11)

#### World News

London Smog kills 4000+,  
smog becomes a word

Mr. Potato Head is the first  
toy advertised on TV

in attracting Tom Jackson, a member of their former fraternity, as their first articling student. Tom proved to be a wise choice – he eventually became managing partner and was an invaluable part of the firm's growth.

In recognition of his contribution to the profession and his previous service to the provincial government, Ken McKenzie was awarded the designation of Queen's Counsel in December 1955. In 1957, largely due to his high profile work in facilitating the public offering of shares in oil companies, Ted Bishop was conferred with the same honour.

So, in 1957, with two Queen's Counselors in a three-man firm, Bishop & McKenzie was rapidly emerging as one of the most prominent of the legal firms established in Edmonton after the war.



Provincial Archives  
of Alberta A8873

Holden, circa 1952

### *Hitting the road – a year in Holden ~*

One of the more creative strategies that the partners used to create a general practice involved some innovative marketing. Every Saturday for almost a year, Ken McKenzie drove to Holden – 100 km east of Edmonton – to meet with people in the small town who were in need of legal services. Ken met with clients in the office of the Village Secretary, and hardly a week went by that he didn't come away with new work: land transactions, estate probates, wills, divorces, or litigation. Even after Ken stopped his weekly trips to Holden, his clients there rewarded his commitment to customer service by remaining loyal clients of the firm.

# Years of Growth

## CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

# 1962-88

In its early years, Bishop & McKenzie had seen steady growth and was working to expand its client base. In 1957, the firm's name was changed to Bishop, McKenzie and Jackson and by 1962, it had moved to the Bank of Montreal building where it occupied an entire floor.

### New areas of specialization

In the 1950s, the partners often arranged reciprocal agreements with other firms who had areas of expertise that were outside the firm's scope. Two of these areas were litigation and divorce and domestic relations matters. This was to change in the early 1960s when the partners lured Jim Redmond, a friend of Tom Jackson, away from the Canadian Foreign Service with the challenge of developing the firm's litigation practice. He accepted and took over all the firm's work in this area, eventually building a well-respected litigation department that would attract referrals from other firms.

### ◆ Signs of the times: 1964

Edmonton's population:  
311,804

The Town of Jasper Place  
is annexed

Average residential  
selling price: \$12,662

#### World News

Canada adopts maple leaf flag

Sidney Poitier becomes first  
black man to win Oscar for  
best actor



Jasper Avenue-101 Street, Bank of Montreal Building, 1964 ~ Bishop & McKenzie, 7th floor

# ◆ ◆ ◆ Years of Growth - Challenges and Opportunities

## 1962-88

### ◆ Signs of the times: 1974

Edmonton's population:  
445,691

Northlands Coliseum opens

Grey Cup champion: BC Lions

World News

World Trade Center  
Opens in New York City

Trudeau's Liberal Party  
wins election

Richard Nixon resigns

Best Picture:  
The Godfather Part II

### Important breakthroughs

During the second decade of the partnership between Ken McKenzie and Ted Bishop, one of the firm's focuses was to build a diverse practice that would be able to provide a wide range of services to corporate and commercial clients in all sectors. For this to happen, the firm would have to break into the financial, retail and manufacturing sectors.

The move to the Bank of Montreal building was an important factor in helping the firm to make that breakthrough. Negotiations with the landlord, Oxford Leaseholds, opened the door for future work as the company's representative when dealing with major development projects. Two such projects were the development of Edmonton landmarks Southgate Shopping Centre — the firm incorporated and represented the joint venture between Oxford, Woodward's, and the Hudson's Bay — and Edmonton Centre, where Ted was the principle solicitor responsible for its incorporation and related development, land acquisition, zoning, and any necessary litigation.

