

FOR RELEASE
August 18, 2017

Opportunity for public to give input on new Act to regulate Yukon legal practice

The Government of Yukon is now engaging with Yukoners on a new Legal Profession Act with the goal of tabling a bill during the fall 2017 Yukon legislative session.

The existing Act is no longer current with changes to the regulation of the legal profession in other Canadian jurisdictions and further flexibility is required to deal with the evolution of the profession over the last 20 years.

The government is seeking the views of lawyers, legal organizations and the business community and members of the general public are also encouraged to submit their opinions. The engagement period will begin on August 18, 2017 and ends on September 7, 2017.

Quotes

"The Government of Yukon is working with the Law Society of Yukon on a new Legal Profession Act to ensure that regulation of Yukon's legal profession is modern, built on best practices and operates in the public interest."

- *Minister of Justice Tracy-Anne McPhee*

"We have asked for new governing legislation for our profession so we are very pleased that the process has begun. We look forward to working with government to help develop legislation that will regulate legal services for Yukoners more effectively."

- *Law Society of Yukon President James R. Tucker*

Quick facts

- In 2011, the Law Society of Yukon produced the policy paper Towards a New Legal Profession Act detailing proposed changes to the Act.
- Governance, the complaints and hearing process, sanctions for unauthorized practice and the credentials and admissions process are among many matters to be considered as part of the engagement.
- New issues to be addressed include provisions for regulating other forms of legal practice, including limited liability partnerships and inter-jurisdictional practices.

Learn more: 2017 Legal Profession Act survey

Contact:

Sunny Patch
Cabinet Communications
867-393-7478
sunny.patch@gov.yk.ca

Dan Cable
Communications, Department of Justice
867-667-3508
dan.cable@gov.yk.ca

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