

TOWN OF COLLINGWOOD JUDICIAL INQUIRY

Before:

Associate Chief Justice Frank Marrocco

Held at:

Collingwood City Council Room 97 Hurontario Street Collingwood, Ontario

August 14th, 2018



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12	George Marron) For Sandra Cooper	
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14	Ravio Uukkivi) For Timothy Fryer	
15			
16	Frederick Chenoweth) For Edwin Houghton	
17			
18	Ryan Breedon) For Town of Collingwood	
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		3
1	TABLE OF CONTENTS	
2		PAGE NO.
3		
4	Opening Comments by the Honourable Justice	
5	Frank Marrocco	4
6		
7	Submissions by Mr. George Marron	10
8	Submissions re Funding	18
9		
10	Submissions by Mr. Ravio Uukkivi	25
11	Submissions re Funding	31
12		
13	Submissions by Mr. Frederick Chenoweth	38
14	Submissions re Funding	57
15		
16	Submissions by Mr. David O'Connor	59
17	Submissions re Funding	61
18		
19		
20	Certificate of Transcript	73
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

--- Upon Commencing at 10:00 a.m. 2 3 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Good morning, everybody. 5 MR. GEORGE MARRON: Good morning, Your 6 Honour. MR. FREDERICK CHENOWETH: Good 7 morning, Your Honour. 9 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Please 10 have a seat. 11 MR. GEORGE MARRON: Thank you. 12 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: We're 13 ready to go. Give me one (1) second. 14 All right, Ms. Leiper, who's going 15 first here? MS. JANET LEIPER: Mr. Marron is here 16 and he will be starting on behalf of his client. 17 18 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: All 19 right. Mr. Marron, maybe before you start I'll just give a few introductory remarks. 21 I want to say good morning to everybody and welcoming -- welcome you to the first public 22 session of the Collingwood Judicial Inquiry. 24 For some of you who were at the public 25 meeting yesterday, some of this may be a bit

- 1 repetitious, but nevertheless this is the first
- 2 opening proceeding of the Inquiry and I -- I do feel
- 3 the need to say a few things to set the tone for it.
- The -- my name is Frank Marrocco, I'm
- 5 the Associate Chief Justice of the Superior Court of
- 6 Justice, and it's my responsibility to conduct this
- 7 Inquiry.
- 8 Today we'll be dealing with
- 9 applications for permission to participate in the
- 10 Inquiry.
- The terms of reference for this inquiry
- 12 describe what it's expected to inquire into on behalf
- 13 of the Town of Collingwood. The terms of reference
- 14 can be found at the website, Collingwoodinguiry.ca.
- The Inquiry's mandate is to look into
- 16 the 50 percent share of Collingwood Utility Services
- 17 Corporation to PowerStream Inc. This will involve
- 18 looking into the sale transaction, the request for
- 19 proposal process and the fees and benefits paid to
- 20 anyone in relation to the sale.
- 21 The Inquiry will also look into the
- 22 allocation of the money from the sale for recreational
- 23 facilities at Central Park and Heritage Park, as well
- 24 as any fees or benefits paid to anyone involved in the
- 25 construction at the recreational facilities.

- 1 In addition, the Inquiry will look at
- 2 the impact of these transactions as they relate to the
- 3 good governance of the Town of Collingwood.
- 4 As I said yesterday, and as I'll say
- 5 today and I'll probably repeat on more than one (1)
- 6 occasion, a public inquiry is not a trial. No one is
- 7 charged with criminal activity. No one is being sued.
- 8 There will be public hearings into the
- 9 areas described in the terms of reference, and then
- 10 I'll prepare a report which I will turn over to the
- 11 Town of Collingwood.
- I would encourage anyone who thinks
- 13 they have information that might be helpful to the
- 14 Inquiry, whether it involves document or names of
- 15 potential witnesses, to provide this information as
- 16 soon as possible. The law offers protection to
- 17 witnesses to encourage them to come forward and
- 18 cooperate with public inquiries.
- 19 There's a commitment to open and public
- 20 hearings. I encourage members of the public to follow
- 21 the events on television or on our website, or it --
- 22 to attend the hearings.
- Our website will post transcripts of --
- 24 of the evidence heard every day, in addition to live
- 25 stream the broadcast -- the actual hearings

- 1 themselves.
- 2 I've appointed counsel for this
- 3 Inquiry. Consistent with the nature of the inquiry,
- 4 they don't represent any single point of view.
- 5 They're not prosecutors and they are not adversarial
- 6 to the lawyers and parties who will appear here either
- 7 to participate, give evidence, or to do both.
- 8 My counsel have a duty to ensure that
- 9 all the issues reflected in the terms of reference are
- 10 brought to my attention. Their job is to use their
- 11 skill and their experience to present all the relevant
- 12 evidence as fairly and as thoroughly as they can.
- 13 Janet Leiper is lead Inquiry counsel and Kirsten
- 14 Thoreson is associate Inquiry counsel. The website
- 15 contains information about the backgrounds of each of
- 16 them.
- 17 We drafted Rules of Procedure. The
- 18 rules explain the process that we're going to follow.
- 19 The rules are posted on the website.
- Today we're engaged in a process of
- 21 identifying those persons or organizations who have a
- 22 direct and substantial interest in the proceedings of
- 23 the Inquiry or whose participation in the Inquiry may
- 24 be helpful. There are eight (8) persons who have
- 25 requested the right to participate.

- 1 There will be different stages of the
- 2 Inquiry. Some of the transactions and issues affect
- 3 some people quite directly, and other aspects of the
- 4 Inquiry don't affect those people at all.
- 5 So there's the ability to participate,
- 6 the ability to participate in relations to the issues
- 7 which affect you and there is -- participation takes
- 8 different forms, the right to call witnesses, the
- 9 right to question witnesses, the right to produce
- 10 documents, the right to make written submissions and
- 11 not all forms of participation have to be the same.
- 12 Some people can participate -- will be
- 13 able to participate more fully than others because
- 14 they are more directly affected than others by what it
- 15 -- by the particular thing that we're inquiring into
- 16 at that moment.
- 17 Those participating have a
- 18 responsibility to produce all the documents within
- 19 their possession or control which relate to the terms
- 20 of reference.
- Some applicants can request a
- 22 recommendation for funding. The Town of Collingwood
- 23 would provide the funding. We provide a
- 24 recommendation to the Town of Collingwood in relation
- 25 to those requests. The question of funding is a