Further expansion took place when Ted made inroads into the retail sector by acquiring a new



Southgate Shopping Centre, circa 1970

Photo courtesy: Southgate Shopping Centre



Edmonton Centre, 1975

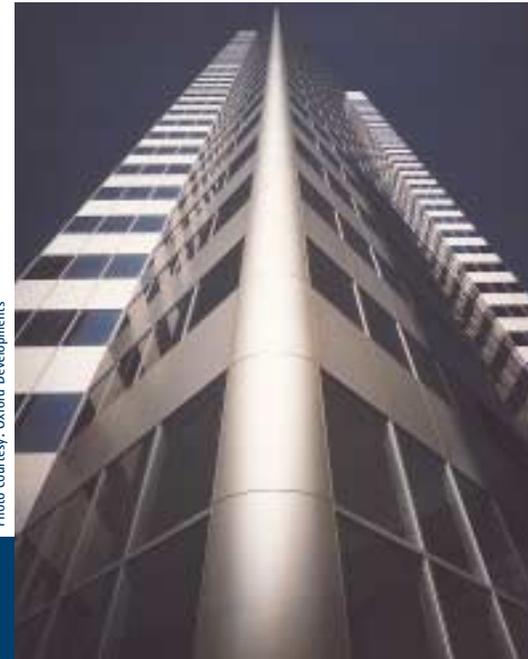
Photo courtesy: Oxford Developments

client, Horne & Pitfield Foods Ltd., which operated the IGA and Red Rooster stores. This relationship grew into a steady stream of work in land acquisitions, franchise agreements, store leases, chattel mortgages and security documents.

At the same time, Ken made another important breakthrough. This occurred when a new client in the financial sector, Canadian Acceptance Corporation, retained the firm to provide legal services related to dealer financing, heavy equipment and automobile financing, securities enforcement, and litigation.

In 1974 the firm, under the name Bishop & McKenzie, moved to the Royal Trust Tower — part of the newly constructed Edmonton Centre development — until 1983 when, having outgrown its Royal Trust Tower offices, the firm moved to what was then known as the CCB Tower. One year after the move, Ken McKenzie retired from the firm. He then went on to preside over the "Mind Bender Roller Coaster Inquiry", the last of many inquiries he participated in during his distinguished career (see "Ken McKenzie and royal commissions"). With the move to the new space, the firm was able to look further afield, and poise itself for an expansion that would create a truly provincial law firm.

Photo courtesy: Oxford Developments



*Ken McKenzie and royal commissions* ~ Before entering into partnership with Ted Bishop, Ken McKenzie served as counsel to the Judge Royal Commission on Taxation, the first of five Alberta government royal commissions on which he would serve as counsel or chairman. Ken's involvement in these commissions would prove to be an important factor in the firm's growth: in addition to the favourable publicity his participation generated, other members of the firm benefited by taking on Ken's existing clients, necessary because Ken's involvement was a full time commitment for a two to three year period. And, following the completion of the commissions, Ken was free to develop new clients, many of which resulted from contacts made through his work on the commissions.

Current home of  
Bishop & McKenzie LLP  
Bell Tower  
(formerly CCB Tower)



1988 was the beginning of a new era at the firm: it was the year that Bishop & McKenzie achieved its long-time goal of becoming a province-wide law firm by opening an office in Calgary (see “A Provincial Presence”). In 2001, the firm took another important step when it became a limited liability partnership (LLP).

1988 was the end of another era: Ted Bishop retired from practicing law, over half a century from the year he was admitted to the Bar. But Ted’s retirement would never be official: he continued to share his considerable expertise and counsel with his colleagues at the firm until his death in 1995.



### Bishop & McKenzie LLP at 100

As it celebrates its 100th anniversary, Bishop & McKenzie LLP is the fully realized embodiment of the legal firm that Ted Bishop and Ken McKenzie envisioned in 1952: a legal practice that offers a full range of services to a broad client base that includes local and national corporations, major financial institutions, municipalities, foreign

*A provincial presence – Bishop & McKenzie in Calgary* – Throughout its history, Bishop & McKenzie has always served clients from across Alberta. In 1988, motivated by a steadily increasing demand for legal services in the southern half of the province, the firm seized the opportunity to fulfill its long-standing goal of creating a law firm with a provincial presence.

