



FEDERATION OF ONTARIO
LAW ASSOCIATIONS
FÉDÉRATION DES ASSOCIATIONS
DU BARREAU DE L'ONTARIO

April 15, 2020

Dear Real Estate Representatives, Presidents and Library Staff,

In an effort to keep real estate lawyers updated with the ever-changing situation, we have further information to be shared with the real estate lawyers in your association.

Banking Updates

Great news! We have been advised that at least two the major banks will now accept documents signed remotely.

Scotiabank has issued a statement to lawyers available [here](#) in English and [here](#) in French confirming that signing mortgage documents and identity verification can be done by video conference in certain circumstances. Lawyers who work with Scotiabank should have received the statement through either a posting on Telus Assyst or by email from FCT. Please review the statement to confirm the requirements for meeting with clients by videoconference on a transaction involving a Scotiabank mortgage.

Royal Bank of Canada has also issued a notice via Telus Assyst that video conference meetings to verify identity and sign documents are permitted in certain circumstances. A copy of the notice is available [here](#). Please review the statement to confirm the requirements for meeting with clients by videoconference on a transaction involving a RBC mortgage.

We are very pleased to see these announcements and are hopeful that other lenders will follow suit.

LRO Updates

The Director of Titles has provided further guidance relating to some specific questions he has received.

See his letter of April 9, 2020 [here](#) relating to original signatures being required on plans and paper documents.

See his letter of April 13, 2020 [here](#) relating to expropriations.

See his letter of April 14, 2020 [here](#) relating to requests to expedite certification of parcelization transfers or PIN splts.

Stay up to date with FOLA's real estate information at <https://fola.ca/real-estate-law>.

Merredith MacLennan and Eldon Horner
FOLA Real Estate Co-Chairs

Please note: The information provided herein is of a general nature only and is not intended to provide legal advice.