

MANITOBA) **Order No. 157/07**
)
THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD ACT) **December 11, 2007**

BEFORE: Graham F. J. Lane, CA, Chairman
Leonard Evans, LLD, Member
Alain Molgat, B.Comm, CMA, Member

**APPLICATION BY THE MANITOBA BAR ASSOCIATION FOR
AN AWARD OF COSTS
INTERVENTION
MANITOBA PUBLIC INSURANCE CORPORATION,
2008/09 INSURANCE RATES**

Introduction

By this Order, the Public Utilities Board (Board) approves an application for an award of costs of \$10,895.46 to the Manitoba Bar Association (MBA).

MBA intervened in the Board's hearing of Manitoba Public Insurance's (MPI) application for driver and motor vehicle insurance rates, to be effective March 1, 2008. The hearing took place in October 2007 at the Board's offices in Winnipeg.

Pursuant to Section 56 of *The Public Utilities Board Act*, the Board has jurisdiction to award costs of, and incidental to, any proceeding. The Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rules) provide four main criteria assisting in determining whether costs should be awarded to an Intervener, and the Notice of Public Hearing for the proceeding advised interested parties of the Board's Rules with respect to cost awards.

Application

Pursuant to the Board's Rules, on November 26, 2007, MBA applied for an award of costs of \$10,895.46, submitting that its intervention met the Board's criteria for the awarding of costs.

MBA did not claim for disbursements and noted that its request and costs were approximately \$10,000 less than the initial budget, due to less time being required than originally anticipated.

MPI made no representation on the request for costs.

Board Findings

The Board appreciates the contribution made and co-operation extended by MBA during the hearing process, and agrees that MBA met the criteria for an award of costs. The Board does not consider MBA an inherently profit-oriented association, particularly with respect to the matters presented at the hearing.

MBA's efforts were in the public interest and contributed to the Board gaining a better understanding of the issues before it.

Accordingly, the Board will award the costs sought by MBA.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Manitoba Bar Association be and hereby is awarded costs of \$10,895.46; and
2. Costs shall be payable by the Manitoba Public Insurance within 30 days of the date of this Order.

THE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

"GRAHAM F. J. LANE, CA"
Chairman

"G. GAUDREAU, CMA"
Secretary

Certified a true copy of Order No. 157/07
issued by The Public Utilities Board

Secretary