

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank Marc Ribeiro for his excellent research assistance and organizational skills in the preparation of this book. Many thanks also to Angie DiTuri for her invaluable assistance in the preparation of the manuscript. I am also very grateful for the contribution of H  l  ne Laporte.

My participation in the *Quebec Secession Reference* was made possible by the Ad-Hoc Committee of Canadian Women on the Constitution, a group dedicated to the realization of women's equality in Canada through effective participation in constitutional reform and decision-making.

The leadership of Chief Justice Lamer and his colleagues of the Supreme Court of Canada in the *Secession Reference* ensured that the case, and the surrounding documentation, will become a lasting contribution to the development of international law. This product is therefore a testament to their vision and historical understanding, aimed firmly at grounding even the most volatile of concepts like self-determination in the rule of law.

Anne F. Bayefsky
Toronto, Canada
1999