



This may result in potential applicants having to expend greater effort to investigate the legitimacy of trade-marks which appear on the Government's register; and
c) it is anticipated that the lack of information regarding use of trade-marks in the early stages may result in more oppositions or challenges to trade-marks.

Interestingly, while official marks were not the subject of changes under the Government's omnibus legislation, a Private Member's Bill is being considered by Parliament which addresses only official marks. Given that Private Member's Bills rarely pass into law in Canada, it is widely believed that the official mark system will not change in the immediate future.

The TAKEAWAY: If a department or unit is considering investing time and resources in relation to a specific word, design or logo, please consult with our Office regarding the type, content and timing of an applications under the Trade-marks Act, earlier rather than later.

For further information or assistance regarding regular trade-marks and official marks, please contact the Office of Legal Counsel at extension 53082.