

Jennifer Meader

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October 6, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

**Re: NOTICE OF CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE
Ontario Land Tribunal Case No. OLT-23-000814
Appeal by Dorchester Property Holdings Inc.**

We are solicitors for Dorchester Property Holdings Inc. ("**Applicant**") with respect to a development application submitted to the City of Niagara Falls ("**City**") for land municipally known as 6259-6293 Dorchester Road, in the City of Niagara Falls ("**Subject Lands**"). The Applicant submitted a Zoning By-law Amendment Application ("**Application**") to the City to permit the construction of a five-storey residential building with 74 residential units, on the Subject Lands. The Application was appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal ("**OLT**") on the basis of the City's refusal of the Application.

The OLT has scheduled a Case Management Conference on this matter for **November 9, 2023** for a duration of one day. We are required by the OLT to circulate notice of this Case Management Conference to the proximate landowners and other interested parties.

As such we are enclosing the following materials:

1. Notice of Case Management Conference, November 9, 2023, for one day;
2. Rules 7, 8, 17, 19 and 20 of the Ontario Land Tribunal's *Rules of Practice and Procedure*; and
3. The Ontario Land Tribunal's draft Procedural Order; and
4. An Explanatory Note, setting out the purpose and effect of the proposed Applications, along with a key map.

If you have any questions with respect to this notice, please contact the OLT's Case Manager, William Badu at William.Badu@ontario.ca.

Yours truly,



Jennifer Meader
JM/vp

Ontario Land Tribunal

655 Bay Street, Suite 1500
Toronto ON M5G 1E5
Telephone: (416) 212-6349
Toll Free: 1-866-448-2248
Website: olt.gov.on.ca

Tribunal ontarien de l'aménagement du territoire

655 rue Bay, suite 1500
Toronto ON M5G 1E5
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PROCEEDING COMMENCED UNDER subsection 34(11) of the *Planning Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13, as amended

Applicant and Appellant: Dorchester Property Holdings Inc.
Subject: Application to amend the Zoning By-law – Refusal or neglect to make a decision
Description: To permit the construction of a five-storey residential building with 74 residential units
Reference Number: AM-2022-001
Property Address: 6259-6293 Dorchester Road
Municipality/UT: Niagara Falls/Niagara
OLT Case No.: OLT-23-000814
OLT Lead Case No.: OLT-23-000814
OLT Case Name: Dorchester Property Holdings Inc v. Niagara Falls (City)

The Ontario Land Tribunal (“Tribunal”) will conduct a **Case Management Conference (CMC)** by **Video Conference** for this matter.

The event will be held:

AT: 10:00 AM

ON: Thursday, November 9, 2023

AT: <https://meet.goto.com/680885805>

Access Code: 680-885-805

The Tribunal has set aside **one (1) day** for this matter.

The event will be held using GoTo Meetings. The appellant(s), applicant, municipality or approval authority, and those persons who intend to request party or participant status, are asked to log into the video hearing through the link provided above at least **15 minutes** before the start of the event to test their video and audio connections. All persons are expected to access and set-up the application well in advance of the event to avoid unnecessary delay. The desktop application can be downloaded at [GoToMeeting](https://www.gotomeeting.com/). A web application is also available: <https://app.gotomeeting.com/home.html>. A compatible web browser for this service is Chrome.

Persons who experience technical difficulties accessing the GoToMeeting application or who only wish to listen to the event can connect to the event by calling into an audio-only telephone line: **+1 (647) 497-9373** or **1-888-299-1889 (Toll Free)**. The access code is **680-885-805**.

Event dates are firm – adjournments will not be granted except in the most serious circumstances, and only in accordance with the Tribunal’s Rules of Practice and Procedure [Rule 17](#) on adjournments.

This event is conducted under [Rule 20](#) of the Tribunal’s Rules. [Rule 20.2](#) sets out how a party may object to the Tribunal conducting this event electronically. Any party, or any person who intends to seek party status, may object to the Tribunal holding this event by video by filing an objection with the Tribunal’s Case Coordinator. The objection must be received by the Tribunal **at least 20 days** before the date of the CMC and must be copied to the other parties. All contact information is included in Schedule A.

If you do not attend the CMC, the Tribunal may proceed in your absence and you will not be entitled to any further notice of these proceedings. The Tribunal may finalize the list of appellants, parties and/or participants at this CMC, and may order that no additional appellants, parties and/or participants be added or included in this proceeding, without leave of the Tribunal.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

If a person intends to refer to a document at the CMC that is not in the Tribunal’s case file, the document is expected to be pre-filed electronically with the Tribunal **at least 10 days** before the date of the CMC, unless another filing date is specified in the Tribunal’s Rules. All pre-filed documents shall be served on the other parties electronically. All contact information is included in Schedule A.

Submissions larger than **10MB** must be transferred to the Tribunal’s Case Coordinator using an electronic file sharing link/service. Please see Schedule B for further submission requirements.

