

# MARRIAGE CONTRACT/ COHABITATION AGREEMENT RETAINER

1. I, the undersigned, hereby retain and employ **Lawrence S. Pascoe** as my solicitor and hereby authorize him to represent me in the negotiations and drafting of a Marriage Contract or Cohabitation Agreement.
2. I understand that I will be requested to provide an advance on my account of legal fees and disbursements. I understand that the initial advance is \$500.00.
3. I understand that the legal fees for this matter will be based on a block fee of \$750.00. I understand that if the time taken by Lawrence S. Pascoe is over two hours, I will be billed a further amount on an hourly rate of \$300.00 per hour.
4. I understand that in addition to the legal fees, my bill will include reasonable and necessary disbursements of money paid on my behalf as well as the goods and services tax on my legal fees.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF LIMITATIONS OF THE AGREEMENT

5. I understand that there are limitations to Marriage Contracts and Cohabitation Agreements with respect to the matrimonial home and the custody and support of children. I understand that the contract can be set aside for failure to make full financial disclosure, failure of a party to understand the nature and consequences of the contract and for all common law contractual requirements such as duress, undue influence, fraud, unconscionability, fundamental breach and other equitable grounds. I understand that the support provisions of the contract may be set aside if my future spouse or partner is receiving social assistance.
6. I also understand that I should govern my financial affairs keeping in my mind my contract and that I should have a proper Will and Powers of Attorney that co-ordinate with my contract.

DATED at Ottawa, Ontario, this            day of            , 2009.

---