



February 18, 2004

David B. Savage
Chair, C2C Task Force
c/o TriQuest Energy Corporation
Suite 415
311 - 6 Avenue Southwest
Calgary AB T2P3H2

Dear Mr. Savage,

I write as Chair of the Canadian Bar Association's National Alternative Dispute Resolution Section (the ADR Section) to express our support for the Company to Company Dispute Resolution Task Force Report (C2C Task Force Report) in its emphasis on alternative dispute resolution. The ADR Section consists of lawyers from across Canada who practice and share an interest in alternative dispute resolution.

The CBA represents over 38,000 jurists, including lawyers, notaries, teachers and students. The CBA has long supported enhanced alternatives to litigation and emphasizes the place of alternative dispute resolution as a tool to resolve disputes. Steps taken by jurisdictions across Canada to encourage or require the use of mediation also demonstrate the increasing acknowledgement of the need for alternatives to litigation as a means to resolve disputes.

The ADR Section applauds the initiative of the C2C Task Force in exploring timelier and less costly resolution of disputes among companies in the oil and gas industry. The C2C Task Force Report provides information and tools that will allow disputing companies to develop an understanding of dispute resolution choices, choose an appropriate forum of dispute resolution and obtain access to those providing services and advice. We believe that it will lead to management, control and resolution of conflicts within the oil and gas industry in more proactive and effective ways. The Report's recommendations will encourage companies to use the guidelines, thereby minimizing reliance on lengthy, expensive and more adversarial processes, and at the same time often improving business relationships.

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While the C2C Task Force Report focuses on the oil and gas industry in Alberta, the ADR Section believes that the Report will encourage other industries across Canada to consider ways to incorporate alternative dispute resolution techniques. The national perspective is reinforced because one of the organizations endorsing the Report is the National Energy Board, a body that has adopted alternative dispute resolution principles regarding inter-provincial pipeline matters.

The ADR Section again congratulates you on the contribution to alternative dispute resolution made by the C2C Task Force Report, and would be pleased to collaborate on any future initiatives.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. de Kovachich". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some overlapping letters.

Hélène de Kovachich
Chair
National Alternative Dispute Resolution Section