



British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal

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August 26, 2011

Dear Stakeholder:

**Re: BC Human Rights Tribunal
Policy and Procedural Review**

The BC Human Rights Tribunal has been asked to undertake a broad review of its policies, procedures and practices with a view to assessing and improving its process from a variety of perspectives.

As I have previously observed, British Columbia's direct-access Tribunal model has now been in operation more than eight years. It has been my experience that any program, service or statute, however effective can, after almost a decade, benefit from review which considers the jurisprudence as well as the experience of its consumers and stakeholders.

The process will include all aspects of the Tribunal's operations from initial intake and screening of complaints, case management, interim applications and dispute resolution, through to the quasi-judicial hearing process and resulting reasons. Reviews of the Tribunal's *Rules of Practice and Procedure* and forms will of course also be included.

The review process will be guided by considerations of accessibility, responsiveness and timeliness, amongst others.

In keeping with my belief about the value of early input from the Tribunal's stakeholders, you are invited to provide your feedback and recommendations with respect to any issues or concerns. Your comments on aspects of the process, which in your view are working now, are of course also helpful and welcome.

Submissions may be mailed, faxed or e-mailed to:

BC Human Rights Tribunal
1170-605 Robson Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 5J3
Fax: 604-775-2020
e-mail: Jessica.Connell@gov.bc.ca

Please share this invitation with colleagues you feel may have an interest in this initiative.

We intend to seek further input and consultation as the process moves forward.

We look forward to hearing from you no later than October 3, 2011.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernd Walter", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bernd Walter
Chair