

**NOTES FOR A SPEECH  
BY THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE DENISE BELLAMY  
COMMISSIONER**

**AT THE  
TORONTO COMPUTER LEASING INQUIRY  
ON MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 2004**

Good Morning. Welcome back to the Toronto Computer Leasing Inquiry. It has been four months since we last met in this hearing room. Today, we are again resuming the final evidence phase of this Inquiry.

In April, Mr. Tom Jakobek and Ms. Deborah Morrish brought an application to the Divisional Court. The purpose of that application was to review my decision to hear evidence of possible financial dealings involving Mr. Jakobek and Mr. Dash Domi. The Divisional Court has now resolved that matter. They have ruled that the evidence in question is relevant and necessary for me to complete my mandate.

That evidence is part of what we will be hearing during the next few weeks. There are also other important outstanding issues to be addressed. As well, we will hear from witnesses we interviewed at Mr. Jakobek's request. Altogether, this evidence is expected to take about three weeks.

Before we hear from the first witness, I want to repeat a few of the comments I made on April 19. First, I want to remind everyone to listen to the evidence with an open mind and not to draw any conclusions based on this evidence alone. Some of the witnesses have testified previously; their evidence should be considered in its entirety. Transcripts of earlier evidence are readily available on the Inquiry's website at [www.torontoinquiry.ca](http://www.torontoinquiry.ca).

Second, Commission Counsel have continued their investigations without interruption since this Inquiry was established. During the adjournment necessitated by this most recent court challenge, new information has emerged, and existing information has been further developed. This information may assist me to better understand the evidence and to fulfill my Terms of Reference.

Third, I recognize that some lawyers and a few of the witnesses have time conflicts. Where practicable, I am prepared to accommodate reasonable time constraints within these next three weeks, recognizing that I do have a second Inquiry that is ready to begin. I am prepared to start proceedings earlier, sit later, and shorten the mid-day break. I expect counsel to focus their questions tightly and to address only topics that there is a compelling need to address.

I wish also to remind everyone about the Good Government hearings that we held in January and February, together with the new developments that have transpired since I last reported on this in April. The Good Government hearings dealt with policy matters in the four general categories of ethics, lobbying, procurement and municipal government. On July 13, 2004, I wrote to Mayor David Miller and City Council. I sent them, by means of hard copy and compact disk, the presentations and background papers from the Good Government phase. This was not an interim report, nor did it contain recommendations. I will be making recommendations in my report at the end of the two Inquiries. The compilation of my letter to the Mayor and the contents of the compact disk are available to the general public on our website. They can be found in the Good Government section under "Good Government Hearings 2004: Ideas & Best Practices".

Just to refresh everyone's memory, the Toronto External Contracts Inquiry is the second Inquiry that was established when Toronto City Council broadened the issues that it wanted me to examine. TECI will begin within days of the completion of this final portion of the TCLI evidence.

We will now hear the evidence. Commission Counsel, David Butt, will take us through the evidence of the first witness, and Commission Counsel Ron Manes and Daina Groskaufmanis will follow with the subsequent witnesses.