



LAW COMMISSION OF ONTARIO
COMMISSION DU DROIT DE L'ONTARIO

THIS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PARTIES:

**HIS MAJESTY THE KING in right of Ontario as
represented by the Attorney General**

- AND -

**YORK UNIVERSITY as represented by the
Dean of Osgoode Hall Law School**

- AND -

THE LAW DEANS OF ONTARIO

- AND -

THE LAW FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO

- AND -

THE LAW SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

- AND -

THE LAW COMMISSION OF ONTARIO

THE PARTIES AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. In this Agreement, unless the context otherwise requires:
 - a. “Board” means the LCO Board of Governors established in s. 6;
 - b. “Community Council” means the Community Council established in s. 21;
 - c. “Executive Director” means the Executive Director hired under s. 28;
 - d. “Law Commission” means the Law Commission of Ontario established by this Agreement between the Parties;
 - e. “Law Deans” means the Law Deans of Ontario;
 - f. “Law Foundation” means the Law Foundation of Ontario;
 - g. “Law School Council” means the Law School Council established in s. 16;
 - h. “Law Society” means the Law Society of Ontario;
 - i. “Minister” means His Majesty the King in right of Ontario as represented by the Attorney General; and,
 - j. “Parties” means His Majesty the King in right of Ontario as represented by the Attorney General; York University as represented by the Dean of Osgoode Hall Law School; the Law Deans of Ontario; the Law Foundation of Ontario; and the Law Society of Ontario.

MANDATE

2. The Law Commission's mandate is to:
 - a. Provide independent, balanced, and authoritative advice on complex and important legal issues;
 - b. Promote evidence-based law reform;
 - c. Promote access to justice;
 - d. Stimulate public debate about important legal issues; and,
 - e. Work with Indigenous Nations, communities, leadership and peoples to advance reconciliation through law reform and for the recognition and advancement of Indigenous legal systems, legal norms, protocols, and traditions.
3. The Law Commission shall also:
 - a. Enhance the legal system's relevance, effectiveness, and accessibility;
 - b. Promote the clarification and simplification of the law;
 - c. Consider how technology can enhance access to justice; and,
 - d. Prioritize research which may be new or underserved.
4. In furtherance of its mandate, the Law Commission may:
 - a. Undertake, support, promote, or commission law reform-related reports and research;
 - b. Sponsor or support conferences, seminars, meetings, or other events; and,
 - c. Collaborate with governments, law schools, academics, the legal profession, legal organizations, community agencies, or other organizations and persons interested in the Commission's work.
5. The Law Commission shall be located at Osgoode Hall Law School.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

6. The Board of Governors of the Law Commission shall consist of the following members:
 - a. One person appointed by the Law Foundation;
 - b. One person appointed by the Law Deans (other than Osgoode Hall Law School);
 - c. One person appointed by Osgoode Hall Law School;
 - d. One person appointed by the Ministry of the Attorney General;
 - e. One person appointed by the Law Society;
 - f. One person appointed by the judiciary; and,
 - g. Other at large appointees as determined by the Board of Governors.

7. All appointments to the Board shall be for three years.
 - a. A member of the Board of Governors shall be eligible for reappointment to the Law Commission in the same or another capacity.
 - b. Upon the expiry of a member's term of office, the member may continue in office until they are reappointed or their successor is appointed.
 - c. A member who wishes to resign shall notify the Board of Governors and the body that appointed them in writing to that effect, and the resignation becomes effective at the time the body receives the notice or at the time specified in the notice, whichever is later.
 - d. As a group, the members of the Board of Governors should be broadly representative of the demographic, geographic, and cultural diversity of the province of Ontario.
8. The Board of Governors shall elect a Chair from among its members to preside over all meetings of the Board. In the Chair's absence the Board may elect an Acting Chair to carry out the duties of the Chair.
9. The Chair shall be selected based on the following criteria:
 - a. High level of professional achievement;
 - b. Demonstrated commitment to law reform;
 - c. Strong managerial and leadership skills; and,
 - d. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
10. Members of the Board serve without remuneration but will be paid reasonable travel expenses incurred by the member while absent from the member's ordinary place of residency while performing duties under this Agreement.
11. The Board of Governors shall govern the Law Commission and exercise the powers and perform the duties necessary to achieve the Law Commission's mandate and, without limiting the foregoing, shall:
 - a. Approve the Commission's research agenda, research projects and final reports;
 - b. Approve the Commission's strategic plan, organizational policies, and annual budget;
 - c. Liaise with the private bar, legal organizations, and other law commission stakeholders as necessarily; and,
 - d. Hire and oversee the Executive Director, set terms of employment, and develop the Executive Director's performance measures.

