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## Legal Brief\*

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### THE RÉGIE DU LOGEMENT BECOMES THE TRIBUNAL ADMINISTRATIF DU LOGEMENT. BESIDES THE NAME CHANGE, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

On August 31, 2020, the Régie du logement became the Tribunal administratif du logement.

Beyond a simple name change, have there been any changes to the way the Tribunal operates? The answer is yes.

It will be best to exercise caution in the coming months when filing or receiving new pleadings.

We will discuss only a few of the changes that have been made. However, you can see all of these changes at <https://www.tal.gouv.qc.ca>.

It is interesting to note that, for several months now, it has been possible to file certain applications online via the above-mentioned site.

It will now be mandatory to notify, at the same time as the application, the exhibits or a list of exhibits indicating that they are available upon request (note that exhibits filed in the Tribunal's record may be withdrawn once the process is fully completed).

Such proof of notification and a list of documents will have to be filed in the Tribunal's record.

This new obligation is important, since not only can the Tribunal refuse to convene the parties to a hearing without this filing, but failure to do so within forty-five (45) days of the filing of the application will result in the file being closed.

Alternative dispute resolution methods also form part of the new Tribunal administratif du logement. Thus, conciliation will now be possible.

The Tribunal will be able to offer it to the parties upon receipt of the application, so that they may have recourse to it if they agree.

Conciliation follows the principles of other tribunals, namely, it will be free of charge and will be held behind closed doors with the ultimate goal of reaching an agreement.

If, however, such an agreement is not possible, then the case will proceed and nothing said or written during the conciliation session may be repeated before the Tribunal, except with the consent of the parties.

It will also now be essential to inform the Tribunal of any change of address, since it will no longer be possible to invoke the failure to receive a notice of convocation as a ground for revocation of a judgement if such a change has not been made.

Don't hesitate to have your eligibility for legal aid evaluated by making an appointment at a legal aid office near you.

To find the contact information for your legal aid office, please visit our website at [www.csj.qc.ca](http://www.csj.qc.ca).

Text prepared by  
M<sup>e</sup> Myriam Bouchard  
Lawyer at the Chicoutimi  
legal aid office

#### Contact Us

Commission des  
services juridiques  
Communications Department  
2 Complexe Desjardins  
East Tower  
Suite 1404  
P.O. Box 123  
Succursale Desjardins  
Montreal, Québec  
H5B 1B3

Telephone: (514) 873-3562  
Fax: (514) 864-2351

[www.csj.qc.ca](http://www.csj.qc.ca)

\* The information set out in this document is not a legal interpretation.

The masculine is used to designate persons solely in order to simplify the text.