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Rights of Unmarried Persons in Québec and Family Law Reform (De Facto Union)

On June 4, 2024, [An Act respecting family law reform and establishing the parental union regime](#) was assented to. Most of the new provisions will come into force on June 30, 2025.

This reform represents a significant step forward as regards the rights of unmarried people and reflects the contemporary reality of Québec families. The new provisions deal with the creation of a parental union. According to the definition in the *Act*, a parental union is formed upon *de facto* spouses becoming the parents of a child born after June 29, 2025.

The *Act* provides for the establishment of a parental union patrimony that includes, but is not limited to, the family's residence and movable property and the vehicles used by the family. The *Act* contains provisions dealing with the partition of this patrimony in the event of separation, with the use of the family residence and with compensatory allowances.

The legislature has established a mechanism through which spouses who wish to do so can withdraw from the application of these new provisions. This withdrawal, however, must meet certain requirements. It requires the mutual agreement of the spouses, and it must be made by notarial deed, i.e., a deed prepared by a notary.

For further information on this subject, please contact your local legal aid office.

Don't hesitate to have your eligibility for legal aid evaluated by making an appointment at a legal aid office near you. You can also check your eligibility online [here](#).

To find the contact information for your legal aid office, please click on the following link www.csj.qc.ca.

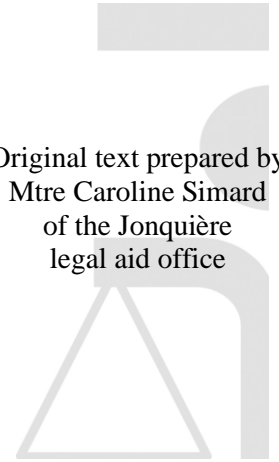
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* The information set out in this document is not a legal interpretation.

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