



eNews – April 21, 2022
Communication to STEP members in Alberta

RE: Alberta Law Reform Institute: Report of Electronic Wills

On behalf of the Chair of STEP Calgary, Kenneth Keung, and the Chair of STEP Edmonton, Salvatore Amelio, please follow the link below to access a survey asking if Alberta's *Wills and Succession Act* should include new rules for the creation of electronic wills. As you may know, the WSA is currently silent with regard to electronic wills. This silence may lead to uncertainties and complications for estate planning. The ALRI is looking to get some early input into the project, which will help them to identify issues they need to consider.

At this stage, they are asking to hear from professionals who are regularly engaged in estate planning or probate; with particular interest in hearing about any practical challenges or complications that may arise because of electronic wills, and any practical difficulties arising from the temporary remote witnessing protocols.

The survey should take no more than 5 - 10 minutes. Access the survey here: [Electronic Wills Early Consultation Survey](#)

STEP members are encouraged to share the survey with colleagues or other professionals they work with. In addition to the survey, they are also planning a number of telephone interviews and Zoom meetings in October or November of 2022 so that practitioners can share their experience and perspectives on electronic wills. Anyone who is interested in participating can sign up through the survey.

The survey will be open until the end of April.

The ALRI anticipates publishing a Final Report in early spring 2023.

Kenneth Keung, TEP
Chair, STEP Calgary

Salvatore Amelio, TEP
Chair, STEP Edmonton

About STEP: The Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners is the leading international organization for trust and estates professionals. Headquartered in London, England, it has more than 22,000 members worldwide in 100 over countries.

STEP Canada, founded in 1998, has over 3,250 members with branches in the following cities and regions: Atlantic, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver and chapters in Okanagan Valley, Saskatchewan, and Southwestern Ontario. STEP is a multi-disciplinary organization with the most experienced and senior practitioners in the field, including: lawyers, accountants, financial planners, insurance advisors and trust professionals. They provide domestic and international advice on trust and estates, including planning, administration and related taxes.

Suite 510, 45 Sheppard Avenue East
Toronto, ON M2N 5W9
1-877-991-4949
www.step.ca