## GROVE-MCCLEMENT & FISCHER LLP

GROVE-MCCLEMENT PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
JULIA M. FISCHER PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

## **BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS**

July 5, 2021

VIA EMAIL TO: <a href="mailto:swatson@brockton.ca">swatson@brockton.ca</a>

fhamilton@brockton.ca

The Municipality of Brockton 100 Scott Street P.O. Box 68 Walkerton, ON NOG 2V0

Attention: Sonya Watson, CAO & Fiona Hamilton, Clerk

Dear Madams,

## **RE:** Legal Services

As you know, for many years I and my firm have enjoyed the privilege of providing legal services for the Municipality of Brockton. Where appropriate, we have used resources within the firm that are both competent to undertake the work and do so at a lower price point. When compared to firms in urban centers, outside our region, we offer the same or better service at a better price. We also offer the commitment to the community that can only come from living in it.

I am writing to share some exciting news with you. Your team is getting bigger, faster, and more accessible. Effective July 16, 2021, Grove-McClement Professional Corporation will no longer be operating in partnership with Julia M. Fischer Professional Corporation as Grove-McClement & Fischer LLP. Grove-McClement Professional Corporation is merging with The Ross Firm on July 17, 2021. I will be an owner/partner of that firm. For the time-being, I will continue to operate as Grove-McClement Professional Corporation. Julia Fischer will be operating a solo law practice.

The Ross Firm will add 13 lawyers, 2 paralegals, 35 staff and an industry leading modern practice to serve you, all under our existing pricing model. The Ross Firm has established offices in Stratford, Goderich, Kincardine, Port Elgin and Owen Sound, with lawyers, paralegals and staff living and working in those communities. I will continue to practice out of Walkerton at the same location with my existing staff.

The Ross Firm team is made up of experienced lawyers, paralegals, and allied professionals, all of whom focus on specific areas of the law. Below, I provide a brief summary of the Lawyers and

their practice areas that will be working with me on my municipal files. If you require further information about the Ross Firm, I recommend that you visit <a href="www.rossfirm.com">www.rossfirm.com</a>

<u>Individual</u>	<b>Position</b>	Call to the Bar
Tammy Grove-	Owner/Partner	2002
McClement		
Quinn Ross	Owner/Partner	2004
Michelle Hol	Associate Lawyer	2012
Laura Book	Associate Lawyer	2015
Jenna Murphy	Associate Lawyer	2017
Lara Merjane	Associate Lawyer	2020

<u>Quinn Ross, Partner</u> – Quinn has been practicing law for 16 years and has considerable experience in corporate-commercial law, including contract drafting, and handling transactions as between small, medium and large companies. He also practices in the area of employment law and real estate law, which has included expropriation matters and other complex real estate transactions.

<u>Michelle Hol, Associate Lawyer</u> - Michelle has almost 10 years' experience in corporate-commercial law, including purchase and sale of businesses, corporate reorganizations, corporate financing, as well as real estate law.

<u>Laura Book, Associate Lawyer</u> - Laura is an experienced civil litigator and sworn provincial prosecutor. She has successfully acted for both plaintiffs and defendants in civil matters including commercial litigation, construction lien litigation, contract disputes, defamation, and employment cases. Laura has appeared before tribunals on matters ranging from provincial offenses to professional regulation and human rights.

<u>Jenna Murphy</u>, <u>Associate Lawyer</u> - Jenna practices in the area of real estate. She has knowledge and experience in residential and commercial purchase and sale transactions, residential and commercial leasing, land lease transactions and severances.

<u>Lara Merjane</u>, <u>Associate Lawyer</u> – Although a recent Call to the Bar, Lara has spent over 10 years developing expertise in drafting and negotiating commercial agreements for companies in Canada, the US, and Brazil. Her practice focuses on complex corporate and commercial issues, with emphasis on risk and contract management.

In addition to the above-noted lawyers, we have two paralegals that will assist on municipal matters. Kara Muzzell is a senior paralegal, who is also a sworn provincial prosecutor, as well as Emma Bellamy.

From my perspective nothing has changed in our relationship. I will continue to be your counsel, as I have done so in the past. I will continue to maintain carriage of the projects and, where appropriate, engage skilled support that will decrease both turnaround times and fees. With this

legal team, I will be able to serve you at the highest level. We will continue to be in a position to appear in all levels of Court, including Provincial Offences matters and in various administrative tribunals, including LPAT.

At the present, I handle a significant number of matters for the Municipality of Brockton. It is my intention to continue acting on these transactions on your behalf and any new matters, so long as you are agreeable. If that is the case, it would be appropriate for the Municipality to confirm that as of July 17, 2021, I can continue assisting with your legal matters. As of July 17, 2021, I will be a Partner/Owner of The Ross Firm, practicing under my professional corporation, Grove-McClement Professional Corporation.

If this merger triggers a Request for Proposals or you just wish to retain other legal counsel, I completely understand. I am prepared to continue to offer my services until such time as you can complete the RFP process, or you retain other counsel.

I am happy to discuss the above with you and answer any questions you might have. It has been a pleasure serving you over the years and it would be my pleasure to continue to do so.

Yours truly,

Tammy W. Grove-McClement