

Bartlet & Richardes LLP

*A long-established law firm servicing primarily Essex,
Kent and Lambton Counties since 1887*



For nearly 120 years, the law firm Bartlet & Richardes has been at the forefront of Windsor's legal and business community. The firm was founded in 1887 by Noble A. Bartlet and Alex R. Bartlet and was initially known as Bartlet & Bartlet. The practice first opened one block east of Ouellette Avenue on Riverside Drive. Today among the senior partners at Bartlet & Richardes is James Bartlet, the grandson and great nephew of its founders. Since its inception, there has always been a Bartlet in the firm.

"I think we've been held together by our strong ethical approach to the law," said Bartlet, from his office at the Canada Building on Ouellette Avenue. "We have an interest in the law and an interest in serving our clients."

The firm has undergone several name changes over the years. Partner A.H. Clarke joined the firm in 1892, resulting in a name change: Clarke, Bartlet & Bartlet. When M.K. Cowan was added as a partner the following year, the firm's name changed again to Clark, Cowan, Bartlet & Bartlet.

In 1912, Bartlet & Bartlet was posted on its masthead once again, and in the following 19 years, several changes occurred at the firm. Particularly notable in 1931, George C. Richardes joined the law practice, and the firm was permanently established as Bartlet & Richardes in 1971.

Around 1915, the office moved to "The Bartlet Building" on Pelissier Avenue, but eventually settled into its current location, on the top floors of the Canada Building in 1928. George Richardes passed away in 1977.

James Bartlet recalls how his family's law firm handled several significant accounts in the Windsor area, including Ford Motor Company of Canada's incorporation.

At the office on the tenth floor of the Canada Building is a photograph of James Bartlet's father, Walter G. Bartlet and his great uncle

Alex R. Bartlet, with Walter R. Campbell, president of Ford Motor Company of Canada, and Edsel Ford; the year was 1932 at an Annual Meeting of Shareholders in Windsor. Bartlet & Bartlet also did work for Chrysler Canada, until the mid 1950's.

"The property Ford purchased in Windsor was optioned by my father," James Bartlet said. "He'd go out and in his name get permission to purchase the property. We have maintained a close relationship with Ford from the time they came to Canada in 1904 to the present time."

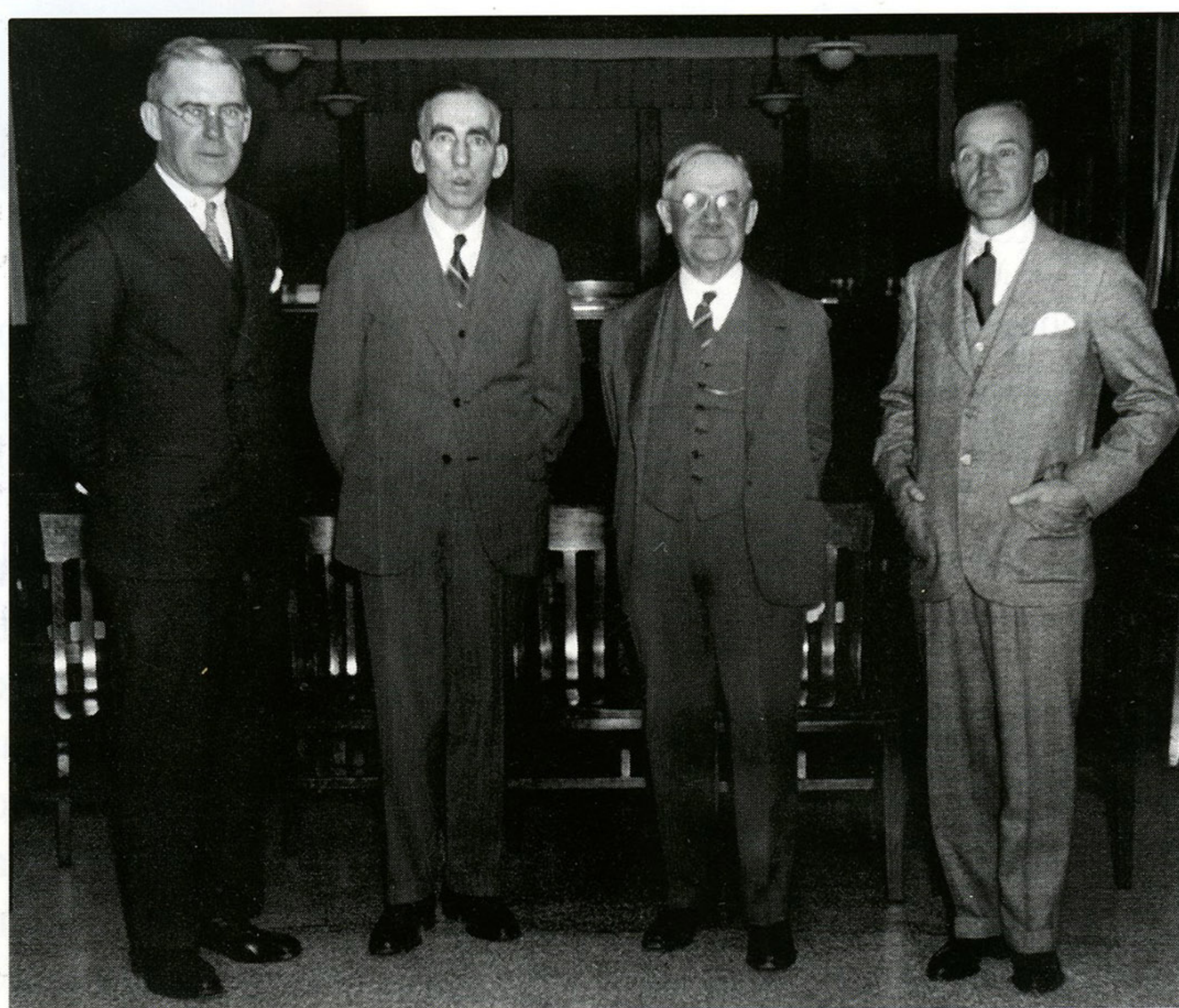
Today there are nine partners at the firm and four associates. Four former partners have gone on to serve as Justices of what is now the Superior Court of Justice, including John B. Aylesworth and Arthur R. Jessup, who were appointed to the Ontario Court of Appeal.

There are also two or three law students completing their articles of law with the firm at any given time.

The firm continues to attract new clients through its numerous specialties of the law, including labour and employment law, corporate and commercial law, litigation, insurance law, municipal law, corporate finance, banking, insolvency and receivership, taxation, franchising, estates and trusts, matrimonial law, commercial and residential law, construction law, customs and immigration law.

In essence, the entire firm forms Bartlet & Richardes' client team; all of its resources are made available to clients in a manner ensuring timeliness of response, efficiency and fiscal responsibility in the application of those resources.

"I think the community has been good to us," James Bartlet said. "We have certainly prospered. In this city, if you do what you do well, you'll be rewarded; and I think we do what we do very well. Our longevity confirms this belief."



At Top: Noble Bartlet, founding partner of Bartlet & Bartlet law firm, 1887. **Above:** Meeting of the shareholders, Ford Motor Company of Canada Limited, 1932. From left: W.R. Campbell (President, Ford Motor Company of Canada Ltd.); W.G. Bartlet; A.R. Bartlet, K.C.; and Edsel Ford, son of Ford Motor Company founder Henry Ford.