

Ministry of Government and
Consumer Services

Ministère des
Services gouvernementaux
et des Services aux consommateurs



ServiceOntario

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Regulatory Services Branch

Direction de la réglementation

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November 2, 2016

Federation of Ontario Law Associations
731 9th Street W
Owen Sound, ON N4K 3P5

Attn. Mr. G. Eldon Horner, President

Dear Sirs and Mesdames:

Re: Standard-form closing documents-Working Group on Lawyers & Real Estate

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Director of Titles for the Province of Ontario and as a bencher of the Law Society of Upper Canada. I am pleased that FOLA is continuing with its process to promote adoption of the Ontario-wide standard closing documents prepared by the Working Group on Lawyers and Real Estate for residential transactions.

I firmly believe that the use of standard forms, when implemented appropriately by the lawyer in the individual transaction, can help to minimize risk by ensuring that important issues are not overlooked and can help to minimize client cost. Overall, they streamline the work of the lawyer to the benefit of the public. Good luck with your continuing rollout initiative.

I would also like to take this opportunity to expressly acknowledge your personal role and the role that FOLA has played in both directly and indirectly supporting the real estate bar in Ontario, not just in promoting the use of province-wide standard closing documents, but in many other initiatives as well. Real estate is one of the fundamental pillars of economic prosperity in this province, and I firmly believe that real estate lawyers have a crucial and continuing role to play as an integral part of the real estate transaction. The support that the real estate bar has received from you and from FOLA should not go unrecognized and I take this opportunity to thank you and FOLA for that unwavering commitment.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey W. Lem." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeffrey W. Lem

JWL/st