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1. 2008 Rent Increase Guidelines

The Province recently announced the 2008 guideline for residential rent increases. The guideline has been set at 2% effective January 1, 2008. For further information, landlords and tenants can contact the Residential Tenancies Branch via their [website](#).

2. Pre-paid Purchase Cards Amendment

Effective November 1, [amendments to The Consumer Protection Act](#) will prohibit expiry dates on most gift cards and other prepaid purchase cards. The legislation also requires that consumers are made aware of the terms and conditions of gift cards.

3. Recent Amendments to OBCA

Amendments to Ontario's [Business Corporations Act](#) to make it consistent with the [Canada Business Corporations Act](#) took effect on August 1, 2007. The article, [OBCA Amendments: What You Need to Know](#) contains a useful summary of the changes which were made as part of the omnibus *Ministry of Government Services Consumer Protection and Service Modernization Act, 2006*.

4. Even More Companies Office Forms

The Companies Office, over the summer, added to the list of the forms that can be filled in on screen, before printing. The most recent additions to the [fillable forms](#) include:

- Application for Cancellation of Registration
- Application for Approval to Continue in Another Jurisdiction
- Articles of Amalgamation - Share
- Articles of Amalgamation - Non-share
- Articles of Dissolution
- Consent to Act as First Director
- Statement of Intent to Dissolve
- Change of Address - Business
- Change in a Limited Partnership
- Limited Liability Partnership - Cancellation
- Limited Liability Partnership - Change
- Power of Attorney - Business

5. Practical Advice for Commercial Lawyers

Commercial lawyers will find useful and easy to implement practice tips in the following articles from LawPRO magazine's Summer 2007 issue:

- [*The Andromeda Strain - Blacklining Charts*](#)
- [*British jurisprudence and the Corporate/Commercial Solicitor*](#)
- [*Drafting Errors - A Simple Error Can Cost You*](#)

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