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Article by



ChrisMacLeod

**Still Negotiating?
Don't Lose Your
Right to Sue**

Article by



**Charles
E. Gluckstein**

**Failed Lawsuit
should be a warning
to Dog Walkers**

Article by



Ash Mazinani

**Does my spouse
get half of my assets
if we divorce?**

Article by



**Ali Ahmari
Moghaddam**

**Your Will, Your Wishes,
Your Family: Estate
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On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am very pleased to congratulate and acknowledge

Ali Ahmari-Moghaddam
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in recognition of your exceptional dedication in organizing an educational seminar on legal matters for the community.

Through your efforts, this event provided valuable insights into real estate law, family law, and personal injury law, offering support on complex topics that impact the daily lives of residents. Your commitment to making legal knowledge accessible and empowering individuals with crucial resources will have a positive impact.

Thank you for your outstanding support and for helping make this seminar an impactful event. Please accept my best wishes for continued success in all your future endeavours.



Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP
Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill





November 7th, 2024

Certificate of Appreciation

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am very pleased to congratulate and acknowledge

Ashkan Anvari
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in recognition of your contributions to the success of the Facelaw Educational Seminar.

Your expertise in digital marketing played a crucial role in bringing this event to life, ensuring community members had access to essential information on topics like real estate law, family law, and personal injury law. Your commitment to sharing these resources with the community will raise public awareness and understanding of complex legal issues, empowering individuals to make informed decisions in their lives.

Thank you for your outstanding support and for helping make this seminar an impactful event. Please accept my best wishes for continued success in all your future endeavours.

Hon. Michael Parsa, MPP
Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill



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WE are a directory of Lawyers, Paralegals and Immigration consultants, striving to bring together the best professionals in the legal field.

In today's fast paced world, where almost everyone now has the internet in the palm of their hand, finding the relevant information and assistance you require has never been easier.

Finding an experienced lawyer, paralegal or immigration consultant ("Legal Professional") to assist you with your legal matters should be no different.

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Facelaw.ca is a website which connects those looking for a Legal Professional to assist them with a legal matter (or those just wanting to get some preliminary legal advice) with an experienced Legal Professional in the appropriate field of law.

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AI Solutions for Lawyers: 5 Ways AI Can Help Law Firms Grow

Artificial Intelligence is changing how people search for legal services, communicate with law firms, and choose attorneys. As platforms like Google AI, ChatGPT, and Gemini become part of everyday search, law firms have a new opportunity to use AI to improve visibility, client experience, and growth.

Here are **5 ways AI can help law firms grow**:

01 Improve Visibility in AI Search

Potential clients are no longer searching only on Google. They are increasingly asking AI platforms questions such as, "Who is the best divorce lawyer near me?" or "Which attorney handles business disputes?" Optimizing a law firm's digital presence for AI Search can increase the chances of being discovered and referenced when potential clients use AI powered platforms.

02 Turn Your Website Into a 24/7 AI Assistant

An AI Assistant can communicate with website visitors at any time, answer common questions about the firm's services, explain practice areas, and guide visitors toward the appropriate next step. Instead of simply providing information, the website becomes an interactive tool for generating and qualifying potential leads.

03 Build Smarter Legal Content

AI can help identify the questions potential clients are searching for and assist law firms in developing useful articles, FAQs, and educational resources. High quality content can strengthen traditional SEO while also helping AI platforms better understand the firm's expertise, services, and areas of practice.



04 Automate Repetitive Tasks

Law firms can use AI solutions to support routine activities such as responding to common inquiries, organizing leads, preparing follow ups, and analyzing marketing information. This allows attorneys and staff to spend more time on clients and higher value work.

05 Make Better Decisions With AI & Business Intelligence

AI combined with Business Intelligence can help law firms understand which marketing channels generate leads, which practice areas receive the most interest, and where growth opportunities exist. Instead of relying only on assumptions, firms can make more informed, data driven marketing decisions.



Ashkan Anvari

Doctor Of Business Administration (DBA)

Founder of the : FACELAW PLATFORM

The Future of Legal Growth

AI is not about replacing lawyers. It is about helping law firms become easier to find, faster to respond, and more efficient. As AI Search and AI powered tools continue to grow, firms that adopt these technologies early can build a stronger digital presence and position themselves for the future of legal marketing.



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Ali Ahmari Moghaddam

- ▶ We believe that clients should feel welcome and comfortable every time they walk into our office.
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- ▶ We take the time to educate clients about their legal matter so that they are well informed about all aspects of their particular case.

