

Biography Derek J. Jones

Derek Jones, a graduate of Harvard University Law School, has devoted his career as a health lawyer, bioethics analyst and scholar to issues at the confluence of science, technology, ethics, and public law. He has done so in interdisciplinary research institutes in San Francisco, Boston, Paris and Montreal.

From 1988 to 1992, he served as senior legal advisor in the health law and bioethics section of the former Law Reform Commission of Canada. Amongst other things, his focus there was on proposing new ethico-legal regimes for modern tissue transfer technologies such as organ and tissue transplants and bio-synthetic therapeutic products.

From 1994 to 1996, he worked at the National Council on Bioethics in Human Research of Canada. He has served on a variety of research and clinical ethics committees at McGill. Mr. Jones has also collaborated as an advisor to the federal Interdepartmental Working Group on Ethics and Biotechnology, Health Canada, Industry Canada, the Bayer Council on Bioethics, Justice Canada, des Hopitaux de Paris, UNESCO, and the research agencies of the Government of Canada.

He has taught health law in the Faculty of Law, School of Nursing, and Bioethics Program at McGill University for over a decade. He has also authored articles or reports on research ethics, blood law and tissue transfer technology, AIDS discrimination, international and national ethics committees, medically assisted procreation, conflicts of interest, genetic testing and human rights, international pesticide abuse, biotechnology and ethics, comparative international data protection laws, health research, and the interface of law and bioethics.

Most recently, Mr. Jones served from 2002-2007 as founding Executive Director of a new Government of Canada Interagency Advisory Panel and Secretariat on Research Ethics, where he and colleagues advised on the updating and evolution, interpretation and use of Canada's national research ethics policy statement.