- 1 matter for the Town; our role is to make
- 2 recommendations.
- 3 We will hear submissions for funding
- 4 today, after the persons requesting permission to
- 5 participate have made submissions on the question of
- 6 their participation.
- 7 Any private financial information
- 8 provided to me as part of a request for -- for funding
- 9 will be received confidentially, simply because that
- 10 information contains information not only about
- 11 income, but social insurance numbers and other
- 12 personal financial information which it just would not
- 13 be responsible to indiscriminately dump into the
- 14 public domain on behalf of anyone.
- 15 All that information will be turned
- 16 over to the Town as part of our recommendation for
- 17 funding, recommendation one way or the other.
- 18 As far as the question of participation
- 19 and funding is concerned, we will -- I will issue
- 20 brief reasons -- not today, but within a short time of
- 21 the conclusion of these proceedings.
- 22 Before we can -- to just to deal with
- 23 the question of scheduling, before we can deal with
- 24 the public hearing aspect of this, we have to make
- 25 sure that we have all the pertinent information. We

- 1 have to make -- we have to try to make sure that we
- 2 have understood it. We have to interview people who
- 3 may be helpful and who we may want to call to testify.
- We haven't set a date yet for the
- 5 public hearings, but there will be updates published
- 6 on the website so that people can keep informed about
- 7 our progress, as far as that's concerned.
- 8 Thank you for your attention and Mr.
- 9 Marron, we'll hear from you.

- 11 SUBMISSIONS BY MR. GEORGE MARRON:
- MR. GEORGE MARRON: Thank you, Your
- 13 Honour. Unless directed otherwise, I will be
- 14 referring to you as "Your Honour" as opposed to "Mr.
- 15 Commissioner," I take it.
- 16 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: I -- I
- 17 guess that that's fine. If I -- if I want to change
- 18 that, I'll -- I'll make an announcement.
- 19 MR. GEORGE MARRON: All right, thank
- 20 you.
- 21 Your Honour, I appear on behalf of
- 22 Sandra Cooper, who is the current mayor of the Town of
- 23 Collingwood, and I have filed on her behalf an
- 24 affidavit, her affidavit, which is dated the 7th day
- 25 of August, 2018.

- 1 And so, I intend to refer to that
- 2 affidavit because I'm acknowledging Section 36(b) of
- 3 the Procedural Rules wherein I'm requesting as Your
- 4 Honour's indicated privacy for any of the personal
- 5 particulars of financial information that are
- 6 contained in that affidavit but I will refer to the
- 7 affidavit because there are some statements that are
- 8 made there which I will contend are of importance on
- 9 my application for standing.
- 10 I'm seeking on her behalf standing --
- 11 full standing, unfettered standing in the sense that
- 12 she stands with her legal counsel, and with no other
- 13 counsel, and I'm prepared to address you on the aspect
- 14 of the Town of Collingwood has retained counsel, and
- 15 there are some statements that have been made in the
- 16 obtaining of the counsel that that counsel's
- 17 responsibility is on to the Town of Collingwood to the
- 18 exclusion of any of the other interested parties on
- 19 the Inquiry. I -- I --
- THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Mr.
- 21 Marron, I -- I -- you're welcome to go into that to
- 22 whatever extent you want to, but I do appreciate that
- 23 there's a difference between the interests of the
- 24 mayor. For example, because you're speaking on behalf
- 25 of the mayor and the Town Council as a whole.

1 MR. GEORGE MARRON: All right, thank

- 2 you.
- 3 I -- I prepared some remarks in the
- 4 sense of an outline, Your Honour, and I encourage any
- 5 question that you may have. To say it's -- I wanted
- 6 to put certain remarks on the public record, and
- 7 obviously your comment has assisted me in -- in that
- 8 regard and it'll shorten the proceedings.
- 9 But I thought that I should prepare the
- 10 outline and err on the side of inclusivity in the
- 11 hopes that other people may want to adopt what I say
- 12 or amend it in some fashion and have a consequent
- 13 saving of time.
- 14 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: I -- I
- 15 wasn't trying to -- I'm actually quite prepared to
- 16 hear what it was you wanted to say. I just wanted to
- 17 --
- MR. GEORGE MARRON: Yep.
- 19 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: --
- 20 signal to you that --
- MR. GEORGE MARRON: Yep, yep.
- 22 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: -- as
- 23 far as the theoretical concept is concerned, I have
- 24 it.
- MR. GEORGE MARRON: Okay, well --

- 1 yeah, well I -- as I say, I encourage that and I
- 2 invite that, Your Honour, yeah.
- 3 The other matter is more of a practical
- 4 matter. I -- I've -- this -- this date and this time
- 5 this morning conflicts with our local intake court
- 6 which is here in Collingwood and I've got a commitment
- 7 -- prior commitment to the choosing of this date for
- 8 this purpose, the Inquiry purpose, and so I'm going to
- 9 be requesting that when I conclude my remarks, that I
- 10 could withdraw, attend to that. I plan to be back for
- 11 2:30 this afternoon, apparently, there's a meeting of
- 12 counsel that's been set up.
- 13 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: All
- 14 right. That's -- you can -- you can withdraw as soon
- 15 as you find it appropriate.
- 16 MR. GEORGE MARRON: Thank you. Thank
- 17 you. Well then, the affidavit materials that I would
- 18 care to refer to deal with personal particulars and,
- 19 in particular, the years of munici -- municipal
- 20 service which my client has rendered to the Town of
- 21 Collingwood, and I would refer you to paragraph 8, 9,
- 22 10, and paragraph 17 and part of -- and just for
- 23 purposes of the public record, I propose reading this
- 24 in because I'm asking the affidavit be safeguarded.
- So paragraph 8, my -- my client, Sandra

- 1 Cooper, affirms that by way of personal particulars,
- 2 she was born and raised in the Town of Collingwood,
- 3 lived in Collingwood throughout her lifetime,
- 4 attending both elementary and secondary school,
- 5 completing a Grade 12 secondary school education,
- 6 obtaining a diploma, and at the age of 18 years
- 7 entered the workforce, has been employed throughout
- 8 her working career life in the Town of Collingwood,
- 9 and of note in 2009, she retired from thirty-two (32)
- 10 years of employment with Loblaw's Collingwood.
- 11 Further in 1997, I was elected to the
- 12 Town Council of Collingwood. I served two (2) terms
- 13 in that capacity as a councillor, up to the year 2003
- 14 when I was elected to the position of Deputy Mayor.
- I served two (2) terms as Deputy Mayor
- 16 for the Town of Collingwood from 2003 to 2010. In the
- 17 year 2010, I was elected Mayor for the Town of
- 18 Collingwood.
- 19 She was re-elected in 2013 to a second
- 20 term as Mayor and this term as Mayor concludes in
- 21 December of 2018, and she will not be seeking re-
- 22 election in October of this year, Your Honour.
- 23 In addition, throughout her terms as
- 24 Deputy Mayor and Mayor for the Town of Collingwood,
- 25 she served on the county of Simcoe council over the