The purpose of the CMC is set out in [Rule 19.1](#) of the Tribunal’s Rules. The CMC will deal with preliminary issues, that include the following:

- **Identification of parties** - these persons have the right to participate throughout by presenting evidence, questioning witnesses, and making final arguments. In order for the Tribunal to determine your status for the hearing, you or your representative should attend the CMC and ask to be added as a party. Groups, whether incorporated or not, who wish to become parties should name a representative. Parties do not need to be represented by lawyers or agents.
- **Identification of participants** - persons who do not wish to participate throughout the hearing may attend the hearing and provide a written statement to the Tribunal.
- **Identification of issues.**

- **Possibility of settlement and/or mediation of any or all of the issues** – the panel will explore with the parties whether the case before the Tribunal and the issues in dispute are matters that may benefit from mediation. Mediation is a voluntary process that encourages all sides in a dispute to get a better understanding of each other's positions and fully explore and negotiate options for a mutually acceptable settlement of all or some of the issues in dispute. The panel may direct, upon consent of the parties, that some or all of the issues in dispute proceed to mediation.
- **Start date of the hearing.**
- **Duration of the hearing.**
- **Directions for pre-filing of witness lists, expert witness statements and written evidence.**
- **The hearing of motions.**
- **Draft Procedural Order** – parties are expected to meet before the CMC to consider a draft Procedural Order, as per [Rule 19.2](#) (see [Sample Procedural Order](#) on the website at <https://olt.gov.on.ca/forms-submissions/>).
- **Such further matters as the Tribunal considers appropriate.**

Everyone should come prepared to consider specific dates for proceedings in this matter.

All persons who wish to participate in this matter are expected to be prepared should the Tribunal convert the CMC to a settlement conference, a motion for procedural directions, or a preliminary hearing, where evidence or formal statements or submissions may be heard. Even when no settlement is reached, the Tribunal may proceed to make a final decision on any evidence received during the conference.

PARTY OR PARTICIPANT STATUS REQUEST:

Persons other than the appellant(s), applicant, municipality or approval authority who wish to participate in the proceeding, either as a party or as a participant, are expected to file a written status request with the Tribunal to outline their interest in the proceeding.

The [Party Status Request Form](#) and [Participant Status Request and Participant Statement Form](#) are available on the Tribunal's website (<https://olt.gov.on.ca/forms-submissions/>) and are to be used to assist with the preparation of the request. If you are requesting status, this form must be provided at least 10 days in advance of the Case Management Conference to:

- The assigned Tribunal Case Coordinator **William Badu** at William.Badu@ontario.ca.
- The municipality and the approval authority on the same day as it is emailed to the Tribunal Case Coordinator.

- The Applicant and the Appellant(s) on the same day as it is emailed to the Tribunal Case Coordinator.

The contact information for the parties is included in Schedule A.

The status request will be reviewed and considered by the presiding Member at the CMC. It will also assist the Tribunal in organizing the hearing event. **Attendance by the requestor, or their representative, at the CMC is required for all status requests.**

Persons who are granted **party status** may participate fully in the proceeding (see [Rule 8](#)).

Persons who are granted **participant status** may only participate in writing by way of a participant statement. This statement is expected to be provided 10 days advance of the CMC as part of the status request (see above) and sets out their position in the matter (see [Rule 7.7](#)).

Only persons who are granted party or participant status by the Tribunal at the CMC are permitted to participate in any further hearing event that is convened by the Tribunal for this appeal.

FURTHER DIRECTIONS

Tribunal proceedings are open to the public and all documents filed in a proceeding will be included in the Tribunal's public file (except those documents that may be deemed confidential in accordance with the Ontario Land Tribunal's [Rule 22.1](#)).

The Tribunal shall issue a disposition following the CMC that will set out the directions of the Tribunal. A copy of this decision may be obtained from the Tribunal's website (<https://olt.gov.on.ca/decisions/>) by referencing the above case number.

Please review the Tribunal's [Rules](#) for relevant information.

We are committed to providing accessible services as set out in the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005*. If you have any accessibility needs, please contact our Accessibility Coordinator as soon as possible by emailing OLT.COORDINATOR@ontario.ca. If you require documents in formats other than conventional print, or if you have specific accommodation needs, please let us know so we can make arrangements in advance.

Pour recevoir des services en français, veuillez communiquer avec la Tribunal au 1-866-448-2248/(416) 212-6349 ou OLT.COORDINATOR@ontario.ca.

For general information concerning the Tribunal, visit our website at <https://olt.gov.on.ca> or you may contact the Tribunal's offices at 1-866-448-2248 or local (416) 212-6349.

DATED at Toronto, this 7th day of September, 2023.

Euken Lui
Acting Registrar

SCHEDULE A

Please provide materials electronically to the assigned Tribunal Case Coordinator **William Badu** at William.Badu@ontario.ca.

On the same day that documents are submitted to the Tribunal, electronic copies are to be submitted to:

Applicant/Appellant [Representative]:

Dorchester Property Holdings Inc.

C/O: Jennifer Meader

jmeader@tmalaw.ca

Municipality [Representative]:

City of Niagara Falls

C/O: Nidhi Punyarthi

npunyarthi@niagarafalls.ca

SCHEDULE B

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ELECTRONIC PRE-FILING SUBMISSIONS

Submission requirements to organize the video hearing

If a person intends to refer to a document at the video hearing (for clarity, any document that is not in the Tribunal's case file), it is expected to be pre-filed electronically with the Tribunal at **least 10 days** before the date of the video hearing and provided to all parties. The deadline applies unless otherwise specified in the Rules.

Submission emails **under 10MB** in size may be emailed directly to the assigned Tribunal Case Coordinator. Emails **larger than 10MB** must be transferred to the Tribunal's Case Coordinator using an electronic file sharing link/service to avoid sending documents across multiple email parts. Where appropriate, documents are to be submitted in .pdf format.

