



April 17, 2018

Ontario Association of Architects

Caution: Government Solemn Declaration of Substantial Completion—Advanced Education Projects

It has been brought to the attention of the OAA that some architects providing services for post-secondary institutions are being asked to sign a document titled 'Schedule "H" Solemn Declaration of Substantial Completion,' which forms part of the Client Funding Agreement with the Ontario Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development (MAESD). This document is intended to facilitate the close-out of the project and the release of the government funding.

This document was prepared by the Federal Government and forwarded on to the MAESD. Currently, both the Federal and Provincial Governments are aware of the liability issues related to the request for architects to sign such a form. Both governments recognize that architects are able to provide adequate information to their client in keeping with good practice through certifying and distributing to the client standard forms such as Certificate of Substantial Performance (CLA Form 6), General Review Reports and Certificates for Payment. See Practice Tip 17, "[Lending Institutions—Architect's Certificates.](#)"

It is recommended that architects do not sign Schedule "H."

Architects should advise clients to contact the Provincial Government with any questions regarding this matter.

For further information or concerns, contact the OAA Practice Advisors at 416-449-6898 or via e-mail at practiceadvisor@oaa.on.ca.

The OAA will be providing further updates on this issue as it develops.

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