

(Translation)

CJC file: 16-0179

21 June 2016

Bâtonnier Gérald R. Tremblay, Ad. E.
McCarthy, Tétrault S.E.N.C.R.L.
Bâtonnier Louis Masson, Ad. E.
Joli-Coeur Lacasse S.E.N.C.R.L.
1134, Grand Allée West, suite 600
Québec (Québec) G1S 1E5

Dear Colleagues:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 15 June 2016 in regards to the joint request from the Minister of Justice of Canada and the Minister of Justice of Québec, made pursuant to subsection 63(1) of the *Judges Act (Act)*.

Pursuant to the *Canadian Judicial Council Procedures for the Review of Complaints or Allegations About Federally Appointed Judges*, I am responsible for the administration of the process of review of complaints by Council.

Where a request is made to commence an inquiry pursuant to subsection 63(1) of the *Act*, the *Canadian Judicial Council Inquiries and Investigations By-laws, 2015 (By-laws)*, provides that I must send a notice to the Minister of Justice inviting her to designate members of the bar of a province to the Inquiry Committee in accordance with subsection 63(3) of the *Act*.

In conformity with the *By-laws*, an Inquiry Committee is composed of an uneven number of members designated by the senior member, the majority of whom are from the Council. The senior member also designates one of the members of the Inquiry Committee to chair.

You submit that the request of the Ministers is “inadmissible and inappropriate.” However, the provisions of the *Act* and the *By-laws* are clear. I have therefore sent the

above noted notice to the Minister and I have invited the senior member to designate members to the Inquiry Committee.

That being said, I am not expressing any views on the submissions you have made in your letter; it will be your prerogative to present your objections to the Inquiry Committee when time comes. I will advise you as soon as the members of the Inquiry Committee have been appointed.

Regards,

[ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:]

Norman Sabourin
Executive Director and Senior General Counsel

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