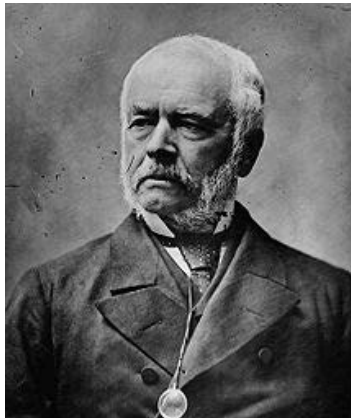


Our History

Creighton Shatford can trace its history as an operating law firm in Amherst back to 1866 having links to R. B. Dickey, one of the Fathers of Confederation, through the three generations of the Milner family to the present. What follows is a brief history.

The Origins: R.B. Dickey

As one of the fathers of confederation and member of the Nova Scotia Legislative Council, Robert Barry Dickey (better known locally as R. B. Dickey) was admitted to the bar in 1834 after studying under his father-in-law, Alexander Stewart. He began practicing in Amherst, Nova Scotia in 1866 and was later joined by Charles J. Townshend.



Robert Barry (R.B.) Dickey

Dickey & Townsend

After being admitted to the bar in 1878, Arthur Rupert Dickey, son of R. B. Dickey, and J. Medley Townshend, brother of Charles Townshend, joined Dickey and Townshend and they all continued to practice together until Charles J. Townshend was appointed to the bench in March of 1887. Townsend later became a Chief Justice in 1907. A. R. Dickey later became a Member of Parliament for Cumberland County.

T. Sherman Rogers graduated from Dalhousie University and was admitted to the bar in December 1887. He joined J. Medley Townshend to practice under the firm name Townshend and Rogers until J. Medley Townsend died in 1904.

Rogers Jenks & Purdy

After the death of J.M.Townshend, T. Sherman Rogers joined with Stuart Jenks and Harry Purdy to form the

firm Rogers Jenks & Purdy and practiced under this name until 1909 when Stuart Jenks was appointed to the bench. The firm then became known as Rogers & Purdy.

In March of 1910, T. Sherman Rogers left Rogers & Purdy to join Harris, Henry, Rogers & Harris, a Halifax, Nova Scotia firm later to be called Stewart McKelvey Stirling Scales.

Rodgers, Milner & Purdy

After T. Sherman Rogers's departure from Rogers & Purdy, Frank Leopold Milner was recruited from Bridgetown, Nova Scotia to join Purdy in April 1910 to form Rogers, Milner and Purdy. T. Sherman Rogers was appointed to Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada in 1921.

Frank Milner and Harry Purdy changed the firm's name to Milner and Purdy in 1911. This partnership dissolved in 1928 when Frank L. Milner became the chairperson for the Worker's Compensation Board. Harry Purdy continued to practice as a sole practitioner until his death in 1940.

Alfred Milner, son of Frank L. Milner, started his sole practice in Amherst, Nova Scotia in 1928.

Milner & Milner

In 1938, Frank L. Milner decided to set up the practice of Milner & Milner. Frank L. Milner died in 1946. Alfred Milner decided to practice as a sole practitioner once again until he was joined by his son, David Milner, in 1969 and practiced under the firm name Milner and Milner until they were joined by David Cole in 1971.

Milner, Cole & Milner

The firm then came to be known as Milner, Cole & Milner until 1977 when David Cole was appointed to the bench.

Milner Milner Pare & Creighton

After David Cole's appointment to the bench in 1977, Alfred and David Milner were joined by Michael Paré to form Milner Milner & Paré, and later by Brian S. Creighton in 1979 to form Milner Milner Paré & Creighton.



Brian S. Creighton

firm until 2006 when she left on maternity leave. She has since developed a practice in Sackville, New Brunswick.

In June 2007, after her call to the Bar, Creighton Shatford welcomed a new associate, Sharon A. French. Ms. French left the firm in 2009 to join Nova Scotia Legal Aid and later joined the N.S. Public Prosecution Service.

Creighton Shatford

Throughout the summer of 2009 Creighton Shatford & Drysdale experienced many changes in a short period of time. The firm welcomed a new associate, Angela Ryan Bourgeois. Angela, a native of Springhill, brought with her many years of experience, and practiced in both Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In 2011, she became a partner in the firm until her departure in 2014 when she became an adjudicator for the social security tribunal. Paul Drysdale left the firm to become the Senior Crown Prosecutor in Truro, Nova Scotia. Once again the firm name, as it was in 1986, became Creighton Shatford.



Douglas B. Shatford

Milner Shatford & Creighton

After Alfred Milner retired from practice, and Michael Paré joined Ross Archibald and Tony Morley, Douglas B. Shatford left his position at Nova Scotia Legal Aid to join the firm in 1981 to form Milner Shatford & Creighton.

Creighton & Shatford

David Milner was appointed as a Nova Scotia Family Court Judge in 1985 leaving Douglas B. Shatford & Brian Creighton to practice under the firm name Creighton & Shatford in 1986.

During the late 1980's and early 1990's a number of associates practiced with the firm amongst them, Bruce Baxter who later went on to join the Nova Scotia Public Prosecution Service. Carol Beaton who left the firm and became a founding partner of Beaton Blakie & Farrell. She was appointed a Provincial Court Judge in 2005 and later was appointed to the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia (family division). Robert Gregan who articulated with the firm and later left to join Nova Scotia Legal Aid, becoming office manager before his appointment as Supreme Court Justice in 2015.

Creighton Shatford & Drysdale

In 1994, Paul Drysdale was called to the bar and joined Creighton & Shatford to form the firm known as Creighton Shatford & Drysdale.

In 2004, Wanda Severns joined the firm as an associate after completing her articles with the firm. Wanda remained with the



Paul Drysdale

Creighton Shatford Hirbour

In October 2009, Catherine M. Hirbour, admitted to the Bar in British Columbia and Ontario, joined the firm as an associate. She was admitted to the Bar in Nova Scotia in November 2009 and joined the partnership in 2015. She became a member of the New Brunswick Bar in 2015 to



Catherine M. Hirbour

better serve our clients. Our firm is now called Creighton Shatford Hirbour.

Jeanne B. Sumbu articulated at the firm in 2013, became an associate in 2014 and joined the partnership in 2015. Joseph R. Potter summered and articulated at Creighton Shatford Hirbour.

The years of extensive history and new vibrant additions to the firm make Creighton Shatford Hirbour the dynamic workplace it is today. We are the law firm where customer service comes first and foremost. Our welcoming and knowledgeable staff are a key part of our team and assist us to meet your legal needs. We have been providing trusted legal counsel since 1866 and will continue to do so for many years to come. Our success is based on our clients and our clients are our success.

