Re: Pension Asset Expert Advisory Panel (Expert Panel)

From: "Veinot, Cindy (TBS)" <"/o=govon/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=veinot, cindy (tbs)d57">
To: Murray Gold <mgold@kmlaw.ca>
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 2016 08:26:55 -0500

Hi Murray. Just tried you at the number below. Is there a number I can reach you at now?

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

From: Murray Gold
Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2016 8:07 AM
To: Veinot, Cindy (TBS)
Subject: Fw: Pension Asset Expert Advisory Panel (Expert Panel)

Hi Cindy,

I was wondering how this is coming, and whether you have a moment for a call this morning?

Murray

Murray Gold
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Original Message
From: Hatzis, Len (TBS) <Len.Hatzis@ontario.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2016 2:19 PM
To: Murray Gold
Cc: Veinot, Cindy (TBS); Kaufman, Paul (TBS)
Subject: Re: Pension Asset Expert Advisory Panel (Expert Panel)

Thanks very much for this Murray.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.
From: Murray Gold
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2016 2:13 PM
To: Hatzis, Len (TBS)
Cc: Veinot, Cindy (TBS); Kaufman, Paul (TBS)
Subject: Pension Asset Expert Advisory Panel (Expert Panel)

Hi Len,

You asked me on our call this morning for some additional information on my work for the Ontario Teachers Federation (OTF), as disclosed in my conflict of interest form with respect to the Expert Panel.

I have worked on a number of files for the OTF since the Ontario Teachers Pension Plan was formed as a jointly sponsored pension plan in 1990. For the most part, and especially in the last decade or so, the OTF and the Crown have had a similar view, as sponsors of the OTPP, concerning the Plan. OTF and the Crown have been of similar views for example, in regard to the OTPP's Funding Management Policy

(FMP), while the OTPP Board has sometimes taken a different view of that agreement. In human rights litigation, another area in which I have worked for the OTF in regard to the OTPP, all of the Crown, the OTF and the OTPP Board have typically been named as co-defendants, and all three parties have historically cooperated and mounted similar or complementary defenses. In the most recent of these cases (2015), we worked with the Crown to amend the Teachers Pension Act with respect to the status of retired teachers who return to active employment. I have also given advice to the OTF about OTPP Plan terms and about other compliance issues. Future engagements by the OTF are unpredictable. They may of course include FMP issues, as they have in the past, which may, in turn, be affected by or affect pension accounting issues. Once again, however, there is every possibility that the OTF and the Crown will be aligned in their views of FMP changes, as they have been for the past many years.

The relationship between the OTF and the Crown has been, for a decade or more, quite collegial and cooperative, and we would expect (and want) it to continue in this way.

We discussed my OTF relationship at the time of the retainer to provide advice concerning the OTPP, the OPTrust and the BC Plans. At that time, we agreed that the engagement presented no conflict of interest.

In regard to the Expert Panel, I expect that its mandate is as a non-partisan expert board. This is not a client retainer, but is rather an expert inquiry into the way or ways forward within technical constraints. In principle, I don't believe that expert panel work engages conflict of interest considerations with OTF or other clients, precisely because it is expert and non-partisan.

I also assume that all non-public materials before the Expert Panel are strictly confidential. I would not disclose them to OTF or to any other client or person.

I hope this helps, but if you have additional questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Regards,

Murray

 Original Message
From: Hatzis, Len (TBS)
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 6:50 PM
To: Murray Gold
Cc: Veinot, Cindy (TBS); Kaufman, Paul (TBS)
Subject:

Murray,

We've been working with our clients to prepare for the Pension Asset Panel's upcoming work and wanted to follow up with you on a disclosure that you made in the conflict of interest section of your application form. We were hoping to talk to you about the work with the OTF that you referred to in section 2 of your COI disclosure and how that might intersect with information that you could have access to as part of the panel. Would you have time to discuss this with myself and Cindy Veinot tomorrow?

Thanks
Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Rogers network.

Murray Gold
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