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LEX-500008446

July 2, 2020

Ms. Martine Turcotte, Chair
Ms. Margaret Bloodworth, Member
Mr. Peter Griffin, Member
Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission
99 Metcalfe Street, 8th Floor
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 1E3

**Re: 2020 Quadrennial Commission — June 10, 2020 Ruling respecting Request for
Deferral of Inquiry Commencement Date**

Madam Chair and Members of the Commission,

Counsel for the Canadian Superior Courts Judges Association, the Canadian Judicial Council, the Federal Court Prothonotaries (together the “Judiciary”), and the Government of Canada (collectively the “Parties”) have discussed the terms of the above-captioned Ruling and agreed that it would be advisable for them to seek confirmation from the Commission of the Parties’ understanding of the Ruling.

The Parties understand that the December 1, 2020 date of commencement is the formal date that is deemed to be the start of the inquiry, which in turn determines the date for the next statutory step set out in the Judges Act at s. 26(2), namely the submission of the Commission’s report to the Minister of Justice within 9 months after the date of commencement. It is not the Parties’ understanding that December 1, 2020 is the date on which the substantive public hearings before the Commission would begin. Rather, consistent with past practice, the Parties would expect that a meeting will take place on or soon after the date of commencement of the inquiry, at which time the Parties would submit for the Commission’s consideration a proposed timetable of procedural steps consisting of an exchange of written submissions followed by substantive public hearings. Confirmation of the Parties’ understanding in this regard is requested. If, however, the Commission is anticipating that substantive steps would commence in advance December 1, 2020, the Parties seek additional clarification of the Commission’s expectations regarding timelines.

As for the Parties' joint report to be submitted by October 31, 2020 (Ruling, p. 2, para. 2), the Parties understand that it refers to the further adequacy assessment of the commencement date by the Parties in Fall 2020, as noted in the Instrument of Consent (Schedule "B" of the Ruling). Confirmation of the Parties' understanding in this regard is also requested.

The Parties look forward to the Commission's response to the present requests for confirmation, and apologize for any misunderstanding that may have resulted from their own prior joint communications.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'KGS', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Kirk G. Shannon
Counsel, Department of Justice
Government of Canada

Copy to:

Ms. Louise Meagher, Executive Director, Judicial Compensation and Benefits Commission

Mr. Pierre Bienvenu, Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP

Mr. Azim Hussain, Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP

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Mr. Christopher Rupar, Department of Justice, Government of Canada