

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC UTILITIES 120 Torbay Road, P.O. Box 21040, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada, A1A 5B2

E-mail: bwicks@wrmmlaw.com

2018-04-25

Mr. D. Bradford L. Wicks, Q.C. P.O. Box 5236 Paramount Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor 34 Harvey Road St. John's, NL A1C 5W1

Dear Mr. Wicks:

## Re: 2017 Automobile Insurance Review - Request for Postponement of Automobile Insurance Review Hearings - Board's Reply

This is in reply to your correspondence of April 10, 2018 setting out concerns related to the process and timelines associated with the 2017 Automobile Insurance Review. In this correspondence you asked that the Board postpone the hearing dates for the review beyond May 2018 to allow the Insult to Injury campaign to provide meaningful input to the Board.

You also explained in your letter that, in your view, the June 30, 2018 completion date for the Board's report compromises all interested parties. Since receiving your letter, which was copied to the Honorable Sherry Gambin-Walsh and the Honourable Andrew Parsons Q.C, the Board has received correspondence confirming Government's expectation that the Board will file its report by the end of June 2018. This correspondence can be viewed on the Board's website.

The Board's work plan for the Automobile Insurance Review provided for public sessions to start in Spring 2018. The Board had tentatively scheduled a hearing to be held over the period May 23, 2018 to June 1, 2018, which provided some flexibility for the timing of presentations and intervenor participation. However in your correspondence you advised that one of your counsel and one of your consultants are not available in the latter part of May. Following receipt of your request the Board reconsidered the original schedule and, through the work of its staff and with the cooperation of its experts, has delayed the start of the hearing to accommodate your request to move the hearing dates beyond May.

The hearing will now begin on June 4, 2018. The Board notes that this start date is more than six weeks after the filing of the two Oliver Wyman reports relating to the private passenger closed claim study and the implementation of various cap and deductible options. I note that the Oliver Wyman report in relation to other issues will be released by the end of this week. Notice of the hearing start date and an invitation to participate will now be published beginning on May 5, 2018.

The Board looks forward to the valuable input of the Insult to Injury campaign on behalf of past and future victims of injuries sustained in motor vehicle accidents.

Please feel free to contact the Board's legal counsel, Jacqui Glynn, at jglynn@pub.nl.ca or (709)726-6781 if you require further information or if you have specific issues you wish to discuss.

Sincerely,

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Sara Kean Assistant Board Secretary

CB/cj

cc. Tom Johnson, E-mail: tjohnson@odeaearle.ca The Honourable Sherry Gambin-Walsh The Honourable Andrew Parsons Q.C.