



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

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Dear Sirs/Madams:

Re: 2017 Automobile Insurance Review – Recommencement of Hearing

The hearing in this review is scheduled to resume in just over three weeks. The intervenors have now provided information in relation to the presenters they intend to bring and have also raised several issues related to timing and process.

One of the issues which was raised related to whether written submissions should be filed in advance of the hearing. Based on the information provided it appears that some of the presentations may involve technical information or opinions. For example, the Campaign has advised that it plans to present a "Technical Legal Panel Re Minor Injury," a physician, a panel of lawyers and a retired judge. The Board believes that written submissions would assist the Board and the parties to properly prepare for presentations which involve technical matters. As such, where a presenter will offer technical information or opinions, a written submission setting out the substance of the presentation and any materials which will be referenced should be filed at least two business days prior to the presentation.

The Board acknowledges that there are a number of presentations to be made in the hearing. In the interests of efficiency the presentations will be scheduled to flow one after another, with only the scheduled breaks. The Board asks that intervenors ensure that each of their presenters is ready to begin at the conclusion of the previous presentation. The Board believes that, with the cooperation of the intervenors, for example by filing information in advance and avoiding redundant questioning, the currently allotted hearing time should be sufficient. The Board will not at this stage implement time constraints but may subsequently determine that it is appropriate to do so. The issue of whether additional days will be scheduled will be addressed later as the hearing progresses.

The Board notes that it continues to work with the Atlantic Provinces Trial Lawyers Association to determine whether it is feasible to hear presentations from outside of the province via teleconference or some other means. In the meantime the association should file information, setting out the substance and estimated duration of the intended presentations, by August 20, 2018.

The proposed schedule for the hearing will be circulated shortly under separate cover. If there are ongoing concerns in relation to timing and process you may contact the Board's Legal Counsel, Ms. Jacqui Glynn, by email, jglynn@pub.nl.ca or by telephone 709-726-6781.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Blundon
Board Secretary

CB/tr

ecc **Consumer Advocate**

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