

Preface

The Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia 2023 are a consolidation and revision of the current public statutes of the province. The last revision was the Revised Statutes 1989.

The Revised Statutes, consisting of 573 chapters, represent statute law in force as of December 31, 2023. With few exceptions, only public statutes are included. Amendments and new statutes enacted up to that date, but not yet in force, are not included. (A very few statutes included contain provisions that were in the statute as originally enacted and that on December 31, 2023, were still subject to proclamation. These provisions are included because they may affect the interpretation of the provisions in force. These provisions are indicated in those statutes as being subject to proclamation.)

The Consolidation and Revision Officer is authorized by the *Statute Revision Act* to

- (a) alter the numbering and arrangement of the statutes and of the sections thereof;
- (b) combine two or more statutes or parts thereof or subdivide any statute into two or more statutes;
- (c) add, change or omit any title of any statute;
- (d) change the language to preserve a uniform mode of expression;
- (e) make minor amendments to bring out more clearly what is considered to be the intention of the Legislature or reconcile seemingly inconsistent enactments or to correct clerical, typographical or printing errors; and
- (f) omit any forms or schedules contained in any statute and add authority to the statute for the forms or schedules to be prescribed by regulation.

Changes in accordance with this authorization have been made. Some of the changes should be highlighted. Some language has been modernized to accord with the current drafting style. In particular, the Revised Statutes are gender neutral to the extent of the authority to do

so. Almost all forms have been omitted and provided for by regulation. A few statutes have been renamed with clearer or more appropriate titles. (These title changes are set out in Concordance of Statutes by Title.) No change in the law is intended or authorized.

The Revised Statutes contain two concordances of the statutes revised—one by titles, as mentioned, and another by chapters. As well, the Revised Statutes contain a list of statutes not revised, a list of unproclaimed statutes (but not unproclaimed amendments to statutes revised) and an index to the private and local statutes to December 31, 2023, since the last revision. Indices for private and local statutes up to the previous revision of 1989 are not included but may be found in that revision.

The revision of the statutes was done under the direction of the Consolidation and Revision Officer by the staff of the Office of the Legislative Counsel, namely, over time, Annette Boucher KC, James Charlton, Erin Fowler, Maureen Globe, Philip Grassie, Genevieve Harvey, Karen Kinley KC, Nicole LeBlanc-Murray, Heather MacDonald and Kilian Schlemmer.

On January __, 2024, the House of Assembly’s Standing Committee on Law Amendments approved the Revised Statutes 2023, as presented to it by the Consolidation and Revision Officer for examination and approval. They have been attested to by the Lieutenant Governor and the Attorney General of Nova Scotia. They are published by authority of the Speaker of the House of Assembly.

The Revised Statutes come into force on a day to be fixed by the Governor in Council by proclamation. Upon the coming into force, the statutes or parts of statutes set out in the “Schedule to the Revised Statutes 2023 of Acts Repealed” are repealed.

Gordon D. Hebb KC
Consolidation and
Revision Officer
