Federal Court of Appeal



Cour d'appel fédérale

Date: 20151217

Docket: A-298-14

Citation: 2015 FCA 292

CORAM: NADON J.A.

TRUDEL J.A. SCOTT J.A.

BETWEEN:

RAYNALD GRENIER

Appellant

and

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF CANADA FOR THE CANADA REVENUE AGENCY (CRA)

Respondent

Heard at Québec, Quebec, on December 15, 2015.

Judgment delivered at Ottawa, Ontario, on December 17, 2015.

REASONS FOR JUDGMENT BY:

SCOTT J.A.

CONCURRED IN BY:

NADON J.A. TRUDEL J.A.





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REASONS FOR JUDGMENT

SCOTT J.A.

[1] Raynald Grenier (appellant) appeals from the decision of Justice Martineau (the Judge) of the Federal Court dated May 27, 2014, 2014 FC 504, granting a motion to strike his application for judicial review, which was filed against a decision by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) on February 10, 2014, denying his second request for relief relating to the taxation years 1981 to 1996, 2001 to 2004, and 2006, to overturn the decision to limit his farm losses.

- [2] The appellant makes two submissions before this Court. He alleges that the Judge erred by striking out his application for judicial review on the basis that the Federal Court did not have jurisdiction to grant the remedies sought, which are a matter for the Tax Court of Canada. He submits that the Judge was also required to address his cause of action based on the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, Part I of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, Schedule B to the *Canada Act 1982* (U.K.), 1982, c. 11 (the Charter). Indeed, the appellant, who is a physician, argues that he was discriminated against because he has two sources of income, that is, income from his medical practice and income from his sylvicultural operation. He submits that the application of subsections 31(1) and (1.1) of the *Income Tax Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. 1 (5th Supp.) (Act) is a violation of section 15 of the Charter. The CRA disallowed the deduction of a portion of his losses from his farming business on the grounds that farming was not his chief source of income during the years in dispute.
- [3] I am of the opinion that those arguments cannot succeed. The appellant's application for judicial review failed to raise a cognizable administrative law claim. The Judge was correct in ruling that the Federal Court could not grant him the remedy sought.
- [4] The Federal Court could not then examine the appellant's constitutional argument, irrespective of whether or not he served a notice of constitutional question. The Supreme Court has noted on numerous occasions that it must be vigilant "to ensure that a proper factual foundation exists before measuring legislation against the provisions of the Charter, particularly where the effects of impugned legislation are the subject of the attack" (*Danson v. Ontario (Attorney General)*, [1990] 2 S.C.R. 1086, page 1099; *Canadian Broadcasting Corp. v. New*

Brunswick (Attorney General), [1996] 3 SCR 480, paragraph 15; British Columbia (Attorney General) v. Christie, 2007 SCC 21, [2007] 1 S.C.R. 873, paragraph 28; Canada v. Stanley J. Tessmer Law Corporation, 2013 FCA 290, paragraph 9).

[5] For these reasons, I propose to dismiss the appeal with costs.

"A.F. Scott"
J.A.

"I concur.

M. Nadon, J.A."

"I concur.

Johanne Trudel, J.A."

Certified true translation François Brunet, Revisor

FEDERAL COURT OF APPEAL

SOLICITORS OF RECORD

DOCKET: A-298-14

STYLE OF CAUSE: RAYNALD GRENIER v. THE

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF CANADA FOR THE CANADA REVENUE AGENCY (CRA)

PLACE OF HEARING: QUÉBEC, QUEBEC

DATE OF HEARING: DECEMBER 15, 2015

REASONS FOR JUDGMENT BY: SCOTT J.A.

CONCURRED IN BY: NADON J.A.

TRUDEL J.A.

DATED: DECEMBER 17, 2015

APPEARANCES:

Raynald Grenier FOR THE APPELLANT

(Self-represented)

Lune Arpin FOR THE RESPONDENT

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF CANADA FOR THE CANADA REVENUE AGENCY (CRA)

SOLICITORS OF RECORD:

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CANADA FOR THE CANADA REVENUE AGENCY (CRA)