Ontario Labour Relations Board

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Commission des relations de travail de l'Ontario

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ONTARIO LABOUR RELATIONS BOARD NOTICE TO THE COMMUNITY

SCHEDULING OF URGENT AND TIME-SENSITIVE CASES

The Board regards a consistent and predictable approach to the scheduling of urgent and time-sensitive cases as not only assisting the parties but also as producing a more timely and expeditious resolution of such cases. In order to achieve this objective, the Board has adopted the following approach to the scheduling of certain types of applications.

Unlawful strike/lock-out applications

Where it appears to the Board, on the face of an application for a declaration of an unlawful strike or lock-out, that the complaint discloses a serious and ongoing labour disruption, the application will be scheduled for hearing as soon as practicable and normally within 24 to 48 hours of the application being filed with the Board. If it does not appear to the Board that the complaint discloses a serious and ongoing labour disruption, the application will be scheduled in the ordinary course but the parties can also expect that these cases may be processed more quickly than others.

Interim orders

Where it appears to the Board, on the face of an application for an interim order, that the application relates to a pressing and substantial labour relations concern, the application will normally be scheduled for hearing within four to six days of its filing with the Board, unless the parties agree otherwise. Other applications for interim orders will be processed in the normal course but the parties can also expect that these cases may be processed more quickly than others.

Discharges

Where an application in connection with a pending application for certification or termination of bargaining rights is filed prior to the first day of hearing, and it alleges that an employee has been discharged contrary to the Ontario Labour Relations Act, the application will usually be scheduled by the Board to be heard

together with the application for certification/termination. Where necessary in order to hear the matters together, the parties may be advised that the time for responding under the Board's Rules of Procedure is abridged.

In all other applications where it is alleged that an employee has been discharged contrary to a statute within the Board's jurisdiction and reinstatement is sought, the Board will normally schedule a hearing within six weeks of the application being filed with the Board.

Other matters

The Board will schedule all other urgent and time-sensitive matters on a case-bycase basis.

The community is advised that the Board may hear urgent and time-sensitive matters on weekends or evenings where deemed necessary.