Publisher's Note

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COHABITATION: THE LAW IN CANADA

Holland, Stalbecker-Pountney Release No. 9, October 2025

This unique looseleaf is specifically focused on legislation and case law regulating domestic relations between unmarried spouses, including same-sex couples. Prepared by experts in the law of cohabitation and aided by contributions from experts from across Canada, each chapter deals with a particular topic and analyzes both the legislation and case law pertinent to that topic in the common law provinces and Quebec.

What's New in this Update

This release features updates to Appendix B (Precedents).

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Highlights

This release includes the following updates:

- The Appendix has been updated throughout, to modernize the language of the commentary and Sample Agreements. This includes enhancements on the topic of financial disclosure, and addressing the possibility for remote execution.
- The Sample Contracts have been updated in numerous respects, for example to reflect recent changes to Family Law terminology. They have also been edited to include reference to modern interests such as digital assets (e.g., cryptocurrency, NFTs, and domain names), and employment-related stock options and Restricted Share Units (RSUs).
- A detailed checklist has been added, for lawyers to consider when giving Independent Legal Advice.
- The sections on Same Gender Cohabitation Agreements (including Interview Checklists, and Sample Clauses) have been thoroughly updated to more accurately reflect contemporary topics. Among other things, there are new clauses dealing with parenthood (including adoption, conception through assisted reproduction, and surrogacy), and numerous new suggested clauses to address property and survivorship rights.