

**PRACTICE DIRECTION**  
**COURT OF KING’S BENCH OF MANITOBA**

**RE: CASES INVOLVING STATUTORY INTERPRETATION**

As noted in **5185603 Manitoba Ltd et al v Government of Manitoba et al**, 2023 MBCA 47, Manitoba statutes are, by virtue of section 23 of the **Manitoba Act**, 1870, S.C. 1870, c. 3, constitutionally mandated to be bilingual in French and English (see also section 7 of **The Interpretation Act**, C.C.S.M. c. 180). As also noted in this decision, the law relating to bilingual interpretation of legislation involves a search for the shared meaning of the English and French versions. In order to ensure that proper consideration is given to both the French and English versions of legislation where a case involves an issue of statutory interpretation, counsel or a self-represented litigant are to address in their related submissions whether there is discrepancy between the English and French versions. If there is discrepancy, this discrepancy is to be addressed in the submissions regarding the proper interpretation of the statutory provision(s) at issue in accordance with the approach outlined in **5185603 Manitoba Ltd et al v Government of Manitoba et al**.

**Coming into effect:**

This Practice Direction comes into effect immediately.

**ISSUED BY:**

***“Original signed by Chief Justice Joyal”***

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**The Honourable Chief Justice Glenn D. Joyal**  
**Court of King’s Bench (Manitoba)**

**DATE: June 23, 2023**