



1900 City Park Drive, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
 Ottawa, ON K1J 1A3  
 Phone: (613) 423-3031  
 Fax: (613) 651-9821

[info@AccessToJusticeOttawa.ca](mailto:info@AccessToJusticeOttawa.ca)  
[www.AccessToJusticeOttawa.ca](http://www.AccessToJusticeOttawa.ca)

### **Key Differences between Notarization and Commissioning at a Glance**

<b><u>Feature</u></b>	<b><u>Commissioning</u></b>	<b><u>Notarizing</u></b>
Governing legislation	<i>Commissioners for Taking Affidavits Act</i>	<i>Notaries Act</i>
Purpose	To swear/affirm truth of contents	To authenticate signatures and/or true copies
Typical document type	Affidavits, statutory declarations	International and/or formal documents; documents to be used internationally
Verifies contents of documents(s) are true?	No	No
Confirms identity of signer(s)	Yes	Yes
Certifies true copies	No	Yes
Common use	Ontario courts, Canadian government, Banks	Foreign use, embassies, institutions, Banks