

# YUKON HUMAN RIGHTS PANEL OF ADJUDICATORS

# 2020-21 Annual Report

22(8)The panel of adjudicators shall be accountable to the Legislative Assembly and the Chief Adjudicator shall submit to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in each financial year a report of its activities. The report shall not publish any names of individuals or businesses in which a complaint was dismissed or which has not yet been dealt with.

Yukon Human Rights Act

Yukon Human Rights Panel of Adjudicators 409 Black Street Whitehorse, Y.T. (867) 668-5767

registrar@yhrpa.ca

# **Panel Members**

#### Panel Members

Panel members are appointed by the Legislative Assembly for a term of three years.

The Panel thanks the following members for their service throughout the 2020-21 fiscal year:

- Vincent Larochelle, Chief Adjudicator May 26, 2018 to May 24, 2021
- Judy Hartling, Deputy Chief Adjudicator April 11, 2019 to April 10, 2022
- Victoria Chan March 18, 2020 to March 17, 2023
- Marius Curteanu (reappointed)
  December 14, 2020 to December 23, 2023
- Carol Geddes
  March 18 2020 to March 17, 2023

- Karen Keenan (reappointed) May 9, 2020 to May 2023
- Roxane Larouche (reappointed)
  December 14, 2020 to December 13, 2023
- Leah Robinson(newly appointed)
  December 14, 2020 to December 13, 2023
- Bruce Warnsby May 9, 2020 to May 8, 2023

The Panel thanks outgoing member Michael Riseborough for his years of valuable service.

# **Board Support**

During this reporting period, YHRPA support was provided by Registrar Colleen Henry of CAH Services. Legal Counsel will be arranged on an as-needed basis.

# The Year in Review

## Grounds for Complaints

The grounds for complaints before the Panel for the 2020-21 fiscal year, including complaints carried over from previous years, were as follows:

- Ancestry including colour and race;
- Physical or mental disability and physical or mental disability in connection with aspects of employment;
- Criminal charges or criminal record;
- Duty to accommodate;
- Systemic discrimination and harassment in the provision of a service;

Decisions of the Board of Adjudication are public documents. The decisions are available online at <u>http://www.yhrpa.ca/decisions</u>.

## COVID-19

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, all case management conferences and preliminary hearings were moved to the online meeting platform Zoom. There were no in-person meetings during the fiscal year.

### Training

Principles of administrative justice online training was provided for one new member through the Foundation for Administrative Justice.

#### Referrals at a Glance

Status of Referrals for 2020-21	
Number of Referrals in 2020-21	2
Number Carried Over from Previous Year(s)	1
Number of Dispositions (settlements/withdrawals)	0
Number of Decisions Released	1
Number of Case Management Conferences Held	5
Number of Board Hearings (Including Paper Hearings)	2

## **Financial Arrangements**

YHRPA financial expenses are the responsibility of the Yukon Department of Justice (Finance Branch). Funding for each fiscal year is approved based on financial appropriations by the Yukon Legislative Assembly.

The budget estimation process is often challenging and uncertain because the caseload of the YHRPA is almost entirely dependent on the number of matters that are referred by the Human Rights Commission each year. In an effort to ensure that the YHRPA is on track with its budget estimate, budget discussions may be held throughout the year as necessary. When additional funding is required to carry out the responsibilities of the YHRPA, additional funding is requested through the supplementary appropriation process.

## Expenditure Overview

Expense Item	Actual Expenditures
Honoraria	\$9 <i>,</i> 500
Contract Services for Board Support (Registrar, Website Design, Website Hosting)	\$31,664.96
Rental Expenses (YHRPA Office and Hearing Facilities)	\$4,800
Training	\$1,000
Telephone/Communications (Zoom)	\$1,138.73
Other	\$45.90
Total	\$45,911.41

# Website development

The Panel hired a local contractor to develop a website incorporating new logos, colour schemes, and images from phase 1 of the project completed in 2019-20 fiscal year.

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Photo by Vincent Shane Hansen