

March 2, 2012

VIA REGULAR MAIL

Gérard Lévesque
Avocat & Notaire
414 – 1800, 14A Street S.W.
Calgary, AB T2T 6K3

Dear Sir:

RE: Association of French Speaking Jurists of Alberta (AJEFA)

Thank you very much for your letter dated February 21st regarding a possible meeting with the president of the Association of French Speaking Jurists of Alberta (AJEFA). Unfortunately, I was out of the office until February 24th. I understand that there has been prior correspondence with the Minister of Justice and Attorney General on this issue, and that the Minister provided a response to the Association, which I attach for ease of reference. I understand that a very extensive brief was provided by the Association to the Minister previously on these issues. Further use of the Association on access to justice in criminal matters should be directed, in writing, to the Minister.

In any event, given the fact that the *Caron* case is still before the Courts a meeting on these issues would not be appropriate at this time.

Yours truly,



Joshua B. Hawkes, Q.C.
Director
Policy Unit

JBH/mj
Encl.





ALBERTA
JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL
Office of the Minister

AR 41284

April 29, 2011

Ms. Louise Huard-Peake
314 - 8627, rue Marie-Anne-Gaboury (91 Street)
Edmonton, AB T6C 0Z2

Dear Ms. Huard-Peake:

Thank you for your letter of March 23, 2011 regarding a memorandum of the legal and judicial status of the French language in Alberta. It is clear your Association has done a significant amount of work on this issue.

As you may be aware, the Court of Queen's Bench in Alberta in *Caron* ruled that there is no constitutional obligation on Alberta to publish laws in French as well as English. That case is on appeal to be heard some time in the fall of 2011. The *Pooran* decision from the Provincial Court of Alberta which you spoke of dealt with statutory interpretation of the *Languages Act*. The appeal period has not expired.

I would suggest we defer any discussion of the status of the French language in Alberta until the conclusion of the current litigation on these issues.

Yours truly,


Verlyn Olson, Q.C.
Minister