The
Age of Majority Act

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NOTE:
This consolidation is not official. Amendments have been incorporated for convenience of reference and the original statutes and regulations should be consulted for all purposes of interpretation and application of the law. In order to preserve the integrity of the original statutes and regulations, errors that may have appeared are reproduced in this consolidation.
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CHAPTER A-6
An Act respecting the Age of Majority

Short title
1 This Act may be cited as The Age of Majority Act.

Age of majority
2(1) Every person attains the age of majority and ceases to be a minor on attaining the age of eighteen years.

(2) Every person who, on the coming into force of this Act, has attained the age of eighteen years but has not attained the age of nineteen years attained the age of majority and ceased to be a minor on the coming into force of this Act.

1972, c.1, s.2; R.S.S. 1978, c.A-6, s.2.

Application of section 2
3 Section 2 applies for the purpose of any rule of law in respect of which the Legislature has jurisdiction.

1972, c.1, s.3; R.S.S. 1978, c.A-6, s.3.

Interpretation of certain words and expressions
4(1) In the absence of a definition or an indication of a contrary intention, section 2 applies to the construction of the expression “adult”, “full age”, “lawful age”, “infant”, “infancy”, “minor”, “minority” and similar expressions in:

(a) any Act or any regulation, rule, order or bylaw made under an Act enacted or made before, on or after the coming into force of this Act; and

(b) any deed, will or other instrument made on or after the coming into force of this Act.

(2) The use of any expression set out in subsection (1) or any similar expression shall not, in itself, be taken to indicate a contrary intention for the purposes of this section without some further indication of a contrary intention.

1972, c.1, s.4; R.S.S. 1978, c.A-6, s.4.

Reference to age
5(1) In any provision of any Act or of any regulation, rule, order or bylaw made under an Act enacted or made before the coming into force of this Act, a reference to the age of twenty-one years or nineteen years shall be read as a reference to the age of eighteen years.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) in the construction of this Act the expression “twenty-one years” means twenty-one years and the expression “nineteen years” means nineteen years and subsection (1) does not apply to this Act.

1972, c.1, s.5; R.S.S. 1978, c.A-6, s.5.
Application of age change to federal statutes

6 Where by any Act of the Legislature an Act of Parliament or any provision thereof is made to apply in respect of any Act, matter or thing over which the Legislature has jurisdiction, then in applying that Act of Parliament or that provision thereof in respect of that Act, matter or thing any reference to the age of twenty-one years in the Act of Parliament or provision thereof shall be read as a reference to the age of eighteen years.

1972, c.1, s.6; R.S.S. 1978, c.A-6, s.6.

Modification of court orders and directions

7(1) In any order or direction of a court made before the date on which this Act comes into force, in the absence of an indication of a contrary intention, a reference to the age of twenty-one years or to any age between eighteen and twenty-one years or to any of the expressions referred to in subsection (1) of section 4 and similar expressions shall be read as a reference to the age of eighteen years.

(2) The use of the words “nineteen years”, “twenty years” or “twenty-one years” in an order or direction referred to in subsection (1) shall not in itself be taken to indicate a contrary intention for the purposes of this section without some further indication of a contrary intention.

1972, c.1, s.7; R.S.S. 1978, c.A-6, s.7.

Time of attaining particular age

8(1) The time at which a person attains a particular age expressed in years shall be on the commencement of the relevant anniversary of the date of his birth.

(2) This section applies only where the relevant anniversary falls on a date after that on which this section comes into force, and in relation to any enactment, deed, will or other instrument, has effect subject to any provision therein.

1972, c.1, s.8; R.S.S. 1978, c.A-6, s.8.

Effect on existing wills

9 Notwithstanding any rule of law, a will or codicil executed before the date on which this Act comes into force shall not be treated for the purposes of this Act as made on or after that date by reason only that the will or codicil is confirmed by a codicil executed on or after that date.

1972, c.1, s.9; R.S.S. 1978, c.A-6, s.9.

Act does not affect construction of certain documents

10 This Act does not affect the construction of a provision of an Act or a regulation, rule, order or bylaw made thereunder that is incorporated in and has effect as part of a deed, will or other instrument if the construction of the deed, will or other instrument is not affected by section 4.

1972, c.1, s.10; R.S.S. 1978, c.A-6, s.10.
Accumulations not affected

11 This Act does not invalidate any direction for accumulation expressed in a settlement or other disposition made by deed, will or other instrument and executed before the coming into force of this Act that, but for this Act, was a permissible period of accumulation.

1972, c.1, s.11; R.S.S. 1978, c.A-6, s.11.

Perpetuities not affected

12 This Act does not apply so as to affect the law relating to perpetuities.

1972, c.1, s.12; R.S.S. 1978, c.A-6, s.12.

Right of action and defence preserved

13 This Act does not prejudice a right of action or a defence to an action based upon the age of a party and that was in existence on the coming into force of this Act and, notwithstanding anything in this Act, the law that was in force immediately prior to the coming into force of this Act applies in that case.

1972, c.1, s.13; R.S.S. 1978, c.A-6, s.13.

14 Repealed, 2004, c.L.16.1, s.32.

Existing applications for change of name

15 Nothing in this Act prevents the registration of a change of name under The Change of Name Act of a person who has attained the age of eighteen years where the application for the change of name was made by a parent of that person before the coming into force of this Act and in that case The Change of Name Act applies as if this Act had not been enacted.

1972, c.1, s.16; R.S.S. 1978, c.A-6, s.15.

Application of Workers’ Compensation Act

16 Where, on the day prior to the coming into force of this Act, a person was eligible for compensation as a dependent child under The Workers’ Compensation Act that Act continues to apply to that person as if this Act had not been enacted.

1972, c.1, s.17; R.S.S. 1978, c.A-6, s.16.