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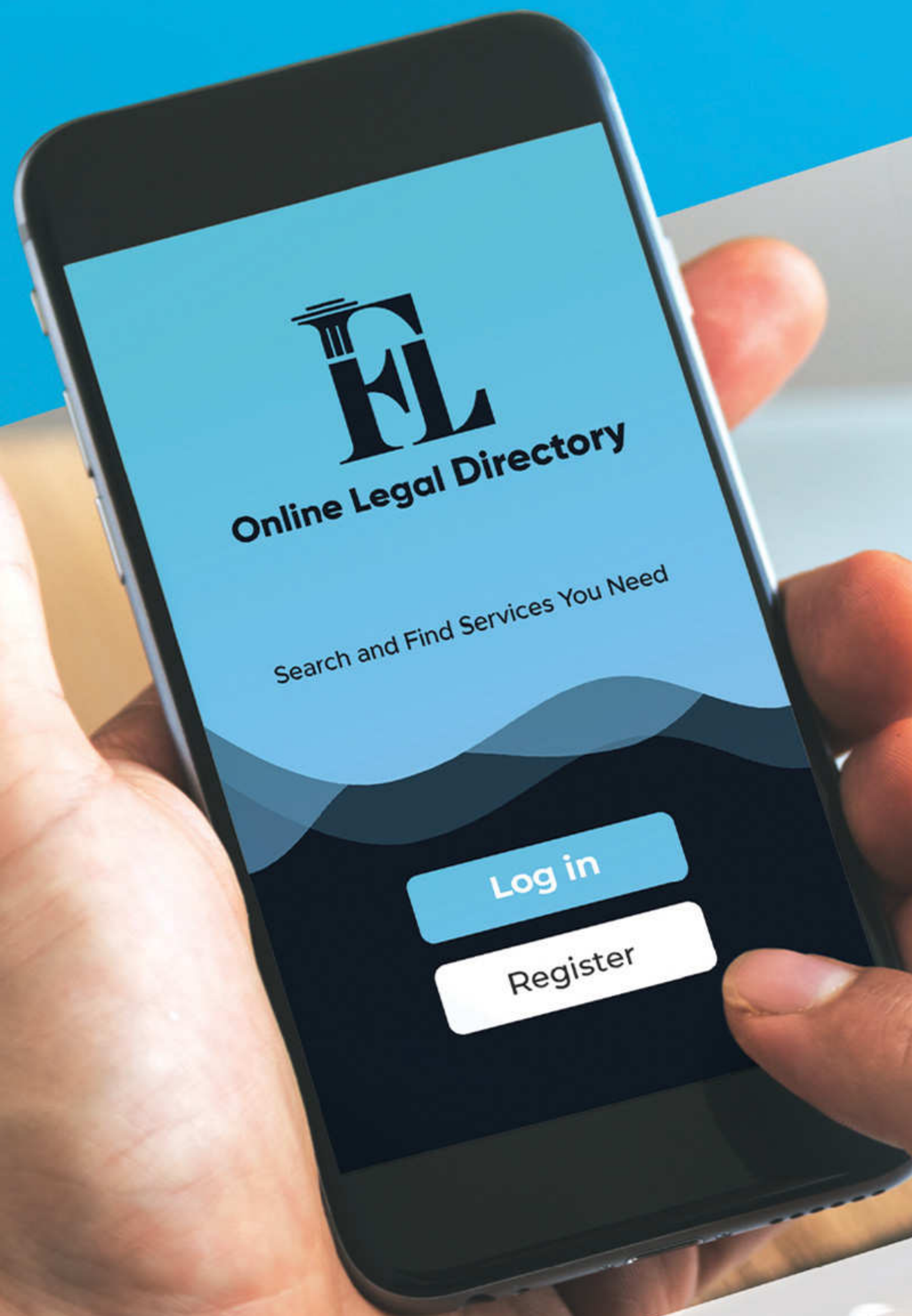
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Does my spouse get half of **my assets** if we divorce?

Hi, my name is Ash Mazinani.

I'm a divorce and family lawyer in Toronto. The short answer is sometimes, but not always. The law in Ontario provides that married spouses must equalize or divide their assets upon separation and divorce.

That means that the spouses must equally share the increase in the value of their assets and net worth during the marriage. In some situations, that may mean that the married spouses simply divide everything that they own 50/50 down the middle.

However, that may not always be the case if one of the spouses owned significant assets on the date of marriage, or if one of the spouses received a significant gift or inheritance during the marriage, or if it was a marriage of less than five years. Calculating equalization is one of the most difficult and consequential things that a divorce lawyer does. Contact Mazinani and Associates for more information.