- 1 past fifteen (15) years from 2003 to 2018 and this
- 2 position, as well, concludes in 2018.
- Finally, paragraph 17 and part that --
- 4 my client's decision to retire from public life was
- 5 made some considerable time ago, and well prior to the
- 6 February 2018 date when Council voted on the
- 7 establishment of this judicial Inquiry, she voted in
- 8 the negative, registered her opposition in Council by
- 9 so voting.
- 10 I -- I would ask you to consider those
- 11 personal particulars in reference to the application
- 12 to -- for standing purposes. So, I -- I -- I quess
- 13 I'm saying it in a -- in a nutshell, Your Honour, her
- 14 years as a public server put -- put her in a
- 15 particular category of info -- of being informed, and
- 16 being able to draw down on the years of experience and
- 17 the matters under discussion and under a decision for
- 18 the Town of Collingwood. So the request, as I
- 19 indicated, is for full and unfettered standing
- 20 throughout the Inquiry proceedings.
- 21 As I've noted in the extensive time
- 22 period under the Inquiry review, we are looking at a
- 23 point in time that pre-dates the 6th of March, 2012
- 24 Share Purchase Agreement as between the Town of
- 25 Collingwood and PowerStream Incorporated and we go

- 1 forward in the terms of reference to some date prior
- 2 to the year 2017.
- I don't know exactly to what point that
- 4 is, but it's an extensive period of time, and it's all
- 5 a timeframe, which is under the watch of Sandra Cooper
- 6 as Mayor for the Town of Collingwood.
- Now, the criteria for participation in
- 8 standing, Your Honour, is tended -- or attached to the
- 9 affidavit material and it's Exhibit B, second page of
- 10 which sets out clauses A, C, and D, of which we would
- 11 contend are applicable to this application.
- 12 Firstly, paragraph A:
- "I have a substantial and direct
- 14 interest in the subject matter in
- the Inquiry."
- I don't propose to enlarge on that.
- 17 Paragraph C:
- 18 "My participation would further the
- 19 conduct of the Inquiry."
- I believe that I've generally referred
- 21 to the timeframe and her position throughout with the
- 22 Town of Collingwood.
- 23 And finally, paragraph D:
- 24 "My participation would contribute
- to the openness and fairness of the

- 1 Inquiry."
- 2 In -- in my submission, she is an
- 3 essential witness to your Inquiry.
- We're seeking participation with a seat
- 5 at the counsel table with the opportunity to make an
- 6 opening statement, to lead evidence, to lead expert
- 7 evidence if need be, to cross-examine witnesses, and
- 8 to make closing submissions.
- 9 You might note I didn't -- I -- she
- 10 didn't, in her affidavit, mark out "deliver written
- 11 submissions." There was a certain amount of urging on
- 12 my behalf on that -- on that point.
- Now, the -- and I -- I, too, was
- 14 present last night in the public forum and attended
- 15 what you've referred to as the public meeting of
- 16 August the 13th. And I would simply make the
- 17 following comment, that there were a number of
- 18 interested citizens who expressed concern in various -
- 19 with various issues as they sought referencing the
- 20 Town of Collingwood and their desirability be heard on
- 21 certain subject areas within the Terms of Reference of
- 22 the Inquiry, or terms that may very well be related
- 23 either indirectly or directly.
- 24 So I -- I would just make reference to
- 25 that generally. I don't intend to go -- go through

- 1 the various statements that were made by the various
- 2 people. But it was a meeting that extended over the
- 3 course of an hour, and I'll say nothing further in
- 4 that regard unless there's something to which you
- 5 would care to direct me now.
- 6 I -- I made earlier reference to the
- 7 Town of Collingwood Council. I will -- and the fact
- 8 that there has been counsel retained, I won't -- as --
- 9 as a result of our discussion on that have anything
- 10 further to say other than we're here, obviously,
- 11 dealing with an appearance of fairness concern, and
- 12 any -- and the -- the Rules of Procedure, as they are
- 13 stated in paragraph 5 in the Rules of Procedure that
- 14 deal with the element of fairness:
- 15 "That the Inquiry is committed to a
- 16 process of fairness, including
- 17 public hearings and public access to
- 18 evidence and documents used as the
- 19 hearings, subject to Rule 36."

- 21 SUBMISSIONS RE FUNDING
- MR. GEORGE MARRON: So finally -- now,
- 23 do you want me to address the request for funding?
- 24 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Why
- 25 don't -- why don't you do it now, if you've really

- 1 completed --
- MR. GEORGE MARRON: Yeah.
- 3 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: -- the
- 4 explanation of -- of your client's interest in the
- 5 matter, why don't you just do it now.
- 6 MR. GEORGE MARRON: Okay. Thank you.
- 7 Thank you. The affidavit materials deal with -- with
- 8 the financial status of my client. The only addition
- 9 is that in reference to the twenty-one (21) years of
- 10 municipal service on the part of my -- on the part of
- 11 Sandra Cooper, there is no provision for any
- 12 pensionable benefits relating to that time. So -- so
- 13 with that addendum and addition to the -- to the
- 14 affidavit materials, the -- the financial situation
- 15 and status is set out in the affidavit. And
- 16 obviously, I would urge you to consider that.
- 17 The other -- the other aspect of the
- 18 funding application is the projected cost, given the
- 19 request for the type of standing that we are seeking.
- 20 There's a staff report that was prepared and it's
- 21 dated the 30th of April, 2018. I have a copy of that
- 22 here. I've highlighted it. It was prepared -- I
- 23 don't know -- it was prepared by the CAO, Chief
- 24 Administrative Officer, Fareed Amin, in conjunction
- 25 with Marjory Leonard, the treasurer for the Town of

1	Collingwood.

- 2 It indicates that -- and -- and I may
- 3 be repeating and I apologize for that, but I just
- 4 wanted to err on the side of completeness, because of
- 5 my personal commitment this morning. It indicates on
- 6 page 3, it's a seventeen (17) page document, but it
- 7 indicates on page 3 that Council -- and this was a
- 8 report back to Council on the part of these two (2)
- 9 individuals, a staff report referencing the subject of
- 10 judicial inquiry and it was submitted to Council, as I
- 11 indicated dated the 30th of April 2018.
- 12 And it indicates that:
- "Council should authorize outside
- 14 legal counsel to be retained to
- 15 represent the Municipality in the
- 16 conduct of a judicial inquiry to
- ensure there is no perception of
- 18 bias, and to ensure the integrity of
- 19 the process in the public eye.
- 20 Council must also give consideration
- 21 to paying for the cost of legal
- counsel for the parties to the
- proceedings or for members of
- 24 Council or staff called upon to
- 25 provide testimony."

