

PRIVACY STATEMENT

We recognize the importance of privacy and the sensitivity of personal information. As lawyers we have a professional obligation to keep confidential all information we receive within the lawyer-client relationship. As part of our commitment to protecting your privacy, we also adhere to all legislative requirements, and we employ our best efforts to ensure that the information you supply to us is safeguarded and used only for its intended purpose.

YOUR PRIVACY RIGHTS

From January 1, 2004, all businesses engaged in commercial activities in Canada must comply with the *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act* (Canada) (the "Act") and the Canadian Standards Association Model Code for the Protection of Personal Information. These obligations extend to lawyers and law firms, and the Act gives you rights concerning the privacy of your personal information.

We are responsible for the personal information we collect and hold. To ensure that we adhere to and are accountable for this responsibility, we have developed this policy and trained our lawyers and support staff about our policies and practices.

WHAT IS PERSONAL INFORMATION?

Personal information includes information in any form about an identifiable individual, recorded or not, whether in digital, paper or any other format. In this Privacy Policy, personal information refers to information supplied to, or collected by, this firm that identifies a client as an individual, but does not include the name, title, business address and business telephone number of the client.

WHY DO WE COLLECT PERSONAL INFORMATION?

We provide legal services to a wide range of clients and require personal information in order to effectively serve our clients and appropriately deal with their legal concerns and problems. We also produce direct marketing materials, including newsletters and memos, about our services and developments in the law which we supply as a service to our clients and others in the business community.

OUR PRIVACY PRINCIPLES

In the course of our professional activities and, in particular, providing services to our clients, we collect personal information about clients, employees and other individuals. Any such information may be used for contact purposes and, more broadly, to communicate with our clients and others with respect to the legal services we provide.

When we have been retained to act on behalf of a client, we use, retain and disclose personal information on behalf of, and as instructed by, that client in connection with the provision of our legal services. Our use, retention and disclosure of such information is governed by our duty of confidentiality to our client and, when applicable, by solicitor-client privilege.

We recognize the importance of protecting the personal information that has been entrusted to us. In this Privacy Statement, we outline the framework of the policies and procedures regarding our collection, use, retention and disclosure of personal information in respect of our clients and others. Our policies and procedures supplement, where applicable, our professional obligations of confidentiality and solicitor-client privilege.

HOW DO WE COLLECT YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION?

We collect information only by lawful and fair means and not in an unreasonably intrusive way. Wherever possible we collect your personal information directly from you both at the start of our retainer and in the course of our representation.

Sometimes we may obtain information about you from other sources. These sources typically include, but are not limited to, government agencies or registries, accountants or other professional advisors, financial institutions, insurance companies, real estate agents, and other third parties that represent that they have a right to disclose such personal information.

CONSENT

We may obtain consent to our collection, use and disclosure of information either expressly for stated purposes, or impliedly when the purposes are not stated expressly but are indicated by the relevant circumstances or follow logically from other expressly stated purposes. Individuals may withdraw or amend any consent previously given by contacting our Privacy Officer, subject to any legal or contractual restrictions and upon reasonable notice to us.

Consent to our collection of personal information may be required in order for us to provide legal services. However, we will not require, as a condition of providing our services, that personal information not related to providing such services be collected.

USE OF YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

We may use your personal information for purposes such as, but not limited to, providing legal services, billing, audit and record-keeping, account collection, managing and developing business and operations, developing or offering services tailored to our clients' needs, communicating with clients regarding current and future professional services, and responding to client comments and suggestions.

We do not disclose your personal information to any third parties, other than to our management affiliate, Lawrye Management Corporation, to enable them to market their products and services.

DISCLOSURE OF YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

Under certain circumstances we will disclose your personal information, namely:

- when we are required or authorized by law to do so;
- when you have consented to the disclosure;
- when the legal services we are providing to you require us to disclose some of your information to third parties (such as to a lender in a loan transaction) where your consent will be implied unless you tell us otherwise;
- where it is necessary to establish or collect our fees and disbursements;
- if we engage experts or counsel on your behalf;
- if we retain other law firms in other jurisdictions on your behalf; or
- if the information is already publicly known.

UPDATING YOUR INFORMATION

Since we use your personal information to provide legal services to you, it is important that the information be accurate and up-to-date. If during the course of a retainer any of your information changes, we request that you inform us so that we can make any necessary revisions.

IS MY PERSONAL INFORMATION SECURE?

We take all reasonable precautions and security measures to ensure that your personal information is kept safe from loss, unauthorized access, modification or disclosure. Such measures will vary depending on the sensitivity, volume, format and nature of the personal information and the manner of storage, and will involve, as applicable:

- physical, organizational, and electronic security measures, including premises security at both our business offices and off-site commercial records storage facilities;
- restricted file access to personal information;
- technological safeguards including security software and firewalls to minimize the risk of hacking or unauthorized computer access; and
- internal password and security policies.

ACCESS TO YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

We respond promptly to any request for access to personal information. Summary information is available at no cost on request. More detailed requests which require archive or other retrieval costs are subject to our normal professional fees and disbursements, and we advise clients of the cost, if any, prior to the retrieval of records or information.

CORRECTING ERRORS

If we hold information about you and you can establish that it is not accurate, complete and up-to-date, we will take reasonable steps to correct it.

CAN I BE DENIED ACCESS TO MY PERSONAL INFORMATION?

Your right to access your personal information is not absolute, and access may be denied when access is not authorized under applicable law, due to the requirements of the rules of professional conduct, or where the information is subject to the restrictions of confidentiality or solicitor-client privilege.

If we deny your request for access to information, or refuse a request to correct information, we will explain our reasons for so doing.

CAN I REQUEST ANONYMITY?

Whenever it is legal and practicable, we may offer the opportunity to deal with general inquiries without providing your name (for example, by accessing general information on our website). The *Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act* (Canada) requires us to confirm the identity of all new clients. It may also require us to disclose information to the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada ("FINTRAC") in relation to certain large cash transactions. Subject to the law and our professional obligations, we will employ our reasonable best efforts to respect a client's desire for anonymity.

COMMUNICATING WITH US

You should be aware that e-mail is not a fully secure medium of communication, and you should take this into account when communicating personal or confidential information to us.

CHANGES TO OUR PRIVACY POLICY

We regularly review all of our policies and procedures, and we may change our Privacy Policy from time to time.

REQUESTS FOR ACCESS

If you have any questions, or wish to access your personal information, please write to our Privacy Officer, Betsy P. Nieuwland, at Suite 1200, 65 Queen Street West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5H 2M5.

If you are not satisfied with our response, the Privacy Commissioner of Canada can be reached at 112 Kent Street, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1A 1H3, or by telephone at 1-800-282-1376.

WEB SITE

Our website at www.ryeandpartners.com may contain links to other sites which are not governed by our Privacy Policy.

On our website, like most other commercial websites, we may monitor traffic patterns, site usage and related site information in order to optimize our web service. We may provide aggregated information to third parties, but these statistics do not include any identifiable personal information.

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