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Still Negotiating? Don't Lose Your Right to Sue

Many business disputes begin with a practical effort to resolve the problem. A customer has not paid, a supplier has allegedly breached an agreement, a shareholder relationship has broken down, or a business partner has failed to meet obligations. In many cases, the parties are still exchanging proposals, attending meetings, or trying to negotiate a sensible outcome.

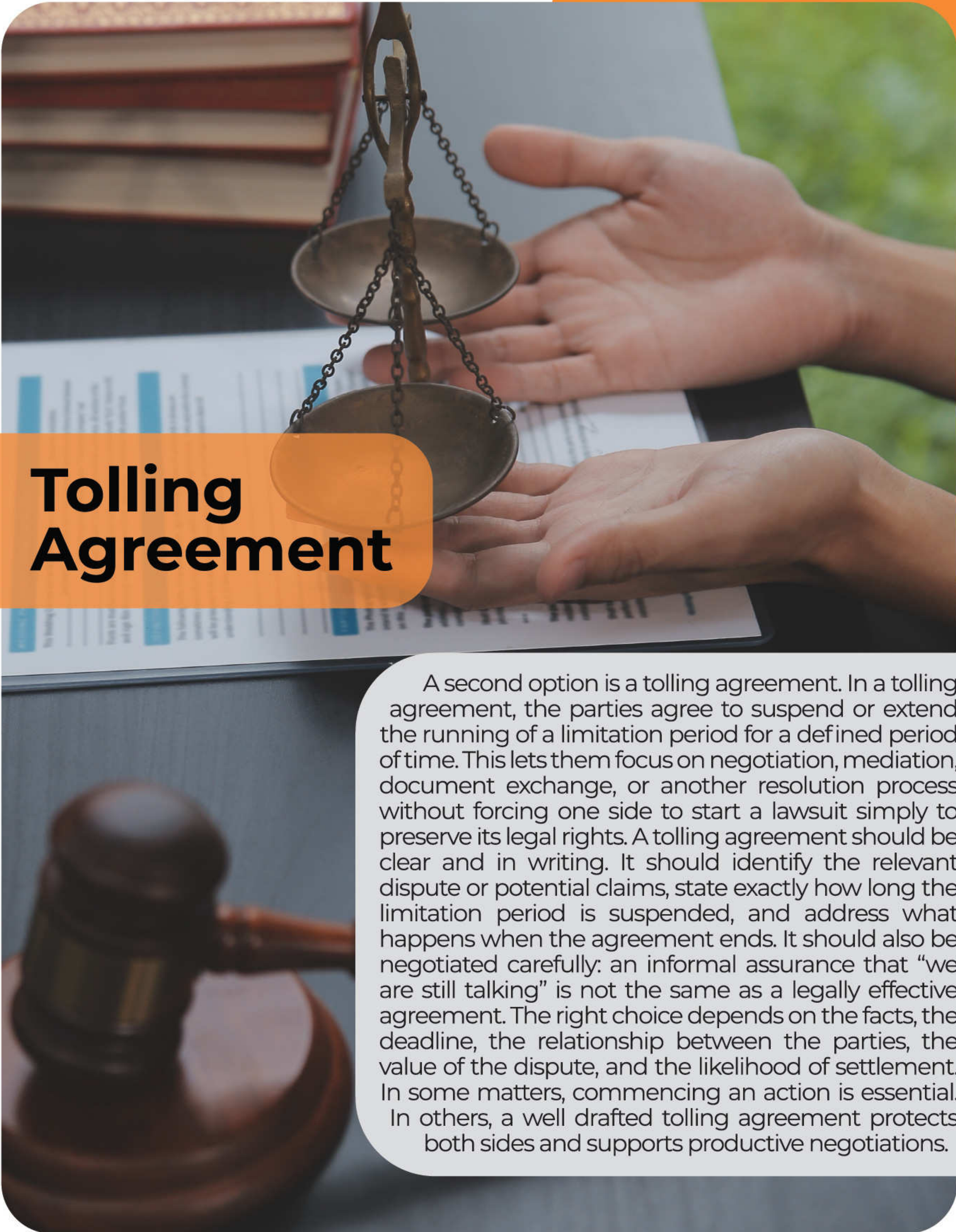
The difficulty is that negotiations do not stop the clock.

