

TAB 18

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RSNL1990 CHAPTER I-19

INTERPRETATION ACT

Amended:

1992 c48 s16; 1994 c28 s11; 1999 c22 s14; 2001 cN-3.1 s2;
2009 cR-10.01 s42; 2010 c30 s4; 2013 c16 s25

CHAPTER I-19

AN ACT RESPECTING THE INTERPRETATION OF STATUTES

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Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the *Interpretation Act*.

that power may, for the purpose of making the Act or provision effective at the date of its coming into force, be exercised at a time after the passing of the Act, subject to the restriction that a regulation made under the power shall not, unless the contrary is necessary for making the Act or provision effective from its commencement, come into force until the Act or provision comes into force.

RSN1970 c182 s9

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Continuing Act

9. (1) Where a Bill is introduced in a session of the Legislature for the continuance of an Act that would expire in that session, and the Act expires before the Bill for continuing it receives the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor, the continuing Act shall be considered to take effect from the date of the expiration of the Act intended to be continued, as fully and effectually, as if the continuing Act had actually passed before the expiration of the Act intended to be continued, unless it is otherwise especially provided in the continuing Act.

(2) Nothing in this section shall extend, or be construed to extend, to affect a person with a punishment, penalty or forfeiture, by reason of anything done or omitted to be done by that person contrary to the Act so continued, between the expiration of it and the date on which the continuing Act receives the assent of the Lieutenant-Governor.

RSN1970 c182 s10

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Law always speaking

10. The law shall be considered as always speaking and whenever a matter or thing is expressed in the present tense the provision shall be applied to the circumstances as they arise so that effect may be given to each Act and every part of the Act according to its true meaning.

RSN1970 c182 s11

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Interpretation of certain words

11. (1) The words "now" and "next" shall be interpreted as having reference to the time when the Act or the part of the Act containing the words or any of them came into force.

(2) The word "shall" shall be construed as imperative and the word "may" as permissive and empowering.

RSN1970 c182 s12

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Binding of Crown

12. No provision in an Act is binding on the Crown or affects the Crown or the Crown's rights or prerogatives unless it is expressly stated in it that the Crown is bound by it.

RSN1970 c182 s13

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Private Acts

13. Where an Act is of the nature of a private Act no provision of the Act affects the rights of a person save only as mentioned or referred to in the Act.

RSN1970 c182 s14

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Preamble

14. The preamble of an Act shall be considered a part of the Act intended to assist in explaining the purport and object of the Act.

RSN1970 c182 s15

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Marginal notes and headings

15. The marginal notes and headings in the body of an Act and the reference to former enactments do not form part of the Act and shall be considered to be inserted for convenience of reference only.

RSN1970 c182 s16

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Rule of construction

16. Every Act and every regulation and every provision of an Act or regulation shall be considered remedial and shall receive the liberal construction and interpretation that best ensures the attainment of the objects of the Act, regulation, or provision according to its true meaning.

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Words in regulations

17. Where an Act confers power to make regulations or to grant, make, or issue an order in council, proclamation, order, writ, warrant, scheme, or letters patent, expressions used in them have the same respective meanings as in the Act conferring the power.

RSN1970 c182 s18

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Proclamations

18. Where the Lieutenant-Governor is authorized to do an act by proclamation, the proclamation means a proclamation issued under an order of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council but it is not necessary to mention in the proclamation that it is issued under such an order.

RSN1970 c182 s19