



**UNIFORM LAW CONFERENCE OF CANADA
CIVIL SECTION**

REPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

PRESENTED BY

Peter Lown, K.C.

Readers are cautioned that the ideas or conclusions set forth in this paper, including any proposed statutory language and any comments or recommendations, may not have been adopted by the Uniform Law Conference of Canada. They may not necessarily reflect the views of the ULCC and its delegates.

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Report of the International Committee

August 2026

I am pleased to present this report on behalf of the International Committee. The members are listed in the appendix, and I want to thank them for their time and knowledgeable contributions.

You will recall that for many years the Chair of the Advisory Committee on Program Development and Management and of the International committee were one and the same person. After 2024, the ACPDM has been chaired by Greg Blue, K.C., and I have chaired the International Committee. The presence of our Legal Project and Research Coordinator on both committees is a distinct benefit. In fact, Christina Croteau has taken on the primary communications role for our recent initiatives. I want to thank her particularly for the collegial and efficient way she has assumed that role.

2024/ 25 was a relatively inactive year for a number of reasons. Changes in both the U.S. Uniform Law Commission (ULC) and the ULCC brought communication and position changes. I was distracted by a number of health issues which are now thankfully under control.

2025/ 26, however, has been much more active, with positive results. It is natural, notwithstanding the current political climate, for two organisations with very similar mandates and purpose, to share experience and inventory.

Projects go through stages of assessment, selection, management, completion, and implementation. There may be differences in process, but the anatomy is very similar. During the last six months, we have reviewed the lines of communication at various stages of a project, and re-established effective communication and exchange of information. ULC Executive Director Eric Weeks, and communication “czar” Katie Robinson are key to the new arrangement, all under the guiding hand of ULC President Lisa Jacobs.

One new initiative is important. Both organisations provide for observer status (the ULC much more routinely than the ULCC). Observer status may be

passive, and we thought that a better role is to have someone who can provide subject matter expertise, knowledge of the project history and the progress through the protocols of both organizations. This more active role is designated as “liaison” and is a role we will monitor for its progress and benefits. So far, the ULC has nominated three liaisons for three projects at different stages. Their contribution will allow a much better understanding of the issues and their history and will produce a more cogent set of recommendations.

The three projects are: cash payments, hybrid organisations, and enforcement of foreign judgments.

While the relationship with ULC is our closest, the membership of the International Committee allows us to maintain awareness of other activities at the European Law Institute, The Hague conference, UNCITRAL and at Commonwealth law reform agencies. While often under the radar, this network is an important contributor of information and an aid in decision making.

This has been a year of building new bridges. Initial traffic has begun to flow, and we look forward to a good return on investment.

It has been an honor to chair this committee. I will not be able to join you in Winnipeg, but I wish you well in all the deliberations.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter JM Lown K.C., Chair

Appendix A

Members of the 2025-2026 International Committee

- Peter Lown, K.C. (Chair) (AB)
- Chloé Rousselle (President) (CA)
- Valérie Simard (Vice-President) (CA)
- Tyler Nyvall (Chair, Civil Section) (BC)
- Laurence Bergeron (representative from the Government of Quebec) (QC)
- Manon Dostie (representative from the Government of Canada; expert in private international law) (CA)
- Gregory Blue, K.C. (BC) (observer)
- Christina Croteau (Legal Project and Research Coordinator)
- Michelle Lemieux Wilkinson (Executive Director and Administrator)