In Ontario, the general limitation period is two years from the date you knew (or reasonably ought to have known) that you had a claim. Complicated than it sounds, particularly where the issue developed over time or the parties continued to discuss a possible resolution.

But waiting too long can put an otherwise valid claim at risk. If you believe you may have a lawsuit but negotiations remain active, there are legal tools that may preserve your rights while leaving room for settlement.

■ ■ ■ Notice of Action

One option is to commence a Notice of Action. This is a relatively brief court document that starts an action and preserves the ability to advance a claim without immediately preparing every allegation and legal detail required in a Statement of Claim. After issuing a Notice of Action, you generally have days to deliver a Statement of Claim. This can be helpful where a limitation deadline is approaching and you do not have enough time to investigate the facts, gather records, calculate damages, or prepare a complete pleading. It can allow you to meet the deadline while your lawyer finalizes the claim. Even after a Statement of Claim is issued, service need not always happen immediately. In Ontario, a claim generally must be served within months after it is issued. That period can give the parties additional space to continue discussions before the litigation is formally delivered to the other side. However, this approach needs careful handling. Issuing a claim may affect the tone of negotiations, and procedural deadlines must be tracked closely.

The background image is a composite. The top half shows a hand holding a pair of metal scales of justice over a document. The bottom half shows a wooden gavel resting on a wooden surface. The text 'Tolling Agreement' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Tolling Agreement

A second option is a tolling agreement. In a tolling agreement, the parties agree to suspend or extend the running of a limitation period for a defined period of time. This lets them focus on negotiation, mediation, document exchange, or another resolution process without forcing one side to start a lawsuit simply to preserve its legal rights. A tolling agreement should be clear and in writing. It should identify the relevant dispute or potential claims, state exactly how long the limitation period is suspended, and address what happens when the agreement ends. It should also be negotiated carefully: an informal assurance that “we are still talking” is not the same as a legally effective agreement. The right choice depends on the facts, the deadline, the relationship between the parties, the value of the dispute, and the likelihood of settlement. In some matters, commencing an action is essential. In others, a well drafted tolling agreement protects both sides and supports productive negotiations.

Your Will, Your Wishes, Your Family: Estate Planning, Guardianship and Common Law Relationships in Ontario



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01

What happens to my minor children if I die without a will in Ontario?

If you die without a will, the court will appoint a guardian for your minor children based on what is deemed to be in their best interests. This could be a family member or a close friend, but the court makes the final decision. In making its decision the court will examine factors such as the relationship between the potential guardian and the children, the ability of the potential guardians to provide a safe and suitable living environment, as well as the financial resources of the potential guardians. Furthermore, if no guardian is available or deemed appropriate, the court may place your children in the care of a foster family or government-appointed guardian. Without a will, your children's inheritance will be held by the Ontario Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee until they reach the age of majority, 18 years old.

02

How can I make sure my children are raised by someone I trust if I pass away?

To ensure your children are raised by someone you trust; it is crucial to name a guardian in your will. By clearly naming a guardian, you reduce the risk of a court appointed guardian who may not align with your values or preferences. It's also important to consider the financial arrangements for your children's care by setting up a trust to manage their inheritance.

Without a will, the court will decide who takes responsibility for the care of your children, and the person chosen by the court may not be someone you would have selected or chosen to act as guardian for your children. A well prepared estate plan provides peace of mind knowing your children's future is safe and secure.



03

If I have a spouse, will they automatically get custody of my children if I die?

In most cases, if one parent dies, the surviving spouse will automatically retain custody of the children. However, if the surviving parent is unable or unfit to care for the children, the court may appoint another guardian in a better position to provide for the care of the children. If there is any dispute over custody, family members or other individuals may be involved in the court's decision. To avoid such complications and ensure that your wishes are honored, you should include a clear and specific guardianship plan in your will. This ensures that your spouse or another trusted individual will be given legal authority to care for your children.

04

Why is having a Will important in Ontario?

A Will is one of the most important legal documents you can create, as it ensures that your estate is distributed according to your wishes after your passing. Without a valid Will, Ontario's Succession Law Reform Act dictates how your assets are divided, which may not align with your intentions. This statute dictates a fixed order of distribution for your estate, in the event you do not have a Will, and can lead to a unintended distribution of your estate.

A Will allows you to appoint an Estate Trustee (Executor) to manage your estate, make financial and legal decisions, and distribute your property efficiently, and in accordance with the written instructions contained in your Will. It also ensures that minor children have guardians appointed according to your wishes. Without a Will, your loved ones may face a long and costly legal processes, and disputes among various family members can arise. As well, estate planning through a Will can help reduce probate fees and taxes, maximizing what your beneficiaries actually receive. Taking the time to create a Will provides peace of mind, knowing that your loved ones will be taken care of and that your final wishes will be honored.