	21
1	It goes into the area of the difficulty
2	in estimating potential costs of an inquiry. But it
3	goes on to say that:
4	"Any person who has a substantial or
5	direct interest in the subject
6	matter of an inquiry is entitled to
7	apply for standing. Where the
8	Commissioner grants full standing
9	that person can call evidence and
10	cross-examine witnesses, and also
11	must agree to abide by the Rules of
12	Procedure established by the
13	Commissioner. Standing may be
14	granted for the entire proceeding,
15	or for only part of it, and it may
16	have lesser rights attached to it as
17	determined by the Commissioner.
18	Legal counsel acting for parties at
19	a judicial inquiry play a different
20	role than in a courtroom, and will
21	be expected to assist the inquiry,
22	ensure that all relevant and helpful
23	evidence is brought forward."
24	I I submit that my that Sandra
25	Cooper falls clearly within that category of witness.
I	

	22
1	The other indication I would make and is
2	referencing other costs and it accounts for it
3	it stipulates that:
4	"The Counsel representing the Town
5	of Collingwood has been provided
6	with a budgetary amount of two
7	hundred and forty thousand dollars
8	(\$240,000). It indicates that
9	counsel for parties, Council
10	members, and staff legal counsel
11	retained to represent the Town
12	cannot represent the interests of
13	individual employees or member of
14	Council. The Commissioner cannot
15	order the Town to provide funding.
16	However, in order to ensure that all
17	parties, staff, and Council members
18	are treated in a fair and unbiased
19	manner, the Town should consider
20	funding these costs. Staff can only
21	guess at the potential costs and are
22	assuming these costs would be
23	similar to the cost for Town
24	Council."
25	And they've set aside two hundred and

- 1 forty thousand dollars (\$240,000). Now, I don't know
- 2 if that's a collective sum. It doesn't indicate that
- 3 it is, but it would seem to me for purposes of my
- 4 application for funding that I -- I fail to see that
- 5 there's much in the way of differentiation between
- 6 counsel acting for Sandra Cooper, the current Mayor,
- 7 and counsel representing the Town of Collingwood.
- 8 So it's -- what -- the point being is,
- 9 is it's a significant amount that's beyond the --
- 10 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: But
- 11 when you -- when you say not much difference, you mean
- 12 in an -- in the notion.
- MR. GEORGE MARRON: Exactly.
- 14 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Yes.
- MR. GEORGE MARRON: Yeah. Thank you
- 16 for that. So the point being that it's a significant
- 17 amount that's beyond the reach of the average
- 18 individual, and certainly beyond the reach of Sandra
- 19 Cooper.
- 20 So unless there's something you'd care
- 21 to direct me, those -- those would be my submissions
- 22 in my request for standing as requested, and for
- 23 funding.
- 24 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: No, I
- 25 -- I don't think --

2.4

- 1 MR. GEORGE MARRON: Funding
- 2 recommendation.
- THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: -- I
- 4 was able -- I'm following what you're submitting. I -
- 5 I don't really need to hear anything further unless
- 6 there's something further you want to tell me. I'm
- 7 going to take it under reserve and issue reasons later
- 8 on.
- 9 MR. GEORGE MARRON: Yeah.
- 10 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: And as
- 11 I -- as you are well aware --
- MR. GEORGE MARRON: Yeah.
- 13 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: -- my
- 14 recommendation concerning funding goes to the Town.
- MR. GEORGE MARRON: Yeah, exactly.
- 16 Yeah. So those are my submissions and --
- 17 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Thank
- 18 you, Mr. Marron and --
- 19 MR. GEORGE MARRON: -- on qualifying.
- 20 Thank you, sir.
- 21 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: And if
- 22 you have to leave I understand.
- MR. GEORGE MARRON: Thanks, Your
- 24 Honour. Okay. Thank you.
- 25 MS. JANET LEIPER: Mr. Uukkivi is here

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1 on behalf of Council Fryer.
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- 3 SUBMISSIONS BY MR. RAVIO UUKKIVI:
- 4 MR. RAVIO UUKKIVI: I -- I had a quick
- 5 discussion with Mr. Marron, and he promised that he
- 6 wouldn't have sharp elbows when I sat down beside him.
- 7 Good morning, Your Honour.
- THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Well,
- 9 probably not a good sign if a fight breaks out over a
- 10 seat.
- 11 MR. GEORGE MARRON: It was just going
- 12 to be an elbow.
- MR. RAVIO UUKKIVI: That's what he
- 14 thinks to start. And that's how it all starts, right?
- 15 I'm the lawyer for Mr. Timothy Fryer.
- 16 And he is -- he is a Councillor for -- for the Town of
- 17 Collingwood. He is -- he is running for re-election
- 18 this -- this time around. I intend to be, hopefully,
- 19 brief in my submissions. I will cover the request for
- 20 standing, as well as some brief submissions with
- 21 respect to the funding request.
- 22 At the outset, though, I would like to
- 23 request one (1) additional clarification and direction
- 24 from Your Honour when the materials and your report
- 25 gets forwarded to the Town; that being specifically,

- 1 that since the financial information that I have filed
- 2 with Ms. Leiper this morning which includes all of the
- 3 detailed financial information that you referred to,
- 4 is -- contains an additional order or direction to the
- 5 Council that it be held in confidence and I ask for
- 6 that specifically because the while the Town might be
- 7 considering this in a confidential session when it
- 8 considers the information, the additional order would
- 9 provide some satisfaction to my client that that
- 10 information will not become part of the public record.
- 11 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: I will
- 12 forward it to the Town in confidence, but Town Council
- 13 has to decide for itself what it does with -- with the
- 14 information.
- I am not going to dir -- I'm not going
- 16 to order them to keep it confidential. I assume that
- 17 they will be governed by the same sort of
- 18 considerations that I was about the difficulties that
- 19 can be created if a personal financial information is
- 20 indiscriminately publicized.
- 21 But -- but the -- the use -- the -- the
- 22 extent to which information is made public with
- 23 respect to funding will be a matter for them when they
- 24 decide whether to fund.
- I -- I won't go any further there. So,