Naming convention

To assist the Tribunal and the adjudicator during the event, it is important that all submissions are **paginated and labelled appropriately** to clearly identify the content of each document. Where a document contains numerous sections, each section is to be indexed to a table of contents.

Additionally, clearly identify and separately tab the relevant sections that will be relied upon for quicker reference. The entirety of the policy documents (e.g. the PPS, Planning Act, Official Plans, Zoning By-laws, etc.) are not required unless deemed necessary to be presented by the parties or as otherwise directed by the Tribunal.

Parties are asked to adhere to the following naming convention: **case number_party role_ document type_date of hearing event**.

For example: PL123456_Applicant_Notice of Motion_Jan 1, 2020

Please see [Rules 7.1 and 7.2](#) for the standard document submission requirements.

SCHEDULE C

EXCERPT FROM ONTARIO LAND TRIBUNAL'S RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE, ON DOCUMENTS, EXHIBITS, FILING, SERVICE, ROLES OF PARTIES, ADJOURNMENTS, CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCES AND ELECTRONIC HEARINGS. THE FULL DOCUMENT IS AVAILABLE ON THE TRIBUNAL'S WEBSITE.

RULE 7

DOCUMENTS, EXHIBITS, FILING, SERVICE

7.1 Form of Documents Unless otherwise directed by the Tribunal, every document filed or introduced by a party or participant in a proceeding before the Tribunal shall be legible and prepared on letter size paper (8 ½" x 11"), except for large documents such as plans, surveys or maps, and, where bound together with other documents, shall have each page numbered consecutively, throughout the entire text or within tabs, including any graphic content. Wherever possible, an electronic copy of the document must also be filed with the Tribunal, identically numbered as the paper document.

7.2 Other Exhibits Large graphic or other such types of visual evidence should not be glued to foam or other boards. They shall be on paper and be removed from the boards following the hearing event, and folded to 8 ½" x 11". Three-dimensional models must be photographed and the photographs must be introduced with the model. Visual evidence must be reviewed by the other parties before the hearing event or by an earlier date if set out in a procedural order.

7.3 Copies of Documents for Parties and the Municipal Clerk A party who intends to introduce a document as evidence at a hearing event shall provide a copy of the document to all the parties at the beginning of the proceeding or by an earlier date if that is required by the terms of a procedural order or otherwise directed by the Tribunal. If the document is an official plan, those parts of the plan to be referred to at the hearing event should be distributed to the parties, and a copy of the entire plan must be made available to the Tribunal Member(s). If the Tribunal orders that the Municipal Clerk keep copies of documents for public inspection, they do not need to be certified copies, unless a party objects that they are not authentic copies.

7.4 Prefiling of Witness Statements and Reports If the hearing is expected to last more than 5 days, the Tribunal may require that parties calling expert or professional witnesses serve on the other parties any expert witness statements and reports prepared for the hearing, at least 30 days in advance of the commencement of the hearing, unless otherwise directed by the Tribunal. The Tribunal may in its discretion, or at the request of a party, also make this prefiling order for hearings expected to last fewer than 5 days. The expert witness statement must contain:

- a. an executed acknowledgment of expert's duty form (attached to these Rules) and the expert's qualifications;

- b. the issues the expert will address, their opinions on these issues, the reasons that support their opinions and their conclusions; and
- c. a list of the reports or documents, whether prepared by the expert or by someone else, that the expert will refer to at the hearing.

The expert's complete report may be filed instead of this statement if it contains the required information.

An expert may not be permitted to testify if this statement or report is not served on all parties when so directed by the Tribunal.

7.5 Duty of the Expert Witness It is the duty of every expert engaged by or on behalf of a party who is to provide opinion evidence at a proceeding under these Rules to acknowledge, either prior to (by signing the acknowledgment form attached to the Rules) or at the proceeding, that they are to:

- a. provide opinion evidence that is fair, objective and non-partisan;
- b. provide opinion evidence that is related only to the matters that are within the expert's area of expertise;
- c. provide such additional assistance as the Tribunal may reasonably require to determine a matter in issue;
- d. not to seek or receive assistance or communication from any third party, except technical support, while giving oral evidence in examination in chief, while under cross-examination, or while in reply; and
- e. acknowledge that these duties prevail over any obligation owed by the expert to the party by whom or on whose behalf he or she is engaged.

7.6 Other Witnesses The Tribunal may also require that a witness who is not presenting expert evidence provide a witness statement. A witness statement should contain:

- a. a short written outline of the person's background experience and interest in the matter;
- b. a list of the issues that they will discuss; and
- c. a list of reports or materials that they will rely on at the hearing.

The Tribunal may decline to allow the witness to testify if this statement is required by the Tribunal and has not been provided to the other parties.

7.7 Participant Statements A person who wishes to participate in a proceeding as a participant, shall file a written participant statement that sets out their position on the appeal and issues of the proceeding, together with an explanation of their reasons in support of their position. A participant may only make submissions to the Tribunal in writing unless otherwise provided for by an Act or regulation.

7.8 Amendment of Documents Documents filed with the Tribunal can only be amended with the consent of the parties or by order of the Tribunal. The Tribunal may

require that the person requesting an amendment do so by way of a motion under Rule 10.

7.9 Copies of Tribunal Documents A person may examine any document, including electronic documents, filed with the Tribunal and copy it after paying the Tribunal's fee, unless a statute, a Court Order, an order of the Tribunal or these Rules provide otherwise.

