

NOTICE TO THE COMMUNITY

SCHEDULING OF CONTINUATION DATES

In an effort to provide a more efficient and expeditious manner of setting continuation hearing dates for the parties and to assist in a more timely disposition of cases, the following practice is adopted by the Board on a trial basis:

Parties must come prepared to set continuation dates on the last scheduled day of their case whether the panel is seized or not. Where the panel is seized, it will be in a position to set continuation dates before the conclusion of the hearing. Where the panel is not seized, it will provide the parties' agreed dates to the Registrar's office which will, where possible, attempt to schedule continuation dates on the agreed upon dates.

Since the Board will be attempting to set continuation dates faster, on dates specifically agreed upon by the parties, it may be more reluctant to adjourn those agreed upon dates unless provided with timely notice and some reasonable justification for the adjournment.

In the exceptional circumstance where additional dates are not set or provided on the last scheduled day of a hearing:

- a) If the panel is seized and the parties have not set continuation dates at the last scheduled hearing day, the Registrar will, in the normal course, write the parties within three working days and offer dates the panel has available. The parties will be given three working days to consult and respond to the offered dates with their mutually available dates. Failing a timely response or if there is no agreement on dates, the Registrar may set continuation dates without further consultation. The reason for the short response time is that, since the Board is holding several dates for the parties' consideration, the dates are not available for scheduling other cases for other parties.
- b) If the panel is not seized and the parties have not provided agreed dates at the last scheduled hearing day, the parties will be expected to consult and provide agreed dates to the Registrar's office within three working days of the last hearing date. Failing a timely submission or if there is no agreement on dates or the agreed dates are not available to the Board, the Registrar may set the continuation dates without further consultation.

April, 2011