

COVID-19 – Newsletter, April 2, 2020

Dear colleagues,

I would like to thank you again for your mutual assistance, your resourcefulness and optimism. There is still a lot of work ahead.

Today's news:

- 1) *PLUMITIF* ON LINE: Following an agreement between the CAIJ and SOQUIJ you can now access the *plumitif* for free and on line, just follow the procedure <u>HERE</u>.
- 2) IMPORTANT MINISTERIAL ORDER: you can read yesterday's Ministerial order concerning justice matter HERE. Among other things, there is now the possibility of (a) to suspend the payments of court costs in urgent matter, (b) to file legal proceeding in another district then the one where it should have been filed, (c) to transfer a file from one judicial district to another for hearing purpose.
- 3) TRAVEL BETWEEN REGIONS: If you have to travel between region for work your employer must provide you with a letter confirming that it is essential for you to travel. If you are self employed you will also need a similar letter. A template is available HERE. This letter is essential for you to cross the police barrier. We strongly suggest working remotely and, insofar as possible, meeting your clients remotely
- 4) ONLINE TRIANING: on April 9th, the Barreau will offer free online training pertaining to our ethical obligation in this era of COVID-19. Only a 1000 registration are available, first come- first served. Don't' worry, the Webinar will be available online shortly. To register, click HERE.
- 5) ECOLE DU BARREAU: Decisions have been made in regards to the dates and the form of the evaluations for this year graduates: More details are available HERE.
- 6) YEAR OF SWEARING-IN OF ARTICLING STUDENTS: Due to the exceptional situation of COVID-19, we confirm that any internship that began in 2020 will be deemed to have been completed in 2020 for the determination of the year of swearing in. For example, if your internship was to begin in November 2020 and end in May 2021, 2020 will be deemed to be the year of swearing-in.

For all information regarding practice court, please follow the developments here.

Do not hesitate to join our Facebook group «Avocates et avocats du Québec - Groupe d'entraide - COVID19».

For any questions email: covid19@barreau.qc.ca

Best regards,

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Bâtonnier du Québec