7.10 Return of Exhibits Exhibits of all types introduced at a hearing will be kept for 180 days after the Tribunal decision issues. The person introducing an exhibit may ask for its return after this time, and it may be given back if the Tribunal agrees. If no such request is made, the exhibit becomes the property of the Tribunal and may be archived.

7.11 Service by Personal Service or Electronic Service Where any document is required to be served or filed, including the one commencing a proceeding or a motion or providing notice, it shall be served by personal service, registered mail or electronically (unless a statute or the Tribunal requires another method of service) and shall be sent to:

- a. the party's representative, if any;
- b. where the party is an individual and is not represented, to that party directly, where that party has provided an address for service and/or an e-mail address;
- c. where that party is a corporation and is not represented, to the corporation directly, to the attention of an individual with apparent authority to receive the document;
- d. where served on or filed with a local board or commission, or any department, ministry or agency of the federal, provincial or municipal government, to an individual with apparent authority to receive the document; or
- e. where served on or filed with the Tribunal, to the Registrar, or the assigned administrative staff.

Subject to Rule 7.12, if a document is served by e-mail, then service is effective on the date of service.

7.12 If Served Electronically After 4:30 p.m. Any document served electronically after 4:30 p.m. is deemed to have been served on the next business day.

7.13 Proof of Electronic Service A confirmation printout received by the sender is proof of the full transmission and receipt of the electronic service.

RULE 8

ROLE AND OBLIGATIONS OF A PARTY

8.1 Role and Obligations of a Party Subject to Rule 8.2 below, a person conferred party status to a proceeding before the Tribunal may participate fully in the proceeding, and by way of example may:

- a. Identify issues raised in a notice of appeal for the approval of the Tribunal;
- b. Bring or respond to any motion in the proceeding;
- c. Receive copies of all documents and supporting information exchanged, relied upon or filed in connection with any hearing event conducted in the proceeding;
- d. Present opening and closing submissions at the hearing;
- e. Present and examine witnesses and cross-examine witnesses not of like interest;
- f. Claim costs or be subject to a costs award when ordered by the Tribunal; and
- g. Request a review of the Tribunal's decision or order as set out in Rule 25.

8.2 Power of Tribunal to Add or Substitute Parties The Tribunal may add or substitute a party to a proceeding when that person satisfies any applicable legislative tests necessary to be a party and their interest may be transferred or transmitted to another party to be added or substituted provided their presence is necessary to enable the Tribunal to adjudicate effectively and completely on the issues in the proceeding.

8.3 Non-Appellant Party A party to a proceeding before the Tribunal which arises under any of subsections 17(24) or (36), 34(19) or 51(39) of the Planning Act who is not an appellant of the municipal decision or enactment may not raise or introduce a new issue in the proceeding. The non-appellant party may only participate in these appeals of municipal decisions by sheltering under an issue raised in an appeal by an appellant party and may participate fully in the proceeding to the extent that the issue remains in dispute. A non-appellant party has no independent status to continue an appeal should that appeal be withdrawn by an appellant party.

8.4 Common Interest Class Where the Tribunal is of the opinion that more than one party is of common interest with another party or other parties, the Tribunal may, on its own initiative or on the request of any party, appoint a person of that class of parties to represent the class in the proceeding.

RULE 17

ADJOURNMENTS

17.1 Hearing Dates Fixed Hearing events will take place on the date set unless the Tribunal agrees to an adjournment. Adjournments will not be allowed that may prevent the Tribunal from completing and disposing of its proceedings within any applicable prescribed time period.

17.2 Requests for Adjournment if All Parties Consent If all of the parties agree, they may make a written request to adjourn a hearing event. The request must include the reasons, a suggested new date, and the written consents of all parties. However, the Tribunal may require that the parties attend in person or convene an electronic hearing to request an adjournment, even if all of the parties consent. The consenting parties are expected to present submissions to the Tribunal on the application of any prescribed time period to dispose of the proceeding.

17.3 Requests for Adjournment without Consent If a party objects to an adjournment request, the party requesting the adjournment must bring a motion at least 15 days before the date set for the hearing event. If the reason for an adjournment arises less than 15 days before the date set for the hearing event, the party must give notice of the request to the Tribunal and to the other parties and serve their motion materials as soon as possible. If the Tribunal refuses to consider a late request, any motion for adjournment must be made in person, at the beginning of the hearing event.

17.4 Emergencies Only The Tribunal will grant last minute adjournments only for unavoidable emergencies, such as illnesses so close to the hearing date that another representative or witness cannot be obtained. The Tribunal must be informed of these emergencies as soon as possible.

17.5 Powers of Tribunal upon Adjournment Request The Tribunal may,

- a. grant the request.
- b. grant the request and fix a new date or, where appropriate, the Tribunal will schedule a case management conference on the status of the matter;
- c. grant a shorter adjournment than requested;
- d. deny the request, even if all parties have consented;
- e. direct that the hearing proceed as scheduled but with a different witness, or evidence on another issue;
- f. grant an indefinite adjournment, if the Tribunal finds no substantial prejudice to the other parties or to the Tribunal's schedule and the Tribunal concludes the request is reasonable for the determination of the issues in dispute. In this case, a party must make a request, or the Tribunal on its own initiative may direct, that the hearing be rescheduled or resumed as the case may be;
- g. convert the scheduled date to a mediation or case management conference; and
- h. make any other appropriate order.

