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**Dear Howard,**

This is the first Summer Newsletter following my move to my new offices at 65 Queen Street West, Suite 600, Toronto ON M5H 2M5. As I have just moved to the opposite corner of Queen and Bay Streets all my other contact information has remained the same.

This has been a hectic time for me, but I am now settled in and invite you to drop in for a coffee or lunch to catch up and find out about all the new services I now offer in addition to Family Law, Wills, Estate Administration and Real Estate.

As you read this newsletter or browse my new mobile device friendly [Website](#), take the time to assess your needs. With my expanded team of strategic associates in my new offices, a call to me about any issues which may be troubling you can be handled in what is now a truly "one stop shop."

### THE DIVORCE ACT IS CHANGING AFTER 30 YEARS



The dreaded words, "custody" and "access" are being removed from the Divorce Act and are being replaced with the word "parenting." Children of separated parents should never have been "confined" to the "custody" of one parent. I have always held that criminal terminology i.e. custody has no business being in the lexicon of a family law proceeding. It only lengthens the proceedings and can create a permanent rift in the relationship of the children with the "access parent." Much of the balance of the amendments clean up what had been very troublesome areas of the previous Divorce Act. A good summary of the new Divorce Act can be seen by reviewing the actual [Bill](#) which is currently in first reading.

### A SECOND FAMILY WITH JUST A WILL IS NOT SUFFICIENT TO PROTECT YOUR LOVED ONES!

**You also need a post-nup.**



It is trite to say that it takes two parties to make an agreement but only one person to change a Will. In second marriages the Spouses generally are truly happy with each other. This is not always the case concerning their children from their earlier marriage. With just a Will, there is nothing to stop a surviving Spouse from changing his or her Will, reducing the portion going to their spouse's children or even cutting out the children of their deceased spouse, completely. The solution is to have provided for this in your marriage contract so that children of a deceased spouse cannot be cut out of the Will of the Surviving Spouse. Failing that I draft post-nup contracts which have the same effect.

### SHAREHOLDERS BEWARE!

**For those of my clients who are part of a corporation.**



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With deep corporate experience in my new offices and a strategic association I have formed with Barry Rebeck of [rebeckandassociates.com](#) there is no excuse not to have a Shareholders Agreement. The last thing your spouse wants is to be an active partner in your corporation. I dare say having your spouse as an active partner in your corporation is the last thing your partners would want as well. With a Shareholders Agreement drawn by the Corporate Department of my new offices and advice and an appropriate policy of Insurance from Barry, you can rest easy knowing that both your corporation and loved ones are protected.

**IN SUMMARY:**

As in past years, I support [The Children's Wish Foundation](#) which provides children living with life-threatening illnesses the opportunity to realize their most heartfelt wish. I hope you will take the time to look at their website and read about the wonderful work they do and consider making a donation.

As I have your email address already in my database, you have automatically been subscribed to these emails. Should you wish, you may unsubscribe at any time by following the instructions at the bottom of this or future emails. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Howard S. Dyment

Law Offices of Howard S. Dyment

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