From its modest beginnings in shared office space, Bishop & McKenzie’s Calgary office has grown to become an integral part of the firm’s operations. The office, located in the Watermark Tower in the heart of downtown Calgary, provides legal services not only to clients in Southern Alberta, but also to major lending institutions, national corporations and income trusts.

investors and individuals. As the firm has grown, it has gathered together a talented group of individuals — both generalists and specialists — whose knowledge and experience ensures that they are able to meet all their clients' legal needs.

In addition to various personal legal services including family law, residential real estate and financing, the firm continues to place an emphasis on corporate and commercial law: banking, commercial lending, taxation, security enforcement, insolvency and commercial real estate. The firm also continues to respond to changes in society. Rapid developments in technology and communications created a demand for legal expertise in the area of intellectual property: the firm now serves a broad spectrum of clients who are concerned with protecting their intellectual property interests: from computer software designers to the financial services, manufacturing, and service industries.

Over the past five decades, Bishop & McKenzie's litigation practice has grown from a sole attorney to encompass an entire department experienced

#### ◆ Signs of the times: 1988

Edmonton's population:  
580,000

Stanley Cup champion:  
Edmonton Oilers

Average residential  
selling price: \$81,841

#### World News

Canadian Senate ok's  
free trade pact with US

Edmonton Oilers trade  
Wayne Gretzky to LA Kings  
for over \$15 million US



Downtown Edmonton, circa 2001

# ◆ ◆ ◆ A Century of Change

# 1988-2003

## ◆ Signs of the times: 2003

Edmonton's population:  
686,917

Average residential  
selling price: \$163,400

Bylaw declares Edmonton  
smoke free

Average annual household  
income: \$61,500 (2001)

### World News

Vancouver wins  
2010 Olympic bid

SARS, West Nile Virus and  
Mad Cow Disease become  
major health concerns

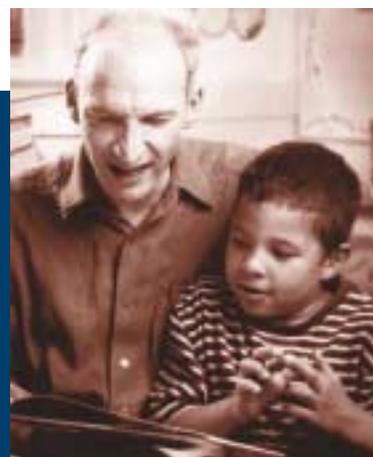
US declares war on Iraq

in conducting a wide range of proceedings – from public inquiries, medical malpractice and personal injury lawsuits, to insurance claims, family law issues, landlord tenant disputes, bankruptcy, tax issues, and wills and estates.

## Client focused

Looking across the past century — from E.T. Bishop's choice to specialize in corporate law to Ken McKenzie's early visits to Holden and opening an office in Calgary — it is clear that the firm's success has hinged on its commitment to providing clients with the highest level of service. It is proud of the reputation it has earned among its clients and peers for quality, creativity and dedication to professional excellence. By combining the strength, vision and talent of its people and resources, the firm is committed to moving forward – standing together with their clients on a foundation created by 100 years of experience and excellence.

*A community legacy* ~ With the belief that a well-rounded individual becomes a better citizen and a better lawyer, Bishop & McKenzie has long encouraged members of the firm to be involved in their communities. In celebration of their 100th anniversary, Bishop & McKenzie takes that commitment one step further. In 2003, the firm will establish the Bishop & McKenzie Centennial Fund, a legacy project that will see the firm contribute a total of \$100,000 to the Community Foundations of Edmonton and Calgary. The fund will focus on initiatives that support children's educational projects in both cities.



The Legacy project will make a difference in the lives of children in our community

Photo provided to the Edmonton Community Foundation by Roth and Ramberg Photography Inc.