RULE 19

CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCES

19.1 Case Management Conference At the request of a party, on its own initiative or as may be required by legislation or regulation, the Tribunal may direct parties to participate in a case management conference conducted by a Member of the Tribunal, which can include settlement conferences, motions or preliminary hearing matters, such as to:

- a. identify the parties and participants;
- b. determine the issues raised by the appeal;
- c. narrow the issues in dispute;
- d. identify facts or evidence the parties may agree upon or on which the Tribunal may make a binding decision;
- e. obtain admissions that may simplify the hearing, which may include the examination of persons by the Tribunal as part of the conference;
- f. provide directions for exchange of witness lists, witness statements, expert witness statements and reports, for meetings of experts including to address the disclosure of information such as the disclosure of the information that was not provided to the municipality before council or the approval authority made its decision that is the subject of the appeal, and for further disclosure where necessary;
- g. provide directions to the parties to file a hearing plan to outline how the hearing will proceed, the order of witnesses, or the anticipated time for submissions to ensure the Tribunal sets aside sufficient time in its hearing calendar to dispose of the issues;
- h. discuss opportunities for settlement, including possible use of mediation or other dispute resolution processes;
- i. fix a date, place and format for the hearing and estimate its length, and encourage the parties to agree upon the dates for any procedural steps;
- j. discuss issues of confidentiality, including any need to hold a part of the hearing in the absence of the public or to seal documents;
- k. address the production and cost sharing of joint document books; and
- l. deal with any other matter that may assist in a fair, just, expeditious and cost-effective resolution of the issues.

19.2 Sample Procedural Order and Meeting Before Case Management Conference Where the parties are known before the case management conference, they are expected to discuss the matters set out in Rule 19.1 and present a draft procedural order to the Tribunal for its approval. Sample procedural orders are listed in the Index to these Rules.

19.3 Serving Notice of a Conference The Tribunal will determine the notice requirements for a Case Management Conference and any directions to serve a Notice of Case Management Conference that provides the time, place and format of the conference. The directions may include a notice to all persons or authorities entitled by

legislation or regulation. The person, municipality or approval authority who is issued the direction must serve this notice on those persons entitled to notice of the conference and provide an affidavit to the Tribunal, at or prior to the conference, to prove service of the notice.

19.4 Tribunal Member Presides The Tribunal's Chair will assign at least one Member of the Tribunal to conduct the conference.

19.5 Public Attendance at a Case Management Conference A case management conference held in person will be open to the public. A case management conference held by electronic hearing will be open to the public where practical. Despite the general principle of public open sessions, where circumstances prevail that may require confidentiality, in the discretion of the presiding Tribunal Member, part or all of the conference may be conducted in *camera*.

19.6 Conversion from One Procedure to Another The Tribunal Member may, at any time, conduct a procedural discussion, initiate a motion, inquire into a preliminary matter, or convert the conference into a hearing. The Tribunal will state in the notice of a case management conference that the parties are expected to arrive prepared for a procedural and settlement conference as well as a preliminary hearing, where evidence or formal statements or submissions may be heard. Even if no settlement is reached, the Tribunal may proceed to make a final decision on any evidence received during the conference.

19.7 Results of Failure to Attend a Conference If a party fails to attend the conference or by authorized representative, the Tribunal may proceed without that party. The non-attending party is not entitled to notice of subsequent hearing events in the proceedings.

19.8 Tribunal Order Following The Tribunal Member conducting the case management conference will issue an order that may decide any of the matters considered at the conference and provide procedural directions for any subsequent hearing event.

19.9 Hearing Member Bound The Tribunal Member conducting the hearing or any subsequent hearing event is bound by the order resulting from the case management conference unless that Member is satisfied that there is good reason to vary the order.

19.10 Methods of Holding Hearing Events The Tribunal may direct in an order following a conference that hearing events in a proceeding be held by a combination of written, electronic or in person hearing events.

RULE 20

ELECTRONIC HEARINGS

20.1 Hearing Events by Teleconference or Videoconference The Tribunal may hold a hearing event by electronic hearing, such as by teleconference or videoconference, for the determination of any issue in the proceeding. Where the Tribunal directs that a hearing event be held by electronic hearing, the Tribunal may direct a party to make the necessary arrangements and to give notice of those arrangements to the Tribunal and other parties.

20.2 Objection to the Electronic Format A party who objects to a hearing event being held as an electronic hearing shall notify the Tribunal and all other parties of its objection within the time period specified in the notice of the electronic hearing. The objecting party shall set out the reasons why the electronic hearing is likely to cause the objecting party significant prejudice.

20.3 Response to Notice of Objection The Tribunal may request a written response from other parties to the objection of an electronic hearing within a time period set out by the Tribunal.

20.4 Procedure When Objection is Received If the Tribunal receives an objection to hold a hearing event by electronic hearing, it may:

- a. accept the objection, cancel the electronic hearing, and schedule an in person or written hearing; or
- b. if the Tribunal is satisfied, after considering any responding submissions that no significant prejudice will result to a party, then the Tribunal will reject the objection and proceed with the electronic hearing.

20.5 Directions for the Electronic Hearing The Tribunal may direct the arrangements for the electronic hearing or designate an approved location for videoconference to protect the integrity of the hearing process, including the security and confidentiality of evidence as necessary.

