



Notice and Request for Comments Regarding the Rules of Procedure and Forms and Practice Guideline of the Ontario Securities Commission

The Office of the Secretary of the Ontario Securities Commission (Commission) is seeking comments on the proposed *Rules of Procedure and Forms (Rules)* and *Practice Guideline (Guideline)*, which will replace the following documents:

- *Rules of Procedure* (2014);
- *Practice Guideline – Electronic Copies of Written Submissions* (2015);
- *Practice Guideline – Case Management Timeline for Enforcement Proceedings* (2015);
- *Practice Guideline – Ontario Securities Commission Practice Guideline for French Hearings* (2014);
- *Practice Guideline – Commission’s Book of Authorities* (2012); and
- *Practice Guideline – Use and Disclosure of Personal Information in Ontario Securities Commission’s Adjudicative Proceedings* (2012).

The *Rules* and *Guideline* will apply to all proceedings before the Commission where the Commission is required under the *Securities Act*, RSO 1990, c S.5, the *Commodity Futures Act*, RSO 1990, c C.20 or otherwise by law to hold a hearing. Once the new *Rules* and *Guideline* are adopted by the Commission, the existing *Rules of Procedure* and *Practice Guidelines* will be repealed and replaced by the new *Rules* and *Guideline*, which will immediately apply to all proceedings before the Commission, including proceedings commenced by a Notice of Hearing prior to their adoption.

The *Rules* and *Guideline* have been simplified to improve fairness and accessibility, particularly for a broad range of respondents with differing backgrounds and levels of representation.

The *Case Management Timeline for Enforcement Proceedings*, which will be replaced by the *Rules* and *Guideline*, was adopted by the Commission to improve case management through the early identification and resolution of preliminary matters. The *Rules* and *Guideline* will expand this approach to case management to all types of proceedings. The *Rules* and *Guideline* clarify the Commission’s expectations for each step of a proceeding, without limiting the Commission’s discretion to flexibly case manage the proceeding. The steps for each type of proceeding and the timelines for those steps are set out in the *Guideline* rather than the *Rules* to allow the Commission’s case management practices to evolve without requiring frequent changes to the *Rules*.

The *Rules* and *Guideline* are being published for a 60-day comment period. Following the comment period, the *Rules* and *Guideline* will be implemented under the authority of sections 16.2 and 25.1 of the *Statutory Powers Procedure Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. S.22 (SPPA).

Once the *Rules* and *Guideline* have been adopted, they will be published in English and in French.

The *Rules* and *Guideline* are available on the Commission website at www.osc.gov.on.ca under the heading *Rules of Procedure*.

Request for Comments

The Office of the Secretary invites interested persons to submit their comments on the proposed *Rules* and *Guideline* in writing. Persons submitting comments should be aware that comments will be made available to the public and will be published on the Commission website unless confidentiality is requested. If you request confidentiality, the Office of the Secretary will not place your comments on the public file, but may be required to make your comments available pursuant to a request made under freedom of information legislation.

Please send your comments by 5:00 p.m. on June 19, 2017 to:

Grace Knakowski
Secretary to the Commission
Office of the Secretary
Ontario Securities Commission
20 Queen Street West
22nd Floor
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3S8
Fax: (416) 593-2318
E-mail: gknakowski@osc.gov.on.ca

For further information, please contact:

Robert Blair
Manager, Adjudication Legal Services
Office of the Secretary
Ontario Securities Commission
20 Queen Street West
22nd Floor
Toronto, Ontario M5H 3S8
Phone number: (416) 593-8151
Fax: (416) 593-2318
E-mail: rblair@osc.gov.on.ca