- 1 there won't be an order from me that no matter what
- 2 happens they're to keep it confidential. There will
- 3 be a recommendation concerning funding. The documents
- 4 will be confidential at that stage, and then it will
- 5 be between Mr. Fryer and counsel and -- and Town
- 6 Council as to what informa -- how they deal with that
- 7 information.
- MR. RAVIO UUKKIVI: Thank you for that
- 9 direction, Your Honour.
- 10 The request for standing is based on a
- 11 criteria that were set out in the application for
- 12 standing. I'm not going to repeat them bu -- but, the
- 13 -- my submissions will be directed to those specific
- 14 criteria.
- My client, Mr. Fryer, meets the
- 16 criteria for standing and -- and there -- the level of
- 17 standing that we're requesting is full participation
- 18 in all aspects inclu -- all aspects of the Inquiry
- 19 without being made a joint party with any other person
- 20 or party was standing in this Inquiry.
- 21 The -- Mr. Fryer's -- is a -- is a long
- 22 time employee of the Collingwood Utility Services
- 23 Corporation referred to as "Collus" throughout, and
- 24 was the Chief Financial Officer of Collus at the time
- 25 that the transactions occurred that are relevant to

- 1 this Inquiry.
- 2 The -- oh -- the one -- one (1)
- 3 limitation with respect to the standing that we are
- 4 seeking is that Mr. Fryer left the Utility on
- 5 September -- in September 2012. So, after that time,
- 6 his knowledge and the assistance that he can provide
- 7 to this Inquiry will be limited. And, as a result, we
- 8 don't think that we require standing beyond that.
- 9 So, to the extent that Your Honour
- 10 feels it appropriate to recommend a limitation on the
- 11 standing that would be appropriate in my respectful
- 12 submission to this Inquiry.
- 13 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Thank
- 14 you. That's helpful actually.
- MR. RAVIO UUKKIVI: It's my submission
- 16 that the -- Mr. Fryer does have a unique and directly
- 17 relevant perspective and information to provide on
- 18 matters that are subject to this inquiry.
- 19 Specifically, he has information with
- 20 respect to the history of the initiative to sell the
- 21 public utility, as well as the eventual decision to
- 22 enter into the agreement with PowerStream.
- He has information with respect to the
- 24 price at which the shares were sold; the impact on the
- 25 ratepayers of the Town of Collingwood. He has -- he -

- 1 he would have information on the question of the
- 2 relationships, if any, between existing and former
- 3 elected administrative representation --
- 4 representatives of the Town, Collus and PowerStream.
- 5 He has information about the question of the
- 6 commercial relationship between PowerStream, Collus,
- 7 and -- and other entities prior to 2017, specifically,
- 8 prior to September 2012. And he has information with
- 9 respect to the question of salaries, benefits, and any
- 10 -- any payments that have been made in relation to the
- 11 transaction.
- 12 As I noted, as a CFO, he would have
- 13 been a key member of the -- the team even though he
- 14 didn't have decision-making power with respect to the
- 15 approval of the transaction, he would have been at
- 16 least at the table for the -- for the duration and --
- 17 and because of that, has a unique perspective to
- 18 provide.
- 19 And, I make those submissions with --
- 20 with the expectation that not only will he have a
- 21 unique perspective to provide as a witness to this
- 22 Inquiry in bringing critical information to the
- 23 attention of the Inquiry, but through his knowledge
- 24 and experience during the course of this relevant
- 25 matters in this transaction, he will be able to

- 1 provide an assistance to the Inquiry by being
- 2 permitted to question and examine witnesses that are
- 3 involved in the Inquiry through counsel.
- 4 And -- and I think that that provides
- 5 an opportunity and -- and a reason why he should be
- 6 granted standing because -- because that the -- the
- 7 dual role that he would be expected to play, both as a
- 8 witness and as a person with relevant information that
- 9 can assist this Inquiry in bringing matters to the --
- 10 the public's attention.
- 11 While we don't anticipate the need to
- 12 call any witnesses at this time, in -- in the sense
- 13 that being granted to standing with the right to call
- 14 witnesses, we would like to retain that opportunity at
- 15 least to the extent that we get to review the
- 16 documents that everybody has, and the proposed
- 17 witnesses that will be called to determine whether we
- 18 believe there to be any deficiencies, but ultimately
- 19 we don't anticipate the need to call any additional
- 20 witnesses.
- 21 Those are my res -- submissions with
- 22 respect to standing and I -- I -- I think that his
- 23 role in the transaction is self-evident. He was there
- 24 for -- just to rece -- summarize, he was there for the
- 25 -- through the approval of the sale in November of

- 1 2011; he was the CFO at the time. He was there when
- 2 this transaction was -- was approved by the Council.
- 3 He was there when the transaction was approved by the
- 4 Ontario Energy Board and he was there when the
- 5 recreational facilities were ultimately purchased with
- 6 the funds.
- 7 So, as a result, he has knowledge of
- 8 all of the material main elements of what this Inquiry
- 9 will be considering.

- 11 SUBMISSIONS RE FUNDING:
- MR. RAVIO UUKKIVI: With that, I'm
- 13 going to move on to my submissions with respect to the
- 14 application for funding unless Your Honour has any
- 15 questions with respect --
- 16 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: No, no
- 17 --
- 18 MR. RAVIO UUKKIVI: -- to what I said.
- 19 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: -- I'm
- 20 following.
- 21 MR. RAVIO UUKKIVI: I'm requesting
- 22 that you make a recommendation to the Town Council
- 23 that Mr. Fryer received funding for his participation
- 24 in the Inquiry.
- While Mr. Fryer feels strongly that he