20.6 Videoconferences The Tribunal shall pre-approve all arrangements for conducting a hearing event by videoconference, including the pre-filing and exchange of motion materials, documents, written submissions or any visual and written evidence, and the locations for the conference. Any information, statement or material intended to be filed as an exhibit at a videoconference shall be pre-filed with the Tribunal and provided to all parties in accordance with the Tribunal's directions or procedural order for conducting a hearing event by videoconference.

20.7 The View of the Camera A party's representative or a witness in a videoconference shall be in view of the camera, with minimal visual obstructions, in the course of their presentations or submissions to the Tribunal. Where a witness is being examined or cross-examined, there shall be a view of the witness, counsel protecting

the witness, and the person conducting the examination or cross-examination. Any document that may be referred to by parties or their witnesses shall be visible and legible to the Tribunal and all other parties to the conference, either by the camera or by referring to a copy of the document exchanged in accordance with the Tribunal's directions.

June 1, 2021



Ontario Land Tribunal

655 Bay Street, Suite 1500, Toronto, ON M5G 1E5
Tel: 416-212-6349 | 1-866-448-2248
Web Site: olt.gov.on.ca

Sample Procedural Order

Purpose of the Procedural Order

Case management conferences are scheduled by the Tribunal to organize the hearing. This sample procedural order is provided to identify who may participate in the hearing, the issues in dispute, and the matters that are required to be carried out before the hearing. The attachment to this sample procedural order explains the meaning of a number of terms in the sample procedural order, such as a party or a participant.

The Tribunal recommends that the appellant, municipality, the applicant (if applicable), or those who wish to seek party status in this proceeding, meet, remotely if necessary, to discuss this sample procedural order before the date of the case management conference and try to identify the issues and process they want the Tribunal to order following the conference. The Tribunal will hear submissions on the content of this sample procedural order at the case management conference and issue a procedural order at a later date.

If you are not represented by a lawyer, you should prepare by reviewing the Tribunal's [Video Hearings Guide](#), and the Tribunal's [Rules of Practice and Procedure \("Rules"\)](#), particularly Rule 20, which are available on the Tribunal's website.

ISSUE DATE:

CASE NO(S):

PROCEEDING COMMENCED UNDER (*Specify: statute and provision under which proceeding was commenced*):

Applicant(s)/Appellant(s) (*specify*):

Subject (*specify*):

Property Address/Description (*specify*):

Municipality (*specify*):

Municipal File No. (*specify*):

OLT Case No. (*specify PL number*):

OLT File No. (*specify associated file PL number(s) if any*):

OLT Case Name (*specify*):

(Repeat the above heading as needed for each provision(s) under which the proceeding is commenced)

1. The Tribunal may vary or add to the directions in this procedural order at any time by an oral ruling or by another written order, either on the parties' request or its own motion.

Organization of the Hearing

2. The video hearing will begin on _____ (date) at _____ a.m./p.m. at _____ . [Optional: An evening session will be held on]
3. The parties' initial estimation for the length of the hearing is _____ days. The parties are expected to cooperate to reduce the length of the hearing by eliminating redundant evidence and attempting to reach settlements on issues where possible.
4. The parties and participants identified at the case management conference are set out in Attachment 1 (see the sample procedural order for the meaning of these terms).
5. The issues are set out in the Issues List attached as Attachment 2. There will be no changes to this list unless the Tribunal permits, and a party who asks for changes may have costs awarded against it.
6. The order of evidence shall be as set out in Attachment 3 to this Order. The Tribunal may limit the amount of time allocated for opening statements, evidence in chief (including the qualification of witnesses), cross-examination, evidence in reply and final argument. The length of written argument, if any, may be limited either on the parties' consent, subject to the Tribunal's approval, or by Order of the Tribunal.
7. Any person intending to participate in the hearing should provide a mailing address, email address and a telephone number to the Tribunal as soon as possible – ideally before the case management conference. Any person who will be retaining a representative should advise the other parties and the Tribunal of the representative's name, address, email address and the phone number as soon as possible.
8. Any person who intends to participate in the hearing, including parties, counsel and witnesses, is expected to review the Tribunal's [Video Hearing Guide](#), available on the Tribunal's website.

Requirements Before the Hearing

9. A party who intends to call witnesses, whether by summons or not, shall provide to the Tribunal and the other parties a list of the witnesses and the order in which they will be called. This list must be delivered on or before _____ (date – at least 55 days prior to the start of the hearing) and in accordance with paragraph 22 below. A party who intends to call an expert witness must include a copy of the witness' Curriculum Vitae and the area of expertise in which the witness is prepared to be qualified.
10. Expert witnesses in the same field shall have a meeting on or before _____ (date) and use best efforts to try to resolve or reduce the issues for the hearing. Following the experts' meeting the parties must prepare and file a Statement of Agreed Facts and

Issues with the OLT case co-ordinator on or before _____ (*date – at least 15 days prior to the start of the hearing*).