05

What happens if someone dies without a Will in Ontario?

Dying without a Will is referred to as “intestate”, and in such cases, Ontario’s Succession Law Reform Act determines how the deceased’s estate is distributed. If the deceased was married and had no children, the entire estate goes to the surviving spouse. If there are children, the spouse receives a preferential share (currently set at \$350,000.00), and the remainder is divided among the spouse and children. If there is no spouse or children, the estate passes to the next closest relatives in a strict legal order of distribution. Common-law partners are not entitled to inherit under this law, which means they must file a claim for support if they were financially dependent when their common law partner passes away. Without a Will, the court must also appoint an Estate Trustee, which can delay the process significantly. The lack of clear instructions can lead to disputes among family members, unnecessary legal costs, and unintended beneficiaries receiving your assets. This is why having a Will is crucial in ensuring your estate is distributed according to your wishes.

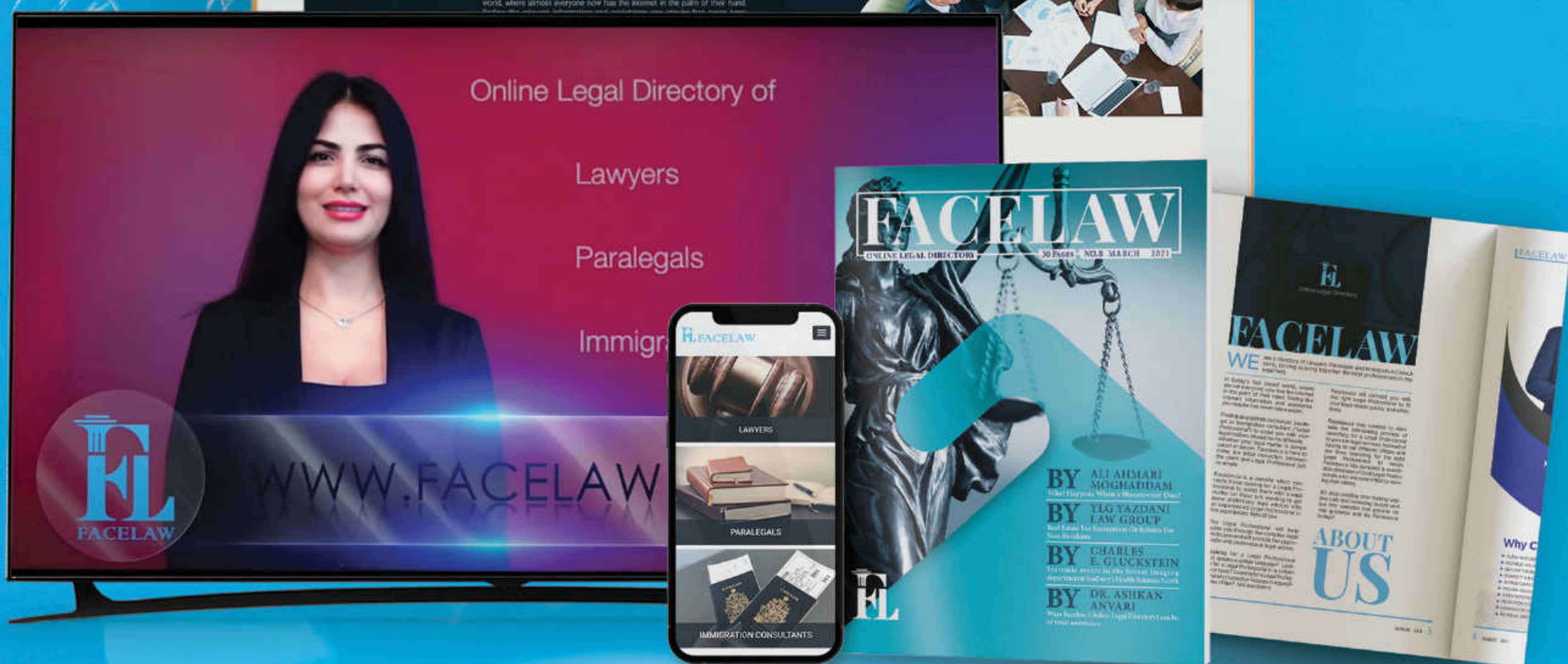
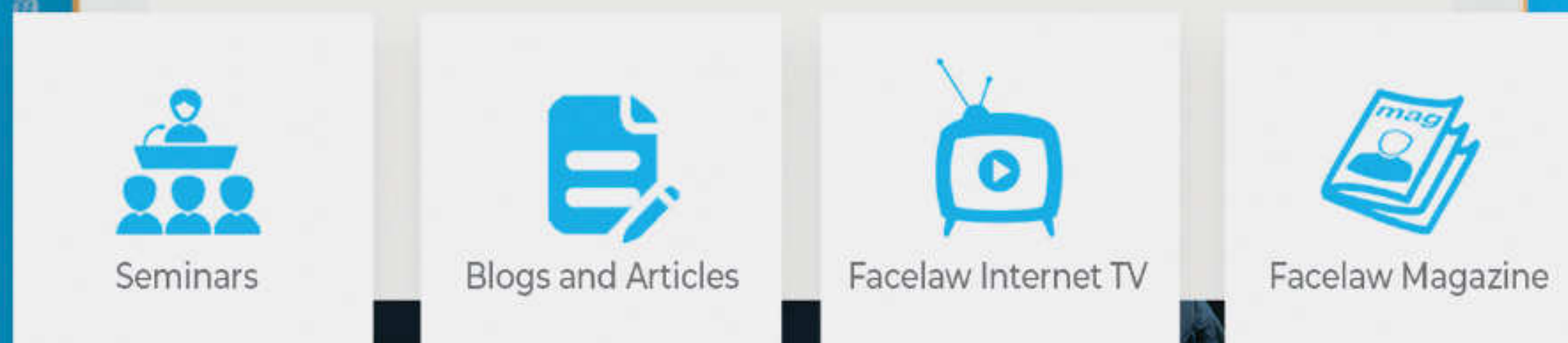
06

