

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO REVIEW MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE CHARGES AND FEES FOR PAYDAY LOANS

PURSUANT to *The Consumer Protection Act (Act) (C.C.S.M.2006 c.200)* the Manitoba Public Utilities Board (Board) will conduct a public hearing to review charges and fees for payday loans and related matters in order to make a report to the Minister. Specifically Sec. 164 of the Act provides:

164(2) Within three years after the first regulation under clause 163(1)(f.1) (maximum cost of credit) comes into force, the board must commence a review of

- (a) the meaning of "cost of credit" for the purposes of this Part;
- (b) the maximum cost of credit — or any rate, tariff or formula for determining the maximum cost of credit — that may be charged, required or accepted in respect of a payday loan; and
- (c) the maximum amounts, or the rates, tariffs or formulas for determining the maximum amounts, that may be charged, required or accepted
 - (i) in respect of any component of the cost of credit for a payday loan,
 - (ii) in respect of the extension or renewal of a payday loan,
 - (iii) in respect of a replacement loan, or
 - (iv) in respect of a default by the borrower under a payday loan.

Further, the Board will submit its report to the Minister which will include

- (i) a description of the board's consultation and the results of the consultation, and
 - (ii) the board's recommendations about the matters reviewed under subsection (2); and
- (b) may include any other recommendations about the regulation of payday lenders or payday loans.

HEARING DATES AND LOCATIONS:

After receiving written evidence and submissions the Board will convene for those wishing to provide oral submissions or oral presentations.

Date: Wednesday, July 3, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m.

Location: Hearing Room – 4th floor, 330 Portage Avenue

PARTICIPATION AND SCOPE OF HEARING:

Intervener Status

All persons, firms or corporations wishing to intervene in respect of this matter, to provide evidence, or make oral submissions are required to send an application for intervener status to The Public Utilities Board, 400 - 330 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 0C4 by March 29, 2013. The forms are available on the Board's website –www.pub.gov.mb.ca and

can be submitted by email. Interveners must identify their reasons for intervention and be prepared to cooperate with other interveners to avoid duplication of interventions.

The Board may determine whether an intervener is entitled to costs for participating in the hearing and may fix the amount of those costs. Criteria defining the award of costs are described in the Board's Rules of Practice and Procedures which are also available on the website.

Intervener applicants may also wish to make written submissions regarding the scope of the process and to address any specific issues, beyond the mandatory review requirements that they seek to have the Board consider in the review process.

The Board will issue a procedural order dealing with scope, process and intervener status following the March 29th filing deadline.

Presenter Status

Those parties wishing to submit a written brief or to express oral comments to the Board are known as presenters. They should submit their written briefs or advise the Secretary of the Board of their intention to appear at the public hearing by no later than June 15, 2013.

Persons wishing to address the Hearing in French are required to notify the Board's Secretary prior to June 15, 2013.

Filing of Information

The Board will circulate all material filed in this matter by interveners and presenters to all participants on the Board's mailing list. Interested parties can examine these filings at the Board's office. Anyone desiring copies of the material filed should contact the Board.

The Board will determine those parties who have been granted intervener status and will set out a timetable for the orderly filing of information and confirm the hearing dates.

Procedure

The Board's Rules of Practice and Procedure will apply to the conduct of these hearings. All Interveners must familiarize themselves with the Board's requirements. This document is viewable on the Board's website or is available upon request to the Secretary of the Board at 400 - 330 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 0C4 or by calling (204) 945-2638 or 1-866-854-3698 (toll free). The Board's email address is publicutilities@gov.mb.ca.

Hollis M. Singh
Secretary, Public Utilities Board

Wheelchair access available



Five days notice required