- 1 should participate in this Inquiry, both as a witness
- 2 and as a party withstanding to examine witnesses and
- 3 participate in all elements of the opening and
- 4 closing, he cannot adequately do so unless he has
- 5 legal counsel, and he can't -- he doesn't feel he can
- 6 or he definitely cannot do that with the financial
- 7 resources that he has available to him.
- 8 The financial information has been
- 9 filed with Ms. Leiper this morning. The detailed
- 10 financial information which I trust, Your Honour, will
- 11 have the opportunity to review and I -- I -- I'm
- 12 confident that after the review of those information
- 13 or that it -- that information evidence, it will
- 14 satisfy you that he is not a man of the type of means
- 15 that would be required to fund this kind of Inquiry
- 16 that is intended for the benefit of the public out of
- 17 his personal funds that he has available to him.
- 18 One (1) of the submissions I would like
- 19 to make is that it was suggested to us that Mr. Fryer
- 20 should seek alternative sources of funding other than
- 21 from his personal means, and I just wanted to address
- 22 that comment that -- that -- that of why that wouldn't
- 23 be possible to seek from his former employer Collus.
- 24 First, Mr. Fryer's employment ended by
- 25 way of a settlement agreement. It's -- the terms of

- 1 which remain confidential. But I think that it's
- 2 suffice to say that it is unlikely that we would be
- 3 able to, or nor would we make that request in the
- 4 circumstances.
- 5 And second, I don't think it would be
- 6 in the interest of the inquiry to ask Mr. Fryer to
- 7 seek funding from the company whose transactions are
- 8 being investigated. This could give the appearance
- 9 that the evidence is being purchased, and I don't
- 10 think it would be appropriate to expect Mr. Fryer to
- 11 do so.
- 12 While I don't think it's easy to
- 13 identify the type of financial resources that one
- 14 should have available before they should be funding
- 15 their own way, and when they're granted standing in
- 16 this case, I think that the materials that we filed
- 17 will ob -- be obvious that any money expended would
- 18 require the expenditure of money from -- by Mr. Fryer
- 19 that he doesn't have available to him.
- 20 The final comment that I would -- I
- 21 want to make with respect to the nature of the
- 22 recommendation I'm asking you to make to Council, is
- 23 with respect to the appropriate hourly rate and the
- 24 structure of the funding that should be provided or
- 25 recommended -- that you recommend should be provided

- 1 by the Town of Collingwood.
- I have no issue with respect to
- 3 reasonable restrictions or limitations being placed on
- 4 the type of time that is expended in order to prepare
- 5 for a hearing event or -- or -- or a portion of the
- 6 Inquiry, that is, I think appropriate and Mr. Fryer,
- 7 as you will note from his materials, strongly
- 8 advocates for the protection of public resources.
- 9 However, I think that the -- the
- 10 there -- there needs to be an appropriate hourly rate
- 11 provided that will permit the hiring of counsel that
- 12 can assist each one (1) of the members of the Inquiry.
- 13 In the Council report that was prepared for the Town
- 14 dated April 30th, 2018, that's a staff report that Mr.
- 15 Marron referred you to previously, the recommendation
- 16 of an hourly rate was made in there -- or the
- 17 expectation -- or estimate that was provided by the --
- 18 the counsel for the Town in its report was a \$500 an
- 19 hour rate, and while that, you know, it -- it may seem
- 20 significant, it's not sufficient for -- for -- for Mr.
- 21 Fryer to retain my services to participate in this
- 22 Inquiry.
- 23 And I would ask for a variation up or a
- 24 reasonable range of up to \$575 per hour, otherwise,
- 25 Mr. Fryer will be put in a position where he will have

- 1 to seek alternative counsel, and he has made an effort
- 2 to this -- to date to do so, and he's been -- been
- 3 unable.
- I can -- I can assure, Your Honour,
- 5 that that rate that I'm requesting is significantly
- 6 below the rates that are charged by many, many lawyers
- 7 in this province. Not all, I know that there are many
- 8 that charge significantly less, but I would ask that
- 9 you -- that -- that you make a recommendation that
- 10 that would be appropriate in the circumstances for Mr.
- 11 Fryer.
- One (1) other way that I can recommend
- 13 that you approach the hourly rate or your
- 14 recommendation to Council would be to have counsel
- 15 disclose their regular hourly rate, and in accordance
- 16 with the criteria for funding that have been
- 17 established is that it is -- that is -- that it's not
- 18 expected that counsel will work at their regular
- 19 hourly rates for this Inquiry.
- I can assure you that that rate that
- 21 I'm requesting is at significant variance to my
- 22 regular hourly rate that I charge to the majority of
- 23 my clients and only in limited circumstances do I vary
- 24 from that.
- The final comment I will make on my

- 1 request for funding is -- is that I strongly
- 2 discourage this Inquiry for making a recommendation
- 3 that funding that -- that funding be contingent on
- 4 other sources of money being -- not being sought out.
- 5 I have seen in some inquiries where the
- 6 -- where an hourly rate and funding is provided
- 7 contingent on there not being a top-up from other
- 8 sources to the extent that the -- to the extent that
- 9 an hourly rate is recommended at variance to the one I
- 10 have requested, I would ask that you permit the
- 11 opportunity for the parties withstanding to at least
- 12 have the option of topping up or choosing other
- 13 counsel rather than leaving them with a maximum hourly
- 14 rate that can be charged, and so those -- those are my
- 15 submissions with respect to funding.
- I suggest that my submissions are
- 17 entirely in keeping with suggested limits on legal
- 18 funding that have been set out by the Inquiry, and I
- 19 ask that you keep those in mind in making a
- 20 recommendation to Town Council. And subject to any
- 21 questions that Your Honour has, those are my
- 22 respectful submissions.
- 23 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Thank
- 24 you. The question of hourly rates and the conditions
- 25 attaching to funding is a very vexing question and --

- 1 not exclusively mine, part -- part of it rests with
- 2 the party that has to write the cheque, I think, at
- 3 the end of the day. But, it is a vexing -- it is a
- 4 vexing issue and I appreciate you raising it.
- 5 MR. RAVIO UUKKIVI: And I -- I --
- THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Well
- 7 because -- because it has been -- it's obviously a
- 8 matter that one thinks about what should the hourly
- 9 rate be, what restriction should there be, should
- 10 there -- should you be able to top up, that sort of
- 11 thing. And, there's different aspects to that issue
- 12 which it's unlikely that we will all resolve since,
- 13 generally speaking, the legal community is -- this is
- 14 what happens every time there's a case.
- MR. RAVIO UUKKIVI: Yeah, no, I say --
- 16 I say that knowing full well that it's -- it's my
- 17 interests that I'm trying to protect and I'm trying to
- 18 distance myself to -- from those interests as much as
- 19 I can, but I -- but I do appreciate the significant
- 20 variances that there are in rates across the province
- 21 of Ontario, but -- I mean, I know that there are
- 22 number of lawyers in -- in -- in the area I practice
- 23 in which is development and municipal law that charge
- 24 north of \$1000 an hour all the way down -- and I know
- 25 -- I -- there are some that charge less than \$400 an