12. The Board of Governors may delegate any of its powers to committees named by it from among its members.
13. The Board of Governors shall meet at such times as the Chair may determine.
14. The Board of Governors may meet in person, by telephone, and/or online.
15. Quorum for a Board of Governors meeting shall be 50% or more of Board members.

LAW SCHOOL COUNCIL

16. The Law Commission may establish a Law School Council consisting of the following members:
 - a. The Executive Director (Chair);
 - b. One person appointed by the Dean of each Ontario law school; and,
 - c. Such other persons as the Board of Governors may determine.
17. The Law School Council will assist the LCO by performing such functions as the following;
 - a. Developing opportunities for law schools, faculty, and students to collaborate with the law commission on law reform projects;
 - b. Providing input on LCO priorities and projects;
 - c. Considering how to promote law reform-related research;
 - d. Sitting on law commission project advisory committees; and,
 - e. Otherwise facilitating LCO engagement with Ontario's law schools.
18. The Law School Council shall meet at such times as the Chair may determine.
19. The Law School Council may meet in person, by telephone and/or online.
20. Members of the Law School Council shall be appointed for a period of three years.
 - a. A member of the Law School Council shall be eligible for reappointment to the Law Commission in the same or another capacity.
 - b. Upon the expiry of a member's term of office, a member of the Law School Council may continue in office until their reappointment or until their successor is appointed.
 - c. A member of the Law School Council who wishes to resign shall notify the Executive

Director and the resignation becomes effective at the time the Executive Director receives the notice or at the time specified in the notice, whichever is the later.

- d. The members of the Law School Council shall serve without remuneration but be paid reasonable travel expenses incurred by the member while absent from the member's ordinary place of residence while performing duties under this Agreement.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

21. The Law Commission may establish a Community Council consisting of the following members:

- a. Executive Director (Chair); and,
- b. Other members as appointed by the Board of Governors.

22. The Community Council will assist the Law Commission by performing such functions as the following:

- a. Developing opportunities for community organizations and community members to collaborate with the Law Commission on law reform projects;
- b. Providing input on LCO priorities and projects;
- c. Considering how to promote law reform-related research;
- d. Sitting on Law Commission project advisory committees; and,
- e. Otherwise facilitating engagement with diverse communities and sectors of Ontario.

23. As a group, the members of the Community Council should be broadly representative of the demographic, geographic and cultural diversity of Ontario.

24. The Community Council shall meet at such times as the Chair of the Council shall determine.

25. The Community Council may meet in person, by telephone and/or online.

26. Members of the Community Council shall be appointed for a period of three years.

- a. A member the Community Council shall be eligible for reappointment to the Law Commission in the same or another capacity.
- b. Upon the expiry of a member's term, a member of the Community Council may continue in office until their reappointment if the individual is to be reappointed.

- c. A member of the Community Council who wishes to resign shall notify the Executive Director and the resignation becomes effective at the time the Executive Director receives the notice or at the time specified in the notice, whichever is later.

