

NL LABOUR RELATIONS BOARD - NOTICE

COVID-19 OPERATIONS

Effective March 17, 2020, the Labour Relations Board has been operating on a remote basis due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This was based upon direction from government and it is consistent with protecting the health and safety of our staff, our stakeholders and the general public.

All Board staff are working remotely until further notice. The normal operations of the Board are continuing and all statutory timelines and all Board timelines remain in place. Certain measures however have been taken by the Board during this time period.

FILING OF DOCUMENTS

Effective immediately until further notice all filings with the Board will only be accepted electronically; these filings should be emailed to GlennBranton@gov.nl.ca and WhitneyManstan@gov.nl.ca and email copied to any other parties. Original copies of email filings should be kept so that they can be sent to the Board upon request at a later date. Any filings since March 10th, that were not submitted via email should be sent via email.

The need for routine filings with the Board to be verified by way of affidavit or statutory declaration pursuant to Section 5 of the Board's *Rules of Procedure* is temporarily relaxed. The Board will request that affidavits or statutory declarations for these email filings be provided at a later date. For the execution of documents under Section 135 of the *Labour Relations Act*, or any comparable provision of another statute, the Board will receive such unsigned documents electronically subject to appropriate signing at the earliest possible subsequent date.

EXTENSION OF TIME REQUESTS

Any requests for extensions of time must be made to the C.E.O. of the Board at GlennBranton@gov.nl.ca on an individual basis. The Board has given the C.E.O. expanded discretion to extend routine time limits, as needed, based upon individual requests. **Please note that the Board cannot extend or waive statutory time limits.**

IN-PERSON MEETINGS, VOTES AND HEARINGS

No in-person meetings with Board Officers or Board staff will be occurring until further notice. All communications with Board Officers and Board staff should be done by way of telephone or email.

No in-person votes will be conducted by the Board until further notice. Mail-in ballots for the purpose of voting may be ordered by the Board, as needed. The Board is examining options for electronic/telephone voting during this time period and further information in terms of that will be provided, as needed.

The Board will not be holding any in-person hearings until further notice. The Board will be conducting hearings by way of teleconference or videoconference. For hearings that are currently scheduled, the Board will be holding pre-hearing teleconferences with the parties to decide upon the most appropriate manner to proceed.