11. An expert witness shall prepare an expert witness statement, which shall list any reports prepared by the expert, or any other reports or documents to be relied on at the hearing. Copies of this must be provided as in paragraph 13 below. Instead of a witness statement, the expert may file his or her entire report if it contains the required information. If this is not done, the Tribunal may refuse to hear the expert's testimony.
12. Expert witnesses who are under summons but not paid to produce a report do not have to file an expert witness statement; but the party calling them must file a brief outline of the expert's evidence as in paragraph 13 below. A party who intends to call a witness who is not an expert must file a brief outline of the witness' evidence, as in paragraph 13 below.
13. On or before _____ (*date – at least 45 days prior to the start of the hearing*), the parties shall provide copies of their [witness and] expert witness statements to the other parties and to the OLT case co-ordinator and in accordance with paragraph 22 below.
14. On or before _____ (*date – at least 45 days prior to the start of the hearing*), a participant shall provide copies of their written participant statement to the other parties in accordance with paragraph 22 below. A participant cannot present oral submissions at the hearing on the content of their written statement, unless ordered by the Tribunal.
15. On or before _____ (*date – at least 35 days prior to the start of the hearing*) the parties shall confirm with the Tribunal if all the reserved hearing dates are still required.
16. On or before _____ (*date*), the parties shall provide copies of their visual evidence to all of the other parties in accordance with paragraph 22 below. If a model will be used, all parties must have a reasonable opportunity to view it before the hearing.
17. Parties may provide to all other parties and the OLT case co-ordinator a written response to any written evidence within ten (10) days after the evidence is received and in accordance with paragraph 22 below.
18. The parties shall cooperate to prepare a joint document book which shall be shared with the OLT case co-ordinator on or before _____ (*date – at least 10 days prior to the start of the hearing*).
19. A person wishing to change written evidence, including witness statements, must make a written motion to the Tribunal. *See Rule 10 of the Tribunal's Rules with respect to Motions, which requires that the moving party provide copies of the motion to all other parties 15 days before the Tribunal hears the motion.*

20. A party who provides written evidence of a witness to the other parties must have the witness attend the hearing to give oral evidence, unless the party notifies the Tribunal at least 7 days before the hearing that the written evidence is not part of their record.
21. The parties shall prepare and file a preliminary [hearing plan](#) with the Tribunal on or before _____ (date – *at least 7 days prior to the start of the hearing*) with a proposed schedule for the hearing that identifies, as a minimum, the parties participating in the hearing, the preliminary matters (if any to be addressed), the anticipated order of evidence, the date each witness is expected to attend, the anticipated length of time for evidence to be presented by each witness in chief, cross-examination and re-examination (if any) and the expected length of time for final submissions. The parties are expected to ensure that the hearing proceeds in an efficient manner and in accordance with the hearing plan. The Tribunal may, at its discretion, change or alter the hearing plan at any time in the course of the hearing.
22. All filings shall be submitted electronically and in hard copy. Electronic copies may be filed by email, an electronic file sharing service for documents that exceed 10MB in size, or as otherwise directed by the Tribunal. The delivery of documents by email shall be governed by the *Rule 7*.
23. No adjournments or delays will be granted before or during the hearing except for serious hardship or illness. The Tribunal’s Rule 17 applies to such requests.

This Member is [not] seized.

So orders the Tribunal.

BEFORE:

Name of Member:

Date:

TRIBUNAL REGISTRAR

Attachment to Sample Procedural Order

Meaning of terms used in the Procedural Order:

A **party** is an individual or corporation permitted by the Tribunal to participate fully in the hearing by receiving copies of written evidence, presenting witnesses, cross-examining the witnesses of the other parties, and making submissions on all of the evidence. An **unincorporated group** cannot be a party and it must appoint one person to speak for it, and that person must accept the other responsibilities of a party as set out in the Order. Parties do not have to be represented by a lawyer and may have an agent speak for them. The agent must have written authorisation from the party.

NOTE that a person who wishes to become a party before or at the hearing, and who did not request this at the case management conference (CMC), must ask the Tribunal to permit this.

A **participant** is an individual or corporation, whether represented by a lawyer or not, who may make a written submission to the Tribunal. A participant cannot make an oral submission to the Tribunal or present oral evidence (testify in-person) at the hearing (only a party may do so). Section 17 of the Ontario Land Tribunal Act states that a person who is not a party to a proceeding may only make a submission to the Tribunal in writing. The Tribunal may direct a participant to attend a hearing to answer questions from the Tribunal on the content of their written submission, should that be found necessary by the Tribunal. A participant may also be asked questions by the parties should the Tribunal direct a participant to attend a hearing to answer questions on the content of their written submission.

A participant must be identified and be accorded participant status by the Tribunal at the CMC. A participant will not receive notice of conference calls on procedural issues that may be scheduled prior to the hearing, nor receive notice of mediation. A participant cannot ask for costs, or review of a decision, as a participant does not have the rights of a party to make such requests of the Tribunal.

Written evidence includes all written material, reports, studies, documents, letters and witness statements which a party or participant intends to present as evidence at the hearing. These must have pages numbered consecutively throughout the entire document, even if there are tabs or dividers in the material.

Visual evidence includes photographs, maps, videos, models, and overlays which a party or participant intends to present as evidence at the hearing.

A **witness statement** is a short written outline of the person's background, experience and interest in the matter; a list of the issues which he or she will discuss ; and a list of reports or materials that the witness will rely on at the hearing.

An **expert witness statement** should include his or her (1) name and address, (2) qualifications, (3) a list of the issues he or she will address, (4) the witness' opinions on those issues and the complete reasons supporting their opinions and conclusions and (5) a list of reports or materials that the witness will rely on at the hearing. An expert witness statement must be accompanied by an acknowledgement of expert's duty.

