



November 5, 2008

The Honourable Diane Ablonczy, P.C., M.P.
Minister of State (Small Business and Tourism)
House of Commons
Parliament Buildings
Ottawa, ON K1A 0Z6

Dear Minister,

Re: *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act*

I am writing on behalf of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA) to congratulate you on your recent appointment as Minister of State (Small Business and Tourism). We look forward to a continuing dialogue with you and your Department.

The CBA is a national, voluntary association of over 37,000 lawyers, law students, law professors and Quebec notaries. Among the objectives of the Association are the improvement of the law and the administration of justice.

The CBA believes that reform of the corporate regime applicable to Canadian federal not-for-profit corporations is long overdue. The introduction of the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act* as Bill C-21 in the 38th Parliament and Bill C-62 in the 39th Parliament represented substantial positive steps for the entire Canadian not-for-profit sector in that they promised to replace the outdated and inconsistent regime that has been in place for almost 90 years. The National Charities and Not-for-Profit Law Section and the National Business Law Section have joined forces to work on a submission on Bill C-62.

The CBA wishes to strongly support the reintroduction of Bill C-62 as a legislative priority. While the CBA believes that Bill C-62 was a significant step in establishing a comprehensive, modern framework for the governance of federal not-for-profit corporations, we would welcome an opportunity to meet with your officials to discuss some technical and substantive elements before a new bill is introduced. I would hope that the combined experience of our members from the National Charities and Not-for-Profit Law Section and the National Business Law Section can offer positive and constructive comments on a new legislative initiative.



We have also stated our support for the reintroduction of Bill C-62 and expressed our interest in discussing the substance of the bill before it is reintroduced in a letter to your colleague, the Honourable Tony Clement, Minister of Industry.

Again, on behalf of the CBA, I wish to congratulate you on your appointment and look forward to working with you.

Yours sincerely,

(Original signed by J. Guy Joubert)

J. Guy Joubert

cc. Bruce H. King
Chair, National Business Law Section
Susan May Manwaring
Chair, National Charities and Not-for-Profit Law Section