



**Law Commission of Ontario Launches Project:
*Class Actions: Objectives, Experience, and Reforms***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TORONTO, October 2, 2017 – The Law Commission of Ontario (LCO) today launches a new project, Class Actions: Objectives, Experience, and Reforms.

The LCO review will be the most comprehensive assessment of Ontario's *Class Proceedings Act* in more than 25 years. Since that time, class action litigation has grown dramatically in volume, complexity and impact in Ontario and across Canada. The LCO's preliminary estimate is that there have been up to 900 class action lawsuits launched in Ontario in the last 20 years.

The LCO's project has two main objectives:

- Survey the experience with class actions in Ontario; and,
- Provide an independent and practical analysis of class actions from the perspective of their three primary objectives: access to justice, judicial economy, and deterrence.

The project is being supported by a distinguished group of academics, justice system leaders, and class action practitioners.

The project's Principal Researchers include:

- Professor Jasminka Kalajdzic, Faculty of Law, University of Windsor
- Professor Catherine Piché, Faculty of Law, Université de Montréal

The project's expert Reference Group includes:

- The Honourable Stephen T. Goudge, Chair and Board of Governors Liaison
- Tim Buckley, Partner, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
- Michael A. Eizenga, Partner, Bennett Jones LLP
- Professor Trevor C. W. Farrow, Osgoode Hall Law School
- Celeste Poltak, Partner, Koskie Minsky LLP
- Linda Rothstein, Partner, Paliare Roland Rosenberg Rothstein

The project will organize consultations with the legal profession, legal organizations, governments, public and private organizations, and others who have an interest in class actions. The project expects to release its report in late 2018.

Quote

Professor Bruce Elman, Chair of Law Commission of Ontario, states: “Class action litigation has grown dramatically in volume, complexity and impact since the enactment of Ontario’s *Class Proceedings Act* in 1993. The LCO project will independently assess whether Ontario’s legislation needs to be updated in light of that experience.”

About the Law Commission of Ontario

The LCO is Ontario’s leading law reform agency. The LCO provides independent, balanced and authoritative advice on some of Ontario’s most complex and far-reaching legal policy issues. The LCO is funded by the Law Foundation of Ontario, the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General, Osgoode Hall Law School, the Law Society of Upper Canada, and York University. The LCO is also supported by Ontario’s law schools. The LCO is located at Osgoode Hall Law School, York University.

More Information

More information about the project and the LCO is available on the LCO’s website at www.lco-cdo.org.

Media Contact

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