M. RICK O'CONNOR, B.A., M.A., LL.B

A graduate of the University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law (1987), Rick O'Connor became a solicitor with the former Region of Ottawa-Carleton where he practiced in the areas of municipal, labour and employment law, as well as administrative litigation, since his 1989 call to the Bar in Ontario. With the amalgamation of the City of Ottawa in 2001, he was appointed Deputy City Clerk while retaining the title of Legal Counsel. In addition, he has been a member of various municipal and provincial task forces on local government, including:

- A.M.O.'s Conflict of Interest Task Force, "A.M.O.'s Response to Open Local Government (Draft Legislation Re. Conflict of Interest, Open Meetings and Disposal of Property)," (March 1992);
- Provincial-Local Government Working Group, "Report on Open Local Government," (December 1992);
- Guidelines Committee to the Minister of Municipal Affairs, "Report on the *Local Government Disclosure of Interest Act, 1994*," (April 1995);
- Municipal World Conflict of Interest Advisory Team, "*Local Government Pecuniary Interest Act* – A Proposal," (September 1995); and
- A.M.O.'s Conflict of Interest Task Force, "Municipal Conflict of Interest – Proposed Amendments," (June 1996).

A former member of A.M.O.'s Fiscal and Labour Policy Committee (1996-1997), Rick is presently Vice-Chair of the Legislative Committee for the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario, (2002-2004). As a community volunteer, he was previously Vice-Chair of a municipal Committee of Adjustment, Chair of a Property Standards Committee and is currently Secretary-Treasurer on the Ottawa Children's Aid Society's Board of Directors. The author of numerous legal articles, as well as being a regular speaker to various local government conferences, Rick co-authored Conduct Handbook for Municipal Employees and Officials (2nd ed 2003), as well as Open Local Government (2nd ed 2004) and is also Editor-in-Chief of the bi-monthly national newsletter, *Municipal Liability Risk Management*.