Can a common law spouse inherit under Ontario law?

In Ontario, common-law spouses do not have the same inheritance rights as legally married spouses. If a person dies without a Will, a common law spouse does not automatically receive a share of the estate under Ontario’s Succession Law Reform Act. Instead, they must make a claim for financial support as a dependent of the deceased. This can be a complicated and costly legal process with no guaranteed outcome. To ensure that a common-law spouse is provided for, it is essential to include them in a legally valid written Will. As well, individuals in common-law relationships can protect their partner by naming them as a direct beneficiary on registered accounts, such as RRSPs, TFSAs, and life insurance policies. Holding assets jointly (with a right of survivorship) can also help ensure a smooth transfer of property to the surviving partner. Without these precautions, a common-law spouse may be left in a vulnerable financial position after their partner’s death.

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Failed Lawsuit should be a warning to Dog Walkers

Becoming a dog walker for hire has several advantages, in addition to the obvious financial benefits. It is an opportunity to get outdoors, get some exercise and build a connection with the community. Dog walkers can be students or retirees seeking to earn some extra income, or entrepreneurs looking to build a full time career. However, those hoping to boost their income by offering their services as a dog walker need to be aware of the risks and obligations that go along with the job.

Dog Bites Are Not Uncommon.

Of course any dog can bite, and for a variety of reasons. It is not necessarily the breed that influences whether a dog will bite, but their individual history and behaviour, states the American Kennel Club (AKC).

Most people injured by dogs are familiar with the pet. In fact, some research indicates that up to 90 per cent of dog bites are inflicted by an animal the person knows. The victim can be a family member, a friend, a neighbour or even a dog walker. It is important to understand that any dog can bite under certain circumstances.

Who Is Responsible When a Dog Bites?

It would be natural to assume that if you are bitten by a dog and suffer a serious injury, the animal's owner would be liable for damages. In many instances, that assumption would be correct, but the law is complex and cases turn on their specific facts.

Understanding the Dog Owners' Liability Act.

Dog owners in Ontario are generally responsible for injuries caused by their pets. Even if your dog has never harmed anyone before, the dog owner can still be held strictly liable under DOLA. In earlier times, it was axiomatic that unless the owner had prior knowledge of the biting propensity of the dog, liability could not be made out. Thus, it came to be known that every dog was entitled to one free bite. The DOLA changed that, such that unlike a claim for injuries arising from a car accident or a slip and fall, the injured party in a dog bite case does not have to prove negligence on the part of the dog owner, or knowledge of the dog's propensities. Indeed, liability will not be precluded even where reasonable steps were taken by the owner to prevent an attack.

