

Federation of Law Societies of Canada Fédération des ordres professionnels de juristes du Canada

## **News Release**

For Immediate Release October 23, 2023

## Injunction Extended in Federation's Income Tax Act Challenge

The temporary injunction order obtained by the Federation of Law Societies of Canada in conjunction with a petition challenging the constitutionality of amended mandatory reporting obligations under the *Income Tax Act* has been extended to December 1, 2023. The hearing on the application for an injunction was held in the Supreme Court of British Columbia on October 20, 2023. The judge hearing the application extended the injunction to provide more time for her to consider the arguments of the parties. A decision on the injunction application is expected to be released on or before December 1, 2023.

The Federation filed an application in the British Columbia Supreme Court on September 11, 2023, challenging the constitutionality of the application of recent amendments to the mandatory reporting obligations in the Act to members of the legal profession. The application seeks to exempt legal counsel from the obligation of taxpayers, promoters, and advisors, including legal counsel, to provide details to the CRA of transactions that may constitute tax avoidance. A consent injunction obtained by the Federation was to expire on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

A Backgrounder with additional information on the Federation's constitutional challenge is available <u>here</u>. The Federation's pleadings are <u>here</u>. The government's pleadings are <u>here</u>.

The Federation of Law Societies of Canada is the national association of the 14 law societies mandated by the provinces and territories to regulate Canada's legal profession in the public interest. It is the body through which Canada's law societies collaborate at the national level, share information on trends and issues affecting the legal profession, and engage in collective action and decision-making.

The Federation is also the law societies' national and international voice on important issues related to the regulation and core values of the legal profession. For more information on the Federation, please visit our web site at <u>www.flsc.ca</u>.

For more information about this release, or to acquire a high-resolution photograph of the Federation President, please contact:

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