



MEDIA ADVISORY: WEBCAST OF COURT PROCEEDING

Friday, Nov. 13, 2020 (Halifax, NS) – Members of the media are advised that the following proceeding in the Nova Scotia Court of Appeal will be livestreamed on the Courts of Nova Scotia website on Wednesday, Nov. 18, and Thursday, Nov. 19:

CA-486952 – Disability Rights Coalition, Beth Maclean, Olga Cain on behalf of Sheila Livingstone, Tammy Delaney on behalf of Joseph Delaney v. The Attorney General of Nova Scotia Representing Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of Nova Scotia (including the Minister of Community Services and the Minister of Health and Wellness), Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, J. Walter Thompson, Q.C., sitting as a Board of Inquiry, Inclusion Canada, the Council of Canadians with Disabilities and People First of Canada

This two-day appeal hearing arises from a decision by Walter Thompson, Q.C., sitting as a Board of Inquiry under the *Nova Scotia Human Rights Act*, on the provision of assistance for persons with mental or physical disabilities who reside in institutional settings as opposed to community-based facilities. The decision found *prima facie* discrimination with respect to the individual complainants but dismissed a systemic discrimination claim. The original Board of Inquiry decisions related to this matter are available on the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission website:

- [Decision on *Prima Facie* Discrimination](#)
- [Decision on Remedy](#)

The Appellants are appealing the dismissal of the systemic discrimination claim, as well as the scope of the individual claims. The Province of Nova Scotia has filed a cross-appeal, and three national organizations — Inclusion Canada, the Council of Canadians with Disabilities and People First of Canada — have been granted intervenor status.

This hearing is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. AST on both days. The matter will be heard by Chief Justice Michael Wood, Justice David Farrar and Justice Cindy Bourgeois. The panel of judges and counsel for the parties will appear in person in Courtroom 502 at the Law Courts, with counsel for the intervenors appearing virtually via Skype. The public can watch the livestream of the hearing on the Courts' website [here](#).

As per the Nova Scotia Courts' [copyright policy](#), webcasts of court proceedings may not be broadcast or re-broadcast by embedding them in another website or by any other means. However, portions of the webcasts (audio and video) may be re-broadcast as part of conventional news coverage. Hyperlinks to the live webcast page and the page of archived videos on the Courts of Nova Scotia website are permitted.

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