However, someone trespassing or committing a crime when bitten or attacked may face challenges in advancing a claim “unless the keeping of the dog on the premises was unreasonable for the purpose of the protection of persons or property.” What is also significant, as illustrated in the Court of Appeal judgment referenced earlier, is that “ownership” of a dog can extend to those who are temporarily responsible for the pet, such as a dog walker.



As well, even if a dog bites or attacks someone on private property, the liability of the owner is determined by the Dog Owners’ Liability Act; not under the Occupiers’ Liability Act. The latter Act holds property occupiers responsible for injuries to visitors caused by unsafe conditions or activities on private premises; however, its application is expressly excluded by section 3 of that Act where a dog bites or attacks someone on private premises. If you provoke a canine or fail to obtain permission from the owner to interact with it, for example, you may still be entitled to damages if you are injured, but any award may be reduced to reflect your own contribution to the event’s occurrence.

We Will Advocate For You.

The law is complicated, and making assumptions about your case can be counter-productive. You may be entitled to damages not only for pain, suffering and disfigurement, but also for economic losses, including lost wages, and future care needs.



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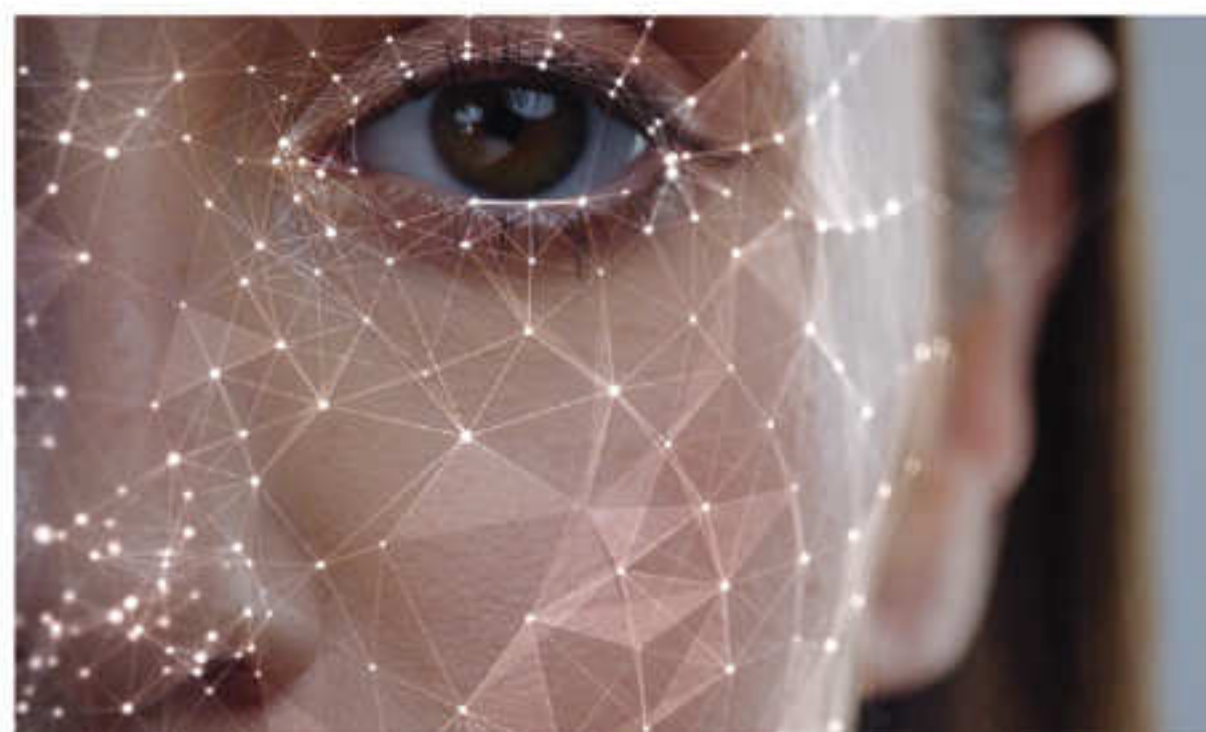
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Hossein Niroomand



Hossein Niroomand has been practicing since 2003 and his practice mainly focus in the areas of civil litigation, personal injury, employment, and family law. He is admitted to the Ontario Bar representing private individuals and corporations.

Hossein is very well respected within the legal community for his extensive experience negotiating lump sum settlements, as well as mediation, arbitration and trials. He oversees every step in the progress of your case and you can rest assured that Hossein's experience is at work for you.

He has shown himself to be a worthy advocate in confronting the aggressive tactics of most defense lawyers and putting together strategies to ensure the best possible results for you.

