
Practice Bulletin: Use of the Words “Architect”, “Architecture” and “Architectural”

Notice to the Profession and General Public

May 30, 2022

For the information of the profession of Architecture and the General Public in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, this Practice Bulletin addresses the regulation of the words “architect” and “architectural” in the description of functions and services.

Unless entitled to do so under the *Architects Act, 2008*, SNL 2008, c A-15.1 (the “Act”), pursuant to subsections 40(1)(d), 34(1)(a), and 40(1)(a) of the Act, respectively, no person shall:

- Use the words “architecture” or “architectural” either singly or in connection with another word in describing or referring to his or her functions and services;
- Use the title of “architect” either singly or in connection with another word, name, title, or designation; and
- Use the title “architect” or make use of an abbreviation of a title or of a name, title, or designation that might lead to the belief that the person is an architect or member of the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Architects.

For an individual who is **not** licensed under the Act by the Architects Licensing Board of Newfoundland and Labrador (the “Board”) (i.e., who is not an architect), and is not subject to one of the limited exceptions set out in the Act, use of the following descriptive terms, or similar terms, is **not** acceptable:

- Architect
- Graduate Architect
- Design Architect
- Project Architect
- Interior Architect
- Research Architect
- Architectural Technologist
- Architectural Advisor
- Architectural Draftsperson or
- Architectural Technician

The above descriptors should not be used as a job title, in an e-mail signature, or in any other way, in any medium, to describe the individual’s functions or services.

The following alternative descriptions may be used:

- Interior Designer
- Residential Designer
- Building Technologist
- Building Advisor
- Building Draftsperson or
- Building Technician

A person who contravenes section 40 of the Act is guilty of an offence and subject to the penalties as set out in section 41 of the Act:

Offence

41. A person who contravenes section 13 or 40 is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding

(a) in the case of a natural person, \$5,000 for a first conviction and to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 for a second or subsequent conviction; and

(b) in the case of a corporation, \$25,000 for a first conviction and to a fine not exceeding \$100,000 for a second or subsequent conviction,

and potentially subject to further discipline and fines imposed by the Board.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Board via email albni@albni.com.