



In late October 2018, Master Carol Albert, Honorary Fellow of the Canadian College of Construction Lawyers retired from the bench and her role as Toronto’s full time Construction Lien Master.

Twenty years ago, Master Albert left private practise to become an Ontario Superior Court of Justice Master. In 2001, she started hearing Construction Lien matters on a part-time basis and was a full-time Construction Lien Master for the past 14 years.

With more than 200 reported cases on Westlaw, Master Albert’s decisions address various provisions and technical issues under Ontario’s *Construction Act* (formerly the *Construction Lien Act*) and have helped advance precedence in this area and address developments within the construction industry. Never one to shy away from tough decisions, her rulings are carefully crafted and thoughtful. During Toronto’s post 1990s building boom, Master Albert has presided over cases involving some of the construction industry’s most complex, multi-party disputes with patience and efficiency.

In addition to helping shape the law, Master Albert participated in numerous continuing education programs and was a regular panelist at the Ontario Bar Association’s “must attend event of the year” appropriately entitled “An Evening With the Masters”. Many Toronto and surrounding area construction lawyers and commercial litigators have benefitted from Master Albert’s tips and practical advice shared at these OBA events and this dedication to continuing education was recognised when she was awarded Osgoode’s Mentor Award in 2011. During the past two years, Master Albert also made significant contributions to the amendments that lead to Ontario’s recently enacted *Construction Act*.

On October 18, 2018, the Construction Practise Group of The Advocates Society hosted a retirement celebration to honour Master Albert’s contribution to construction law and the construction bar. The event was standing room only attended by members of the construction bar, and sitting and retired judges and masters, including retired Lien Master and Honorary CCCL Fellow, David Sandler, who provided the keynote speech and tribute song performed on the ukulele.

Master Albert’s dedication to the management and resolution of construction project disputes will be missed by both the construction industry and the bar, as will her contributions to the ever evolving law in this field. The College sends its warm wishes to Master Albert for a happy retirement filled with music, travels and good health (and perhaps some adjudication?).

