

Update on Legislative Amendments Regarding Limited Licences

The OAA is reaching out to you, and all those directly affected by the May 2023 Court Order, to share an exciting update on the Association's ongoing work with the provincial government. (As always, you can catch up on other developments through our dedicated landing page on the [OAA Website](#).)

Under its mandate to regulate the practice of architecture in the public interest, the OAA has been seeking the necessary legislative amendments to allow it to issue limited licences in the architectural discipline.

These are reflected in a new omnibus [Bill 157, *Enhancing Access to Justice Act, 2023*](#), put forth by Ontario's Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG). This bill has a direct impact on the OAA's prevailing legislation, the [Architects Act](#). Yesterday, on November 30, it underwent First Reading and has moved on to Second Reading.

Under Bill 157, Schedule 1:

amends the Architects Act to establish a limited licence to engage in the practice of architecture. Conditions of a limited licence would be set out by regulations made under the Act. Consequential amendments are made throughout the Act, and to two other Acts, to reflect the addition of limited licences. These include the addition of an offence respecting the use of the title "Licensed Technologist" by a person who is not the holder of a limited licence or certificate of practice.

A number of housekeeping amendments are also made to the Act.

Following this very positive step forward, the bill will continue along a process that includes reviews and debate before a government standing committee. When the bill becomes law, the Act would change; subsequently, [Regulation 27](#) would be updated to prescribe details for limited licences. To learn more about how a bill becomes law, you can [read this brochure](#) from the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.

The OAA will continue to keep you updates as things progress.

"As a practising architect, I applaud the Ontario government in taking this very positive step forward, recognizing other professionals within our discipline," says Settimo Vilardi, OAA President. "These individuals play such an important role within the industry and specifically in architectural firms across our province. As the regulator of the practice of architecture in Ontario, these amendments to the *Architects Act* solidify our role in regulating individuals with specific, skills, knowledge, and expertise through a limited

licence.”

As always, the Association continues to acknowledge the severe impact this Court Order has had on you, as well as many others. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to OAA staff at OAAtechprog@oaa.on.ca.

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