

Manitoba Health Appeal Board

Board Members:

Chairperson

Grant Driedger, Grunthal

Vice-Chair

Richard Kennett, Winnipeg

Members

Ms. Priti Shah, Winnipeg

John Peters, Steinbach

Dr. Allen Kraut, Winnipeg

Jagjit Polly Pachu, Winnipeg

Patrick Caron, Winnipeg

Alan McLauchlan, The Pas

Dr. Roger Lee Gingerich, Steinbach

Andrea Doyle, Winnipeg

Joan Holmstrom, Winnipeg

Elaine Graham, Portage la Prairie

Mandate:

The Manitoba Health Appeal Board (the Board) is an independent quasi-judicial administrative tribunal that serves as an appeal body for recipients and providers of health services and others as provided for under The Health Services Insurance Act, The Emergency Response and Stretcher Transportation Act and The Mental Health Act (Charges Payable by Long Term Patients Regulation 155/97).

The Board hears a wide range of appeals, including decisions regarding:

- assessed charges in a long-term care facility;
- benefit entitlements or registration as an insured person;
- approvals to operate a personal care home, laboratory or a specimen collection centre;
- type or level of service under the Manitoba Home Care Program;
- applications for personal care in a personal care home.

Responsibilities:

The Board is a quasi-judicial body and is responsible for:

- hearing and determining appeals made under Section 10 of The Health Services Insurance Act;
- performing any other duties assigned by any Act of the Legislature or any Regulation;
- performing any other duties assigned by the Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living.

The Board:

- serves as an appeal body for recipients and providers of health services and others as provided for in the Acts mentioned above;
- ensures natural justice, fairness and due process to appellants and respondents;
- serves as an advisory body to the Minister on all matters referred by the Minister.

Membership:

A member shall be appointed to hold office for the term specified, and shall continue to hold office until the member is reappointed, a successor is appointed or the appointment is revoked.

Practice consists of having a roster of physicians, lawyers and lay members.

Length of Terms:

A member shall be appointed to hold office for the term specified in the order by which he or she is appointed, and shall continue to hold office until the member is reappointed, a successor is appointed or the appointment is revoked.

Desirable Expertise:

- Ability to attend hearings, interpret and understand legislation, consider oral and written evidence, and make an impartial decision on often complex matters.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Bilingual ability an asset.

Time commitment:

A panel can hear anywhere from one to multiple hearings in a sitting. Typically:

Lawyers sit once or twice a month for half a day;

Physicians sit once or twice a month for a half day (usually in the afternoon);

Laypersons sit once or twice a month for a full day;

although there may be special cases where times and dates may vary.

There is may be a couple of hours of preparation prior to a hearing or follow-up.

Meetings:

The hearings and general meetings are usually held in Winnipeg. Occasionally, the Board may hold hearings in rural Manitoba.

Regular hearings of the Board are scheduled on Thursdays of each week during the daytime. On occasion, hearings may also be held on other days of the week. Members are utilized on a rotational basis and/or based on their expertise. The Board meets between 40 and 45 times per year and has heard approximately 180 appeals annually. General meetings of the entire membership of the Board are held at least twice each year.

Remuneration:

Chair: \$256.00 per half day and \$446.00 per full day

Members: \$146.00 per half day and \$255.00 for a full day

Physicians: Paid based on specialty and location at the sessional rates established for medical practitioners.

Pre-hearing preparation, post-hearing work and duties unrelated to hearings:

Chair: \$74.33 per hour

Non-physician members: \$42.50 per hour

Physician members: at the current hourly sessional rate

Members are also reimbursed for reasonable travel and out-of-pocket expenses incurred in carrying out their responsibilities in accordance with government established rates.