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Our Reference Number: M-2025-8169

September 18, 2025

Allen Wynperle  
Chair  
Federation of Ontario Law Associations  
731 9<sup>th</sup> Street West  
Owen Sound, Ontario  
N4K 3P5  
[allen@dwlaw.ca](mailto:allen@dwlaw.ca)

Dear Allen Wynperle:

**Re: Proposed amendments to court rules to implement the new Courts Digital Transformation online filing portal in Toronto**

As you are aware, the Ministry of the Attorney General has partnered with the Ontario Superior Court of Justice and the Ontario Court of Justice on the Courts Digital Transformation initiative to replace legacy technology and modernize court operations. As part of this work, a new Ontario Courts Public Portal (OCP) will replace the existing Justice Services Online (JSO) portals. The OCP will launch in phases, beginning with Toronto on October 14, 2025 for civil (including bankruptcy, Commercial List, and contested estates), Divisional Court, small claims court and family proceedings, and enforcement.

Amendments to the *Rules of Civil Procedure*, *Rules of the Small Claims Court*, and *Family Law Rules* are required to implement the OCP in Toronto. To that end, I intend to use my rule-making authority under section 68.1 of the *Courts of Justice Act*. The proposed amendments are minimal in nature to authorize use of the new OCP and its operational functions and processes in Toronto civil, small claims, and family matters, including to:

- Indicate that JSO portals will no longer be available in Toronto, effective October 3, 2025 at 5 p.m.
- Introduce rules to authorize electronic filing and issuance through the OCP in Toronto.
- Introduce rules to allow paperless processes for civil and small claims matters in Toronto (i.e., court staff will be permitted to convert paper documents into an electronic copy in the court file and return the paper copy to the filer).
- Introduce rules to indicate that in Toronto, court staff, instead of parties, will directly upload documents from the electronic court file into Case Center through the new digital solution.

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I would like to express my appreciation in advance for your assistance throughout this process and for your ongoing support for our shared commitment to improving and modernizing the justice system. Should you have any questions about the rule amendments, you may direct them to Vaia Pappas, Director, Court Services Division, at [Vaia.Pappas@ontario.ca](mailto:Vaia.Pappas@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Downey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end of the name.

Doug Downey  
Attorney General

c: Vaia Pappas