



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

FEB 11 2015

Dr. Andrew Weaver, MLA
Oak Bay-Gordon Head
219 – 3930 Shelbourne Street
Victoria BC V8P 5P6

Dear Dr. Weaver: *Andrew*

I am responding to your January 5, 2015 letter regarding your enquiry about legislation to regulate the debt settlement industry.

Debt collection in British Columbia is regulated under the *Business Practices and Consumer Protection Act*. This legislation aims to protect consumers by prohibiting deceptive practices and requiring debt industry professionals to be licensed.

The emergence of new types of debt repayment professionals has resulted in a need to ensure that they are also bound by the Act's rules. Although I am unable to provide specific details regarding the development or timing of legislation at this time, I can assure you that government is committed to enhancing consumer protections against deceptive practices. To this end, ministry staff continue to work through the policy issues that are necessary to regulate debt settlement agencies.

Thank you for your inquiry.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Suzanne Anton".

Suzanne Anton
Attorney General
Minister of Justice