27. The members of the Community Council shall serve without remuneration but shall be entitled to be paid reasonable travel and living expenses incurred by the member while absent from the member's ordinary place of residence while performing duties under this Agreement.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

28. There shall be an Executive Director who shall be appointed by the Board of Governors and be responsible to the Board of Governors for fulfilling the mandate, projects, and priorities of the Law Commission.
29. Under the direction of the Chair of the Board of Governors, the Executive Director is responsible for the operations of the Law Commission and shall support the Board of Governors meetings and decision-making processes.
30. The Executive Director shall develop and support the research agenda, conduct requests for proposals, set timelines and provide project management. The Executive Director is also responsible for ongoing stakeholder communications and management.
31. The Executive Director shall be a non-voting member of the Board of Governors.

REPORTS

32. The Law Commission shall provide to the Parties an annual report on the affairs and business of the Law Commission during the preceding year, including, without limitation,
- a. A financial statement for the previous fiscal year that has been certified by an appropriate financial officer of Osgoode Hall Law School; and
 - b. A summary of the Law Commission's activities and business affairs in its previous operating year.

APPOINTMENTS, AGREEMENTS AND WITHDRAWALS

33. Appointments, agreements and withdrawals on behalf of the Parties shall be made in writing over the signatures,
- a. For His Majesty the King in right of Ontario, the Attorney General or their designate.
 - b. For Osgoode Hall Law School, the Dean or their designate.
 - c. For the Law Deans, the Chair or their designate.
 - d. For the Law Foundation, the Chair or their designate.
 - e. For the Law Society, the Treasurer or their designate.
34. A party may withdraw from this Agreement by giving the other Parties one year's written notice.
35. A copy of any notice given under section 34) shall be provided to the Executive Director.
36. Should this agreement be terminated, unless otherwise specified, any property shall become the property of the successor organization to the Law Commission, if any. In the absence of such a successor organization, unless otherwise specified, such items shall revert to Osgoode Hall Law School.

SIGNED by:

HIS MAJESTY THE KING in right of the
Province of Ontario, as represented by
the Attorney General

Per:  10/30/2023
Date

YORK UNIVERSITY as represented by the Dean of Osgoode Hall Law School

Per: _____
Date

LAW DEANS OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

LAW FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

LAW SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

LAW COMMISSION OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

SIGNED by:

HIS MAJESTY THE KING in right of the
Province of Ontario, as represented by
the Attorney General

Per: _____
Date

YORK UNIVERSITY as represented by the Dean of Osgoode Hall Law School

Per: Trevor C.W. Farrow 10-24-2023
Date

LAW DEANS OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

LAW FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

LAW SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

LAW COMMISSION OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

SIGNED by:


HIS MAJESTY THE KING in right of the
Province of Ontario, as represented by
the Attorney General

Per: _____
Date

YORK UNIVERSITY as represented by the Dean of Osgoode Hall Law School

Per: _____
Date

LAW DEANS OF ONTARIO

Per:  Erika Chamberlain
October 31, 2023
Date

LAW FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

LAW SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

LAW COMMISSION OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

SIGNED by:

HIS MAJESTY THE KING in right of the
Province of Ontario, as represented by
the Attorney General

Per: _____
Date


YORK UNIVERSITY as represented by the Dean of Osgoode Hall Law School

Per: _____
Date

LAW DEANS OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

LAW FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO

Per:  _____
Date 2023/10/25

LAW SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

LAW COMMISSION OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

SIGNED by:

HIS MAJESTY THE KING in right of the
Province of Ontario, as represented by
the Attorney General

Per: _____

Date

OSGOODE HALL LAW SCHOOL

Per: _____

Date

LAW DEANS OF ONTARIO

Per: _____

Date

LAW FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO

Per: _____

Date

LAW SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

Per:  _____

October 20, 2023

Date

LAW COMMISSION OF ONTARIO

Per: _____

Date

SIGNED by:

HIS MAJESTY THE KING in right of the
Province of Ontario, as represented by
the Attorney General

Per: _____
Date

OSGOODE HALL LAW SCHOOL

Per: _____
Date

LAW DEANS OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

LAW FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

LAW SOCIETY OF ONTARIO

Per: _____
Date

LAW COMMISSION OF ONTARIO

Per:  _____
Raj Anand, LCO Board Chair Date

November 3, 2023