



Government  
— of —  
Saskatchewan

Minister of Justice  
and Attorney General

Legislative Building  
Regina, Canada S4S 0B3

January 9, 2023

James D. Steele  
CBASK Director of Legislation and Law Reform  
PO Box 31052  
SASKATOON SK S7H 5S8

Dear Mr. Steele:

Thank you for your letter of September 14, 2022, in which you brought forward the Canadian Bar Association (CBA) proposal for legislative reform to allow for the acceptance of electronic signatures in the Land Registry. I apologize for the delay in responding.

The Land Registry is responsible for safeguarding security of ownership and ensuring protections against fraudulent activity. One key, protective measure has always been the process for executing land transfers, which incorporates the requirement to authorize transactions in wet-ink signatures, also found in other Torrens jurisdictions, including Alberta and Manitoba. For this reason, electronic signatures for general use in the Land Registry do not currently conform with the requirements of the law in Saskatchewan.

In considering changes to the process of executing documents for the Land Registry, great caution must be taken in making any change that could risk the security this process offers to Saskatchewan people. As you know, the Government of Saskatchewan recently made one such change through amendments, developed in concert with the Law Society of Saskatchewan, to the passage of remote witnessing provisions.

As we look toward future modernization and renewal of Land Registry technology, I have been advised by the Registrar of Titles that there is an opportunity for Government to consider the integration of electronic signatures into the legislation, policy, processes, and technology that support the delivery of the Registry in a way that enhances its security and integrity.

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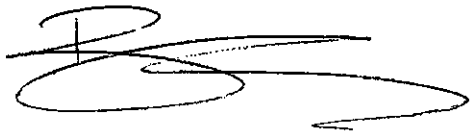
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At that time, careful attention to this issue by the CBA will be of assistance in any modernization efforts, as the potential role for electronic signatures is further defined. As is the Government's usual practice, the CBA can anticipate being contacted for further input on this issue.

Thank you again for writing to me on this issue.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bronwyn Eyre', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Bronwyn Eyre  
Minister of Justice and Attorney General