

CLOSING SUBMISSIONS

To better assist in reviewing and understanding the evidence and to facilitate preliminary drafting of her report, the Commissioner would like to receive written closing submissions regarding the evidence heard to date. She will permit supplementary closing submissions to be made should any witnesses be recalled, appreciating that evidence could change a party's submissions. The Commissioner will also invite written closing submissions from parties with standing in the Toronto External Contracts Inquiry following the completion of the evidence in that phase.

The Commissioner reminds everyone the closing submissions will be posted on the Inquiry's website and hearings will be in public. While counsel are entitled to advance their client's position vigorously, they have a duty to remain civil and a duty to adhere to the evidence. The prospect of gaining a wide audience during a public inquiry imposes on lawyers a more onerous obligation to speak responsibly.

The following rules will apply to closing submissions:

1. Parties with standing in the Toronto Computer Leasing Inquiry and other persons who are affected by the evidence, as set out in Rule 35 of the Inquiry's Rules of Procedure, are invited, but are not required, to make written closing submissions.
2. Written closing submissions regarding the evidence heard to date in the Toronto Computer Leasing Inquiry shall be received no later than Friday, February 20, 2004 at 4:00 p.m.
3. Closing submissions must be delivered to the Commission offices in both a printed (hard copy) and electronic format (Microsoft Word document). Closing submissions shall also be delivered to all other parties with standing at the Toronto Computer Leasing Inquiry. All closing submissions will be posted on the Commission's website. There is no page limit on written submissions.
4. Counsel will be permitted to file written reply submissions or to make oral reply submissions, but not both. The Commissioner will commence hearing oral reply submissions, starting on March 29, 2004. Written reply submissions shall be received no later than April 8, 2004.
5. Reply submissions (oral or written) will only be received by way of reply to written submissions and only to the extent that they engage the interests of the person or corporation seeking to reply.
6. Oral reply will be time-limited. Parties with standing will have no more than one-half day for oral submissions. Other persons who are affected by the evidence, as set out in Rule 35 of the Inquiry's Rules of Procedure, will be advised of their time limit but, in any event, will not be permitted more than one-half day.

7. Reply submissions may be made without having made written submissions; however, such reply may only address the written submissions of others and only to the extent that they engage the interests of the person seeking to reply.
8. Oral reply submissions will be made in an order to be agreed upon among counsel and, absent agreement, as may be directed by the Commissioner