



STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE ON ACCESS TO CIVIL AND FAMILY JUSTICE

WHEREAS there are a number of initiatives and projects in Quebec promoting better access to civil and family justice, but that are little known to Quebecers and justice system stakeholders;

WHEREAS these initiatives originate from a variety of stakeholders who recognize the effectiveness of collaborative work, the sharing of ideas, network coordination, and a step-by-step approach;

WHEREAS the creation of the Québec Forum on Access to Civil and Family Justice is necessary to provide a place for discussion and action to collectively bring about concrete improvements in the justice services available to Quebecers.

The signatories of this Statement undertake to

1. Contribute actively to the meetings and actions of the Québec Forum on Access to Civil and Family Justice, particularly with a view to
 - a) Documenting Quebecers' justice needs in order to identify gaps in the provision of justice services and propose solutions
 - b) Participating in efforts to identify, coordinate, and disseminate information about existing justice initiatives in Quebec
 - c) Promoting measures focused on simplifying and harmonizing extrajudicial and judicial processes, while fostering citizen empowerment
2. Concentrate their efforts on those who use justice services, i.e., Quebecers, with particular attention to
 - a) Helping disseminate information about the justice services, especially given the new Code of Civil Procedure
 - b) Referring Quebecers who contact them to a useful resource if they cannot themselves provide the requested information.

January 25, 2016