

**CANADIAN
DEFENCE
LAWYERS**

February 8, 2017

The Honourable Yasir Naqvi, MPP
Attorney General of Ontario
Ministry of the Attorney General
McMurtry-Scott Building
720 Bay Street, 11th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2S9

Dear Attorney General:

The Canadian Defence Lawyers were represented in the meeting with your staff on December 2, 2016 along with representatives of the Ontario Trial Lawyers Association, the Advocates Society and the Ontario Bar Association. We took an active role in generating the letter signed by the OBA, TAS and OTLA, forwarded to your attention on February 7, 2017.

CDL adopts and shares the views set out in that letter save and except the submissions with respect to costs. CDL's position is that access to justice is not challenged by the no-costs rule. It is adequately addressed by contingency fee arrangements.

Despite our difference of opinion on the costs issue, we are unified in our views that the problems and concerns identified respecting the LAT are serious and require immediate remediation. We would be pleased to discuss the concerns in this letter with you further and we would be grateful for the opportunity to work with the LAT to alleviate these concerns and improve the current system for all stakeholders involved.

Yours very sincerely,



David Festeryga
President, Canadian Defence Lawyers

Cc: Bradley Berg, President, The Advocates Society
Adam Wagman, President, Ontario Trial Lawyers Association
Amanda McBride, Chair, Insurance Law Section, OBA