A **participant statement** is a short written outline of the person's or group's background, experience and interest in the matter; a statement of the participant's position on the appeal; a list of the issues which the participant wishes to address and the submissions of the participant

on those issues; and a list of reports or materials, if any, which the participant wishes to refer to in their statement.

Additional Information

A **summons** may compel the appearance of a person before the Tribunal who has not agreed to appear as a witness. A party must ask a Tribunal Member or the senior staff of the Tribunal to issue a summons through a request. (See [Rule 13](#) on the summons procedure.) The request should indicate how the witness' evidence is relevant to the hearing. If the Tribunal is not satisfied from the information provided in the request that the evidence is relevant, necessary or admissible, the party requesting the summons may provide a further request with more detail or bring a motion in accordance with the Rules.

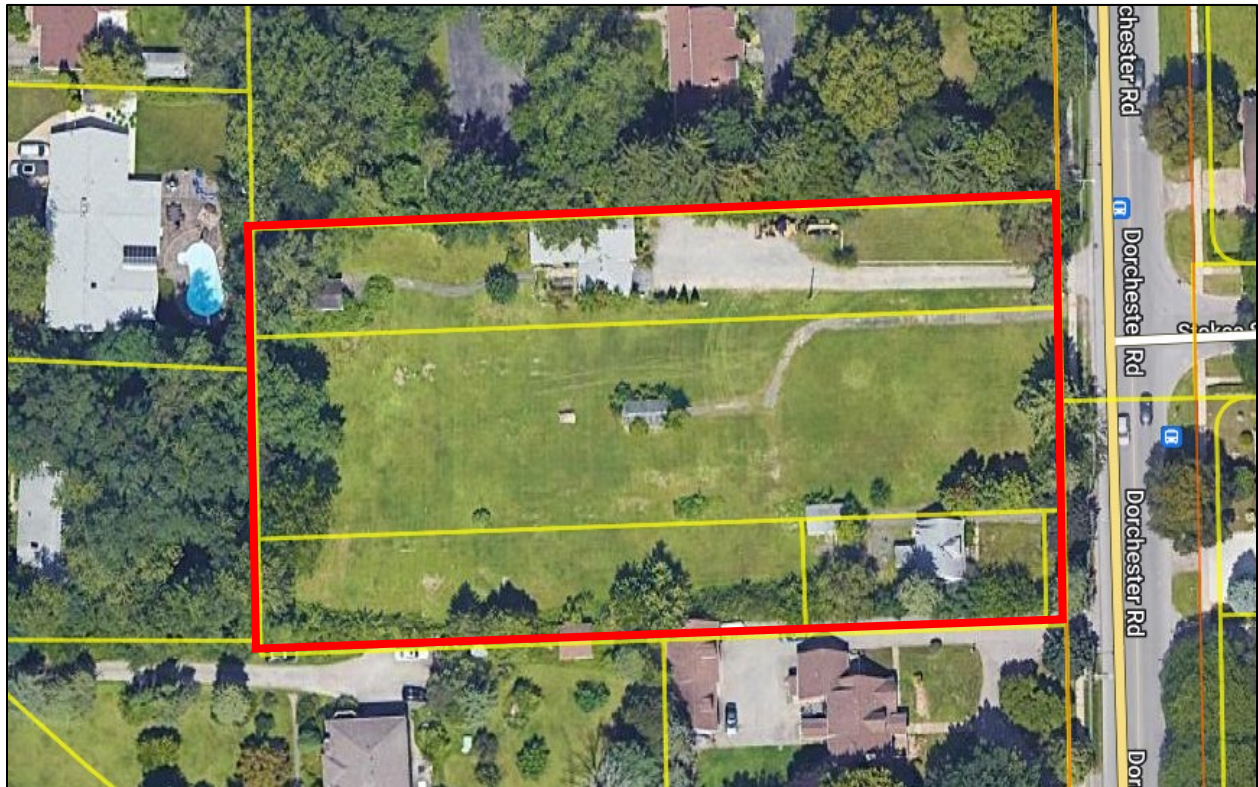
The order of examination of witnesses is usually direct examination, cross-examination and re-examination in the following way:

- direct examination by the party presenting the witness;
- direct examination by any party of similar interest, in the manner determined by the Tribunal;
- cross-examination by parties of opposite interest;
- re-examination by the party presenting the witness; or
- another order of examination mutually agreed among the parties or directed by the Tribunal.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

OLT-23-000814

6259-6293 Dorchester Road, Niagara Falls



Explanation of Purpose and Effect

The Subject Lands are municipally known as 6259-6293 Dorchester Road and are approximately 7,631 square metres in area, with approximately 63 metres of frontage along Dorchester Road. Currently, the Subject Lands contain two single detached dwellings, one accessory dwelling, and associated paved parking areas. The Subject Lands are surrounded by residential uses, comprising of single detached, multiple residential and townhouse uses.

The general purpose and intent of the Zoning By-law Amendment is to establish appropriate site-specific standards to the property to facilitate a five (5) storey residential apartment building, inclusive of 74 units, with 92 parking spaces.

The proposed Zoning By-law Amendment would rezone the subject lands from the Residential Low Density, Grouped Multiple Dwellings (R4-839), in part, under By-law 79-200. The zoning by-law amendment requested to place the lands under a site specific Residential Apartment 5C Density (R5C)

zone to permit reduced front yard, landscaped open space, number of parking spaces, parking stall dimensions, and maneuvering aisle width.