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1 hour or so.
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- THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Well
- 3 and then their government rates, which are even --
- 4 even lower than that. There -- there is a
- 5 MR. RAVIO UUKKIVI: Right --
- THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: --
- 7 wide range of --
- 8 MR. RAVIO UUKKIVI: Right --
- 9 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: -- of
- 10 rates that are charged and then there are the
- 11 commercial realities that people in the private
- 12 sector, for example, face that people in the public
- 13 sector don't face. I -- I -- it's a vexing issue.
- 14 MR. RAVIO UUKKIVI: Right. Thank you,
- 15 Your Honour. Those are my submissions.
- 16 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Thank
- 17 you very much.
- 18 MS. JANET LEIPER: Mr. Chenoweth is
- 19 here on behalf of his client, Mr. Houghton.
- 20
- 21 SUBMISSIONS BY MR. FREDERICK CHENOWETH:
- MR. FREDERICK CHENOWETH: Very good,
- 23 thank you. If it please the Inquiry, Your Honour, as
- 24 counsel has indicated, my name is Chenoweth. Fred
- 25 Chenoweth, and I appear on behalf of Edwin Houghton,

- 1 who is seeking standing with respect to this Inquiry.
- 2 He's seeking full unfettered standing,
- 3 which in his view, should include the right to cross-
- 4 examine; the right to call witnesses; the right to
- 5 review documents; the right to make opening and
- 6 closing statements; the right to call experts.
- 7 It should also include the ability to
- 8 stand alone and make representations other than the
- 9 representations that may be made by parties of a
- 10 similar, but a different interest.
- 11 We believe that Mr. Houghton has a
- 12 unique interest in this matter that must be protected
- 13 and spoken to by -- by the prospect of -- of his own
- 14 counsel in this matter.
- 15 I also bel -- believe and submit that
- 16 Mr. Houghton meets the criteria for standing in this
- 17 Inquiry in that he does have a substantial and direct
- 18 interest in the subject matter of the Inquiry, and
- 19 I'll detail that in a moment, and he -- his
- 20 participation will be helpful to the Inquiry in
- 21 fulfilling the Inquiry's mandate and I'll
- 22 particularize that, as well.
- The particulars of that are set out in
- 24 a fulsome fashion in the affidavit that I have filed
- 25 in this matter, which is dated August 2nd, 2018, and

- 1 to some extent I'm repeating some of the matters in
- 2 that affidavit, but it's my view that the opportunity
- 3 for vocal submissions is a useful one, and I would
- 4 wish to take that opportunity now.
- 5 The Inquiry should be aware that Mr.
- 6 Houghton is a third-generation Collingwood resident,
- 7 he and his family have lived in this community for
- 8 many decades.
- 9 Mr. Houghton had a thirty-nine (39)
- 10 year career, a thirty-nine (39) year career with the
- 11 Town of Collingwood and its various institutions,
- 12 which included a significant involvement in the 50
- 13 percent share of the Collus shares to the entity
- 14 Collus PowerStream, and also included a direct
- 15 involvement in the matter of the purchase of the two
- 16 (2) architectural membrane roofs, one (1) over the
- 17 second arena, one (1) over the pool. He is quite
- 18 intricately involved in those matters and I'll again
- 19 detail how that occurred.
- Mr. Houghton's thirty-nine (39) year
- 21 career with the Town of Collingwood began with Collus,
- 22 the electrical power utility which was fully-owned by
- 23 the Town; that commenced in 1977, as an engineering
- 24 technologist.
- 25 It progressed, he moved through the

- 1 ranks with Collus and eventually in the year 2000
- 2 became the President and Chief Executive Officer of --
- 3 of Collus, and in fact was the President and Chief
- 4 Executive Officer of Collus PowerStream, the strategic
- 5 partnership, as it's described, which was formed by
- 6 the various shareholders of the second corporation.
- 7 So he continued his position as President and CEO of
- 8 that organization after the -- the creation of that
- 9 partnership.
- 10 He was -- he held that position and
- 11 obviously as -- as President and CEO, would have a
- 12 very detailed knowledge of the matters which were at
- 13 the very core of the mandate of this Inquiry.
- 14 He held those positions and was
- 15 intricately involved in the two (2) issues which are
- 16 at the heart of this Inquiry when the strategic
- 17 partnership was conceived and has a detailed knowledge
- 18 of how it was conceived and the processes pursuant to
- 19 which PowerStream was chosen and considered as the
- 20 strategic partner with which Collus would become
- 21 involved. He was intricately involved in -- in that
- 22 concept in those choices, again, as President and
- 23 Chief Executive Officer.
- 24 He was also quite involved through the
- 25 course of the conclusion of the Collus PowerStream

- 1 transaction, which I believe concluded in March of
- 2 2012, and continued to be President and Chief
- 3 Executive Officer, as I have indicated, for both
- 4 organizations.
- 5 In addition to that, he was a member of
- 6 the nine (9) person strategic partnership task force,
- 7 which you will hear a good deal of through the course
- 8 of -- of your evidence.
- 9 That highly-regarded task force, which
- 10 included luminaries such as David McFadden, a lawyer
- 11 from the City of Toronto, Dean Muncaster and others,
- 12 was tasked by the Town of Collingwood and by Collus to
- 13 help progress the potential partnership, to advise the
- 14 -- the Town and Collus with respect to the
- 15 appropriateness of the partnership, the
- 16 appropriateness of the proposed transaction and the
- 17 conclusion of that transaction.
- 18 There was members of KPMG, senior
- 19 members of KPMG, who were part of that nine (9) man
- 20 strategic partnership. There was a number of eminent
- 21 members of Council who were also on that nine (9) men
- 22 partnership. And in fact, it was, in essence, a
- 23 committee of the -- the Town and Collus that made
- 24 recommendations, and very positive recommendations,
- 25 with respect to that matter.

