



NOTICE TO THE PROFESSIONS AND THE PUBLIC

Updated October 27, 2021

The purpose of this notice is to provide an update on the Tribunal's operations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

October 27, 2021 update: the Tribunal office is expected to reopen in the near future. All hearings will continue to be held by videoconference until further notice.

FILING OF MATERIALS

Effective October 1, 2021, the *Rules of Practice and Procedure* provide that, other than physical documents filed at an in-person appearance, all documents must be filed in electronic form and be in accordance with the Tribunal's practice direction on electronic filing.

FORMAT OF APPEARANCES

All appearances are currently being held electronically.

Proceeding Management Conferences (PMCs) are being held by video and teleconference. Pre-Hearing Conferences (PHCs) are being held by videoconference. This will continue indefinitely.

Hearings are being held by videoconference, using the Zoom platform. The Tribunal has successfully held many hearings in this format, including multi-day hearings with evidence. For more information about hearings by Zoom, see our guide [here](#).

Given, in particular, the size and set-up of the Tribunal's premises and hearing rooms and current public health restrictions, **all hearings continue to take place by videoconference.**

If any party with a hearing scheduled by videoconference wishes to raise issues about the format or conduct of the hearing, they should immediately request that the matter be placed on the next PMC agenda or, if there is a seized panel, that a case conference be scheduled.

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AT ELECTRONIC APPEARANCES

Electronic hearings and PMCs are open to the public. Pre-hearing conferences continue to be not public. To obtain connection information for a specific PMC or hearing, please contact the Tribunal at 416-947-5249 or tribunal@lso.ca. A calendar of upcoming hearings is available [here](#).



CONCLUSION

The pandemic has changed the way the Tribunal operates, but not our commitment to our core values of fairness, quality, transparency and timeliness. Increased use of electronic hearings will ensure that we continue to provide quality, timely adjudication while ensuring fairness to all parties and maintaining the transparency of our processes.