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Erick Zepeda McKinlay

Lawyer

Certified Family Mediator

Erick Zepeda McKinlay is divorce and family lawyer with a diverse academic background and a commitment to providing exceptional legal services. He holds an Honours Bachelor of Arts from the University of Toronto and Juris Doctor from the University of Ottawa's Faculty of Law.

With extensive experience in various legal arenas, Erick has appeared before multiple courts, including Ontario Court of Justice, and Superior Court of Justice. His robust understanding of the legal system, combined with his certification as a family mediator and collaborative training, equips him to handle a wide range of family law matters with professionalism and care.

- Erick's commitment to the legal profession extends beyond his practice. He is an active member of the University of Toronto's Alumni Mentorship Program and the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee at Collaborative Divorce Toronto. He also serves on the Mississauga Appeals and Property Standards Committee, contributing to the betterment of his community.

Fluent in Spanish and conversational in Italian, Erick brings a unique global perspective to his legal practice, offering clients a diverse and approachable legal experience.

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Letter of Recognition from Ali C. Ehsassi

Liberal MP for Willowdale (Ontario)



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Ali Ehsassi

Member of Parliament
Willowdale



February 8, 2021

Letter of Appreciation

Dear Messrs. Ahmari-Moghadam & Anvari,

As the Member of Parliament for Willowdale, I would like to take this opportunity to salute you for your efforts in publishing the Facelaw Online Legal Directory.

By providing legal guidance in Farsi and identifying experienced legal professionals that may assist clients navigate the intricacies of the law, you are undoubtedly promoting the welfare of numerous individuals within the Iranian-Canadian community, a development that is bound to be welcome by all.

Thank you for your efforts in promoting greater legal literacy and for highlighting practical information that will enhance prudent decision-making for all of us, while also safeguarding the best interests of individuals confronted by legal challenges. By enhancing our access to legal resources, you are essentially availing all of us of the certainty of granite under our feet, thereby permitting us each to stand taller.

May you thrive in your latest worthy endeavour for many years to come. Your continued success will further the success of others.

Ali C. Ehsassi

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Letter of Recognition from Majid Jowhari

M.P. ; Current Member of The House
of Commons - Richmond Hill



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA



Majid Jowhari
Member of Parliament
Richmond Hill

October 7, 2020

Letter of Recognition

As the Member of Parliament for Richmond Hill, I would like to thank Ali Ahmari-Moghaddam and Ashkan Anvari for their recent innovation, the Facelaw platform.

Facelaw.ca is a directory of Lawyers, Paralegals, and Immigration Consultants, striving to bring together the best professionals in the legal field in an easy-to-search database making finding the right legal professional simple and efficient. The Facelaw platform also provides access to articles, blogs, and useful information dealing with different areas of the law. There is also a Facelaw Magazine which is available in both English and Farsi and is available to download for free from the website.

I appreciate Ali Ahmari-Moghaddam and Ashkan Anvari's effort and aspiration to make their platform and access to legal professionals easily accessible to more people, and I commend their spirit of innovation and inclusiveness.

Sincerely,

Majid Jowhari, MP
Richmond Hill

Constituency Office
100 Mural St., Suite 101, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 1J3
Tel. 905-707-9701 | Fax. 905-707-9705 | E-mail Majid.Jowhari@parl.gc.ca



Certificate of Appreciation from Michael Parsa

MPP | AURORA-OAK RIDGES
RICHMOND HILL



April 2nd, 2024

Certificate of Appreciation

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am very pleased to acknowledge,

Ali Ahmari-Moghaddam
& *Ashkan Anvari*

For the creation of

Facelaw

A Legal Directory for individuals in search of a Legal Profession to assist them in their legal matters.

Your website protects people from enduring the long and stressful process of finding legal support on their own. The focus on helping people demonstrates the values of this organization in supporting all individuals in their time of need.

Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Ahmari-Moghaddan and Mr. Anvari, individuals across the province and country can secure legal representation with ease and confidence.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael Parsa".

Hon. Michael Parsa
MPP of Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill



Certificate of Appreciation from
Laura Smith
MPP | THORNHILL



FACELAW

April 3rd, 2024.

As the Member of Provincial Parliament for the
Riding of Thornhill, I would like to thank you for providing
legal assistance and guidance to our constituents in a
professional and efficient manner.

My appreciation to you for making the process of connecting
people to a Legal Professional simpler. My best wishes in the
years to come!



Laura Smith
Laura Smith, MPP
Thornhill

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