

Preparing a Project Proposal

About the Commission:

The Manitoba Law Reform Commission (“Commission”) is an independent law reform agency created in 1970 by *The Law Reform Commission Act*. **Its role is to improve, modernize and reform the law and administration of justice in Manitoba.** The Manitoba Law Reform Commission does not provide legal advice, interpret the law or conduct research for individuals or organizations. The Commission does not have the authority to intervene or review individual cases, or the actions of government or regulatory agencies.

Projects of law reform are chosen based on suggestions from the public, legal professionals, and Manitoba’s Minister of Justice and Attorney General.

Commission projects generally take 10-12 months to complete, but can sometimes take longer. Final Reports include formal recommendations for law reform that go to Manitoba’s Minister of Justice and Attorney General. Whether the Commission’s recommendations are adopted is a matter for the Legislature.

Reports are publicly available on the Commission’s website.

What should you include in your proposal?

1. Briefly describe your project.

- Would you like to create a new provincial law or would you like to change an existing provincial law?
- What recommendations are you hoping the Commission will make if your project is undertaken?

2. Explain why you think this project is needed.

- What is the background to your idea?
- Do you have information that will help the Commission decide whether to take on your project? If so please include it or tell us where we can find it easily.

How does the Commission decide on proposals?

The Commissioners review all proposals for law reform projects and decide to undertake projects based on the relevance of the proposal to the Commission’s mandate and Manitoba’s legal system.

What is the Commission’s mandate?

- The removal of provisions of the law that are outdated or inconsistent;

- The maintenance and improvement of the administration of justice;
- The review of judicial and quasi-judicial procedures under any Act;
- The development of new approaches to, and new concepts of, law in keeping with and responsive to the changing needs of society and of individual members of society; and
- Any subject matter referred to it by the Minister

What happens to your proposal if it is approved by the Commission?

You will be contacted to let you know whether your project has been approved or not. If a project is approved by the Commissioners, the Commission's staff will conduct the research, writing and consultation. Please note that as projects progress, they may take a different path than initially thought and could result in recommendations that are different from what you initially proposed.

What if you have questions about submitting a proposal?

If you have any questions about writing or submitting a proposal, please contact Commission staff at mail@manitobalawreform.ca or call 204-945-2896.

How should you submit your proposal?

Please submit your proposal by email to lawreform@gov.mb.ca.

If you are unable to send your proposal electronically, please send it to:

Manitoba Law Reform Commission
432-405 Broadway Ave.
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3L6
Canada

**Thank you for your interest in the Manitoba Law Reform Commission.
We look forward to hearing about your proposed project!**

You can read about our completed and current projects at www.manitobalawreform.ca