MANITOBA ) Order No. 104/08 ) THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD ACT ) July 15, 2008

> BEFORE: Graham Lane, CA, Chairman Monica Girouard, CGA, Member Susan Proven, P.H.Ec., Member

THE CONSUMERS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA (MANITOBA) INC./ MANITOBA SOCIETY OF SENIORS/ WINNIPEG HARVEST: AWARD OF COSTS RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER 39/08

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## Introduction

By this Order, the Public Utilities Board (Board) approves an application for a cost award by the Consumers' Association of Canada (Manitoba) Inc./Manitoba Society of Seniors/Winnipeg Harvest (Coalition), and directs an award of \$2,555.00. The application pertains to the Coalition's participation in the Board's reconsideration of Order 39/08 (maximum charges for payday loans).

## Application

By an application submitted July 8, 2008, the Coalition sought an award of costs representing legal fees incurred with respect to the Coalition's contribution to the Board's reconsideration of Board Order 39/08

In support of its application, the Coalition stated:

 "Coalition provided comments which addressed the three grounds for review and variance presented by CPLA (Canadian Payday Loan Association) as well as the plethora of criticisms of Board Order No. 39/08 presented by the Cash Store."

And,

The Coalition further observes the comment in the Board's reconsideration Order 89/08 which stated "the Board accepts Coalition's submissions on the Cash Store grounds...".

2. The Coalition met all filing deadlines.

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- 3. The parties forming the Coalition lack sufficient financial resources to participate, in the absence of a cost award.
- 4. The Coalition represented consumers and customers of payday lender products and services, and had a substantial interest in the outcome of the proceeding.

## Board Findings

Finding the Coalition to have met all of the Board's criteria for an award of costs, the Board accepts the Coalition's application.

Accordingly, the Board will grant the Coalition's request for costs as submitted.

## IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The Consumers' Association of Canada (Manitoba) Inc./Manitoba Society of Seniors/Winnipeg Harvest (Coalition) be awarded costs in the amount of \$2,555.00.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

<u>"GRAHAM LANE, C.A."</u> Chairman

<u>"G. A. GAUDREAU, C.M.A."</u> Secretary

> Certified a true copy of Order No. 104/08 issued by The Public Utilities Board

Secretary