

Adjudicative Tribunals Accountability, Governance and Appointments Act, 2009

Ontario Review Board Ethics Plan

# **Introduction**

The Ontario Review Board (the "ORB") was established by the Province of Ontario in 1992, after the proclamation of Bill C-30 which created Part XX.1 of the *Criminal Code* of *Canada*. Every province and territory is mandated to have a Review Board which holds hearings and makes dispositions applicable to those persons found unfit to stand trial on account of mental disorder and those found not criminally responsible on account of mental disorder pursuant to s. 16 of the *Criminal Code*. Members of the Board are appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council for the Province of Ontario.

The ORB is subject to the *Adjudicative Tribunals Accountability, Governance and Appointments Act, 2009* (ATAGAA). The purpose of the ATAGAA is to ensure that adjudicative tribunals are accountable, transparent and efficient in their operations, while remaining independent in their decision-making.

The ORB has developed an Ethics Plan ("The Ethics Plan") in accordance with Section 6 of the ATAGAA. The purpose of The Ethics Plan is to promote ethical conduct, ensure its members are familiar with the ethical requirement of the *Public Service Act of Ontario*, 2006 (PSOA) and to encourage best practices in the carrying out of the Board's mandate, pursuant to relevant legislation and policies.

The ORB is committed to providing the highest quality service to the public in carrying out its mandate.

### <u>Ethics Plan</u>

Under the direction of the Chair, the ORB adopts The Ethics Plan. Members of the ORB are expected to conduct themselves according to the prescribed ethical standards.

### 1. Ethical Conduct under the Public Service of Ontario Act, 2006 (PSOA)

Under the *PSOA* and Regulation 381/07, members of the ORB are bound to comply with conflict of interest rules designed to ensure that their private interests are not in conflict with their duties and responsibilities in relation to the Board or the Crown. Members will be provided with copies of the relevant statutory and regulatory provisions upon appointment and the internet links to the website of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner. Members will be provided with an annual update of their duties and

responsibilities pursuant to section IV and V of the PSOA at the Board's annual Education Session.

Training for new Members will include information about his/her responsibilities under the *PSOA*.

Members will be provided with notice of amendments to the relevant statutory and regulatory provisions addressing their responsibilities under the *PSOA*.

# 2. Code of Conduct

In addition, all members of the ORB are required to comply with the Code of Conduct established by the ORB. The Code of Conduct sets out the standards of conduct for members of the ORB. The Code of Conduct includes principles related to integrity, objectivity and impartiality, confidentiality and compliance, to which every Member must adhere.

All members will receive a copy of the Code of Conduct and will be asked to sign an acknowledgment of awareness of his/her obligations under the Code of Conduct.

The Code of Conduct for Members is posted on the Board's website at www.orb.on.ca.

The Board will keep the public informed of its activities by:

a. Posting relevant information on the website, and,

b. Publishing Annual Reports for submission to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

The Board will keep its Members informed annually of their obligations by providing ethics education as part of its ongoing professional development offered to Members. Notable issues with respect to ethics will also be posted to the members section of the Board's website.

This Plan was adopted by the Chair, Richard D. Schneider, on August 1, 2012

### Contact Information

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