



PHILADELPHIA  
BAR ASSOCIATION



Barreau de  
**Montréal**

# **FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN THE**

**PHILADELPHIA BAR ASSOCIATION**

**AND**

**THE BAR OF MONTREAL**

**2013**

## **BY AND BETWEEN:**

On the one hand, the Philadelphia Bar Association, represented by its Chancellor, Ms. Kathleen D. Wilkinson, Esq.

On the other, the Bar of Montreal, represented by its President, Luc Deshaies.

### **WHEREAS:**

I.- The Bar of Montreal and the Philadelphia Bar Association wish to develop privileged relations, encouraged by a common concern about the future of the legal profession in the world and mainly in their cities.

II.- The Bar of Montreal and the Philadelphia Bar Association, within the framework of a friendship relationship between both cities and their respective countries, the United States and Canada, agree to implement a close cooperation between both Bar Associations in order to address common needs and objectives of the legal profession.

As per their mutual covenants and agreements, both parties agree as follows:

### **PRELIMINARY. - SCOPE**

The main scope and objectives of this Friendship Agreement consist of the following:

- a) to assist the lawyers of both Bar Associations understand the legal relationships, which are complex and diversified, originated by the economic relationships between both countries and by the social relationships between their respective citizens;
- b) to improve the service rendered to the users of Canadian, Quebec and American law, by a better reciprocal knowledge of the legal and judicial systems of both countries;

c) and to develop friendship and unity relationship between the lawyers of both Bar Associations

These common purposes should also respond to the following professional needs:

(i) to support the relationships between both Bar Associations, especially by reciprocal information about ethics in the professional practice, the fundamental rules governing the legal profession and the professional training and organization of their Bars;

(ii) to foster meetings between the lawyers of both Bar Associations at personal, business, academic and professional levels;

(iii) to help the adoption of positions or common initiatives concerning any matter related to the defense of the common interests of the profession or to any other matter requiring their mutual cooperation and assistance.

Therefore, in view of the above, both Bar Associations are satisfied to reach the following agreements:

#### **ARTICLE 1. - EXCHANGE OF POINTS OF VIEW AND INFORMATION**

**1.1** The Bar of Montreal and the Philadelphia Bar Association will hold meetings, conference calls or video-conferences between the lawyers and/or delegations of both Bar Associations to exchange information mainly concerning the practice of the profession, the professional rules of lawyers and the professional organization of both Bar Associations.

It is the intention of the undersigned Associations to hold a meeting (in person, by conference call or video-conference) at least once a year, on the occasion of an event of one of the Associations or when both parties agree is

convenient to both Associations. The subjects to be discussed at these meetings should be determined each year, at least three months in advance.

**1.2** The Bar of Montreal and the Philadelphia Bar Association are committed to keep each other mutually informed about the more important legal evolutions in fiscal, social, civil, criminal and judicial matters, concerning the practice of the lawyer profession at national level.

They are committed to exchange any information related to the tendencies, systems and seminars of permanent training, within the legal, fiscal, social and professional area, that can be interesting for the Bar Association of the other country.

**1.3** The President or Chancellor of each Bar Association will designate a delegate or legal representative who will be in charge to ensure the regular contacts with the delegate of the other Bar Association.

**1.4** The Bar of Montreal and the Philadelphia Bar Association are committed to reciprocally inform about any business or professional travel organized by their members to the city of the other Association, in order to take this opportunity to hold a meeting, visit their counterparts and share information about the respective legal practice and Bar developments.

## **ARTICLE 2. - YOUNG LAWYERS TRAINING**

**2.1** The Bar of Montreal and the Philadelphia Bar Association are committed to promoting the possibility for young lawyers from both Associations to exchange information about the practice of law and developments that impact younger lawyers in our cities.

**2.2** The Bar of Montreal and the Philadelphia Bar Association will exchange information about the requirements for membership in their respective Associations.

**ARTICLE 3: INFORMATION**

3.1 The Philadelphia Bar Association and The Bar of Montreal agree to establish the following co-operation mechanisms:

- a) Exchange of documentation;
- b) Exchange of publications; and
- c) Openly communicate with each other about the possibility of developing jointly sponsored legal education programming of mutual interest to their respective members.

**ARTICLE 4. - MODIFICATION OF THE AGREEMENT**

This agreement may be modified only by written agreement of both Bar Associations approved by the Council of each Bar and executed by the President/Chancellor of both parties.

**ARTICLE 5. – ENTRY INTO FORCE**

This agreement will enter into force the day of the signature by the President of The Bar of Montreal and the Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association, subject to its ratification by the Council or governing body of both Bar Associations.

In witness hereof, we have herein signed this agreement, in duplicate on the day of \_\_\_\_\_

**Ms. Kathleen D. Wilkinson, Esq.**

**Mr. Luc Deshaies**

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**Chancellor  
Philadelphia Bar Association**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**President  
The Bar of Montreal**

Ratified by the Council of The Bar of Montreal, by agreements reached in session of.....

Ratified by the Board of Governors of the Philadelphia Bar Association by Resolution dated \_\_\_\_\_.