

**Minutes of the OLRB Advisory Committee
April 17, 2019**

Ontario Labour Relations Board

In attendance: Bernard Fishbein – Chair, OLRB
Matthew Wilson – Alternate Chair, OLRB [teleconference]
Catherine Gilbert – Director/Registrar, OLRB
Ursula Boylan – Deputy Registrar, OLRB
Andrea Bowker – Solicitor, OLRB
Aaron Hart – Solicitor, OLRB
Travis Kearns – Manager of Mediation Services, OLRB

Steve Krashinsky – Union
Laurie Kent - Union
Chris Fiore – Employer [teleconference]
Melissa Kronick – Union [teleconference]
Paul Lalonde – Employer [teleconference]
Ben Ratelband – Employer [teleconference]
Sara Smith – Employer [teleconference]
Graham Williamson – Union [teleconference]

Regrets: Aryn Hadibhai – Ministry of Labour

Bernard Fishbein chaired the meeting.

1. Electronic voting.

Comments in respect of the Board's "white paper" on electronic voting:

- it was noted that it is important that voters have access to information to satisfy themselves about how the process works and how their secrecy is maintained;
- the Board confirmed that its intention is that electronic voting would not replace paper ballot voting but supplement it;
- the Board noted that it has received positive feedback about electronic voting, including its convenience and the ability to vote in privacy;
- The Board confirmed that electronic voting is especially helpful where there is no specific workplace for employees to vote at or where there is a large number of part-time workers that makes the structuring of voting times difficult.

2. Open period update

Catherine advised that to date the Board had received 72 applications (approximately 50%/50% displacements/decertifications), 13 of which were closed, 2 of which had been converted to non-open period matters and 57 of which were still open. In contrast, by the same time in the 2016 open period approximately 200 applications had been received (with the same approximate 50/50 split).

3. New business

Chris raised some staff questions concerning the e-filing of s. 133 referrals – that there was no space for “other relevant statements” as in the former paper form, and that there was no means to file electronically and pay by cheque. Catherine confirmed that e-filing can only be done by credit card and if a cheque is used it must still be filed with the Board using a means other than e-filing.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Minutes taken by Andrea Bowker.