

Joy Illington
Merit Commissioner
Oversight, insight and foresight into merit in the BC Public Service

Joy was selected in 2006 by an all party committee of the Legislature of BC to be the first independent Merit Commissioner. Her mandate is to oversee the principle of merit in appointments to and within the BC Public Service. She conducts annual and special audits, acts as the final and binding review on appointments within the bargaining unit, and provides insight and foresight to the stakeholders of the BC Public Service on issues concerning merit in recruitment and promotions.

Joy is a public sector leader who retired after 18 years in the B.C. Public Service — the last seven as a deputy minister. She has a proven record of oversight as the Chair of the Medical Services Commission responsible for audits of the \$2.4 billion annual budget, and she is an expert in administrative and procedural fairness, founded on her experience as an investigator in the Ombudsman's Office and as a lawyer in private practice.

She was Assistant Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs where she was responsible for province-wide mandates for land claims negotiations. In 1998 she joined Cabinet Operations, where she served four Premiers and their Cabinets as Deputy Cabinet Secretary. In 2005, Joy was awarded the Lieutenant Governor's Silver Medal, which recognizes the exceptional achievement of a person who has shown distinctive leadership in public administration in British Columbia.

She is a member of the Advisory Committee to the Director of the School of Public Administration, Faculty of Human and Social Development, University of Victoria.