

Human Rights Legal Support Centre Board of Directors Meeting - Minutes

March 2, 2018
12:00 pm – 3:00pm
Toronto

Chair: Mary Gusella

Attendees:

Ena Chadha	Kowthar Omar	Sharmaine Hall
Nancy Gignac	Tamar Witelson	Nancy Chisholm
Karen Drake	Patrick Nadjiwan (TC)	Raul Cano Arana
	Gilles LeVasseur (TC)	(Minutes)

Item	Discussion	Follow up
1.	<p>Introductions</p> <p>The meeting was chaired by Mary Gusella as Patrick Nadjiwan, former Interim Chair, was not able to attend in person.</p> <p>Mary Gusella commenced the meeting by announcing the new appointees to the HRLSC Board of Directors: the new Chair, Ena Chadha and three new Board members, Tamar Witelson, Kowthar Omar and Gilles LeVasseur. Everyone introduced themselves and provided brief information about their background.</p>	
2.	<p>Standing Items</p> <p>a) Approval of Agenda Motion: To approve the agenda of March 2, 2018 board meeting. M/S: Nancy Gignac/Karen Drake Motion carried.</p> <p>b) Approval of Minutes Motion: To approve the Minutes of the December 13, 2017 board meeting. M/S: Patrick Nadjiwan/Nancy Gignac Motion carried.</p> <p>c) Conflict of Interest Briefly discussed outside work of Board members that may be considered conflict of interest. No conflicts were declared.</p>	
3.	<p>Report from the Interim Chair</p> <p><u>ATRD Review</u></p> <p>Patrick Nadjiwan reported that the Ministry is reviewing the Agency and Tribunal Relations Division (ATRD). As part of the review the ATRD held meetings with representatives of each Agency and Tribunal. Patrick, Sharmaine and Nancy participated in the meeting on behalf of the Centre. The discussion covered the</p>	

	<p>overall positive relationship we enjoy with the ATRD and suggested areas that could be strengthened or changed. One example was the promotion of the Centre’s involvement in government initiatives that are related to Ontarian’s rights under the <i>Human Rights Code</i>.</p> <p><u>Bill 175</u> Patrick discussed ADAG’s memo with the Board and outlined the deadlines for public feedback.</p> <p><u>Three Pillars Meeting</u> Ena Chadha and Sharmaine Hall reported on the meeting of the Three Pillars of Ontario’s Human Rights system (the HRTO, OHRC and HRLSC), held earlier today. This meeting is held a few times a year to discuss Ontario’s three human rights organizations of each other’s progresses, challenges and achievements.</p> <p><u>Complaint</u> Patrick reported that a service complaint has been received. An ad-hoc committee was formed to review the complaint.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Report from Cross-Appointments</p> <p>Karen Drake reported on the OHRC’s work in its four strategic focus areas: reconciliation with Indigenous communities, criminal justice, poverty and education.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>Financial Report</p> <p>Nancy Chisholm presented a financial summary with actual expenses from April 1 to December 31, 2017 and projections for January 1 to March 31, 2018.</p> <p>Nancy provided a brief summary of the Certificate of Assurance material. The Certificate is an annual reporting requirement for government agencies.</p> <p>Final approval of the Executive Compensation Framework was deferred.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Management Report</p> <p>Sharmaine Hall reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HRLSC’s 10th Anniversary • Amethyst Award Nomination – Mediation Project • Board Members Orientation Session • Anti-Black Racism Town Hall • Human Resources Planning • Operational Business Plan – Mediation Project • LAO - HRLSC Agreement Update • HRTO-HRLSC Meeting on February 14th • Report on Legal Services • Case Summaries Outcomes • Judicial Review report • Financial/Admin Attestations 	

7.	<p>Scheduling 2017 Meetings</p> <p>Proposed dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 30, 2018 – Board Members Training Session • Mid July, 2018 (teleconference to approve Audited Financial Statements) • Mid September, 2018 (Regional meeting, location TBD) • Early December, 2018 • Late February, 2019 	
8.	<p>Adjournment</p> <p>Motion: To adjourn the meeting. M/S: Nancy Gignac, Ena Chadha Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.</p> <p>Next meeting: March 2, 2018</p>	

M/S = Moved/Seconded, **ATRD** = Agency and Tribunal Relations Division, **ADAG** = Assistant Deputy Attorney General, **HRLSC**= Human Rights Legal Support Centre, **HRTO**= Human Rights Tribunal, **OHRC** = Ontario Human Rights Commission, **LAO** = Legal Aid Ontario