Act respecting the Ministère de la Justice (chapter M-19)

Measures for ensuring the proper administration of justice following the fire at the Roberval courthouse

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THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE,

CONSIDERING section 5.1 of the Act respecting the Ministère de la Justice (chapter M-19) which provides that, in a situation where it is impossible in fact to comply with the rules of the Code of Civil Procedure (chapter C-25.01) or of the Code of penal procedure (chapter C-25.1), the Minister of Justice may, if necessary for the proper administration of justice, amend any rule of procedure, introduce a new one or provide for any other measure;

CONSIDERING that that section provides that the measures are to be published in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*, that they may take effect on the date on which the situation occurs or on any later date specified in the measures, and that they are applicable for the period determined by the Minister of Justice, which may not exceed one year after the end of the situation;

CONSIDERING that that section provides that, before adopting the measures, the Minister must take into consideration their effects on the rights of individuals and obtain the agreement of the Chief Justice of Québec and the Chief Justice of the Superior Court or the Chief Judge of the Court of Québec, according

to their jurisdiction, and the Minister must also take into consideration the opinion of the Barreau du Québec and, if applicable, the Chambre des notaires du Québec or the Chambre des huissiers de justice du Québec;

CONSIDERING section 12 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), which provides that a proposed regulation may be made without having been published as provided for in section 8 of that Act, if the authority making it is of the opinion that the urgency of the situation requires it;

CONSIDERING section 13 of that Act, which provides that the reason justifying the absence of prior publication must be published with the regulation;

CONSIDERING section 27 of that Act, which provides that a regulation may take effect before the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* where the Act under which it is made or approved expressly provides therefor;

CONSIDERING that it is necessary to adopt measures to ensure the proper administration of justice following the fire at the Roberval courthouse that occurred on 8 May 2021;

CONSIDERING that the measures will have a beneficial effect on the rights of individuals;

CONSIDERING that the urgency to adopt the measures following the fire at the Roberval courthouse on 8 May 2021 justifies the absence of prior publication of this Order and its coming into force on 12 May 2021, as permitted by section 5.1 of the Act respecting the Ministère de la Justice;

CONSIDERING that the Chief Justice of Québec, the Chief Justice of the Superior Court and the Chief Judge of the Court of Québec have given their agreement to this Order;

CONSIDERING that the opinion of the Barreau du Québec and the Chambre des notaires du Québec has been taken into consideration;

ORDERS AS FOLLOWS:

THAT a pleading which must be filed at the Roberval courthouse may be filed at a substitute place, at the Dolbeau-Mistassini justice service point or at the Alma courthouse;

THAT the judicial district and the locality of Roberval must be indicated on a pleading filed elsewhere than at Roberval pursuant to this Order, and that the pleading be deemed to have been filed at Roberval;

THAT a case to be tried and determined at the Roberval courthouse may be tried and determined, as the chief justice or chief judge of a court or any person he or she designates may decide, in a place referred to in the first paragraph or at the Chicoutimi courthouse;

THAT a case tried and determined in a judicial district other than the judicial district of Roberval, pursuant to this Order, be deemed to have been tried and determined in the judicial district of Roberval;

THAT, for the purposes of this Order, a concurrent jurisdiction within the meaning of section 5.5 of the Courts of Justice Act (chapter T-16) be exercised over the territory of the judicial districts of Alma and Chicoutimi with the concurrent jurisdiction exercised over the territory of the judicial district of Roberval;

THAT this Order come into force on 12 May 2021 and cease to have effect on 12 May 2022.

Québec, 12 May 2021

SIMON JOLIN-BARRETTE Minister of Justice