- 1 Again, Mr. Houghton was a member of
- 2 that -- of that -- that group that made those
- 3 recommendations, and as such has an integral knowledge
- 4 of the transaction, not simply as an -- as an officer
- 5 of Collus, Collus PowerStream, but also as a member of
- 6 the nine (9) man strategic partnership task force.
- 7 You should also be aware that Mr.
- 8 Houghton, through his thirty-nine (39) year career,
- 9 there was a -- really a staff-sharing arrangement with
- 10 Collus and other areas of the Town's responsibility --
- 11 yes, and other areas of the Town's responsibility,
- 12 which led Mr. Houghton to become quite involved, not
- 13 only with respect to the power utility Collus and
- 14 Collus PowerStream, but also with respect to other
- 15 areas of the Town's activity as a result of the
- 16 employee sharing arrangement that -- that existed in
- 17 the Town.
- 18 Mr. Houghton, for I believe thirteen
- 19 (13) years, from 2000 to 2013, was Executive Director
- 20 of the Collingwood Public Works. That was an
- 21 interesting organization and was quite involved in the
- 22 activities of the Town in that it took care of roads,
- 23 sewers, sidewalks, buses, railways, airports,
- 24 snowplowing, many of the activities of the Town.
- The purpose of my directing the Inquiry

- 1 to that note is -- is really to indicate the extent to
- 2 which Mr. Houghton, through his thirty-nine (39)
- 3 career -- years of career with the Town, has been
- 4 committed to the Town and worked with the Town. His -
- 5 his commitment to the Town is demonstrated by his
- 6 involvement with the various organizations I'm
- 7 directing you to, and some other matters to which --
- 8 which I'll bring to your attention.
- 9 Also with respect to the Town, at the
- 10 request of the Town, although quite frankly, his --
- 11 his tasks burdened him severely as President, CEO of
- 12 Collus, Collus PowerStream, and as a thirteen (13)
- 13 year Executive Director of Public Works.
- 14 In the face of that, after the somewhat
- 15 precipitous termination of a previous Chief
- 16 Administrative Officer of the Town, Mr. Houghton was
- 17 asked to take on, without remuneration, the task of
- 18 Chief Administrative Officer of the Town, which he
- 19 did, and he did that for a period of thirteen (13)
- 20 months, from April of 2012 to May of 2013.
- 21 That was quite specifically the period
- 22 after the closing of the Collus PowerStream
- 23 transaction, in which decisions were made as to the
- 24 appropriate use of some of the funds that the Town had
- 25 the benefits of as a result of that sale.

- 1 Mr. Houghton, as CAO, was quite
- 2 directly and intricately involved in the question of
- 3 the selection and the choice of BLT and Sprung as the
- 4 suppliers of the architectural membrane roofs which
- 5 were used at the two (2) sites that the Inquiry is now
- 6 aware of. So he has detailed information with respect
- 7 to that matter.
- 8 So that it's clear that the kinds of --
- 9 of information he could offer to the Town, not only as
- 10 a witness, but as a result of the use of his own
- 11 counsel to cross-examine various witnesses, because of
- 12 his detailed knowledge, I can't conceive that it
- 13 wouldn't be concluded that Mr. Houghton is other than
- 14 a highly integral and necessary part of this Inquiry,
- 15 not only as a witness, but as a party to the Inquiry.
- Again, a demonstration of Mr.
- 17 Houghton's commitment to the Town is the fact that
- 18 through -- through his thirty-nine (39) year career
- 19 with the Town he received in excess of five (5)
- 20 different public contribution awards for his activity
- 21 in public affairs. One (1) of them, I understand, was
- 22 a -- a North American Status Award with respect to his
- 23 contribution to public affairs.
- 24 So he was a highly-regarded, highly-
- 25 respected individual who committed himself for thirty-

- 1 nine (39) years, in fact, his entire career, to the
- 2 Town of Collingwood. And it must be said that he did
- 3 that at quite a unique, personal expense and personal
- 4 output to this Town.
- 5 Really, I'm -- I'm underlining this to
- 6 indicate the extent of the personal commitment he made
- 7 to this Town and the service to the various ratepayers
- 8 and citizens of the Town. It was, in fact, quite
- 9 substantial and unique.
- 10 It should be known that the two (2)
- 11 matters it's submitted by Mr. Houghton, and by me, are
- 12 the two (2) matters that are pivotal to the Inquiry,
- 13 the Collus PowerStream share sale, the architectural
- 14 roofs on the two (2) -- architectural roofs which are
- 15 pivotal to the two (2) organizations were successful
- 16 transactions. That's important to note, I think.
- 17 That is demonstrated in a -- in a
- 18 number of ways, which will be detailed at a later time
- 19 and I'll detail them very briefly now.
- There was a substantial third-party
- 21 report, which is attached as Exhibit A to my
- 22 affidavit, prepared for the Town, in which this
- 23 independent third-party details, in quite a glowing
- 24 report, at about twenty (20) months after the
- 25 strategic partnership was formed, it details the

- 1 successes of that strategic partnership.
- 2 That's one (1) of the measures that can
- 3 be used to say that the strategic partnership was
- 4 highly successful. And for those reasons, Mr.
- 5 Houghton regarded this as a significant accomplishment
- 6 in his career and was very proud of that particular
- 7 contribution.
- 8 And the third-party report if it's
- 9 examined in detail and there's a -- an executive
- 10 summary that goes with it, discloses a highly-
- 11 successful strategic partnership.
- 12 In addition, the -- the architectural
- 13 roofs over the two (2) locations have been
- 14 significant. It's interesting to note that the
- 15 Toronto Maple Leafs thought that the -- the arena
- 16 facility was -- was of the quality that they, in the
- 17 summer after the erection of that facility, saw fit to
- 18 make it their summer facility to exercise and develop
- 19 their Toronto Maple Leaf team.
- I know that with respect to the -- to
- 21 the pool ---
- 22 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: I
- 23 don't mean to interrupt, but are you suggesting I
- 24 equate the success of the facility with the -- the
- 25 success of that team or -- I'm just trying -- I'm just

- 1 trying to seek some clarification, Mr. Chenoweth.
- 2 MR. FREDERICK CHENOWETH: I -- I'm not
- 3 -- I'm not sure that I can make that connection.
- 4 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: All
- 5 right. Thank you.
- 6 MR. FREDERICK CHENOWETH: But the
- 7 connection I choose to make ---
- 8 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: That's
- 9 helpful.
- 10 MR. FREDERICK CHENOWETH: The
- 11 connection I choose to make is that an NHL
- 12 professional team --
- 13 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: I
- 14 understand.
- MR. FREDERICK CHENOWETH: -- made the
- 16 judgment that the facility was of the quality to
- 17 attract their usage in the period immediately after it
- 18 was constructed. But it's an interesting matter,
- 19 we'll -- we'll -- we may have an opportunity to pursue
- 20 that later.
- 21 In any event, with respect to the --
- 22 the pool facility, I don't -- I'm not privy at this
- 23 juncture, but maybe at a later time, to the usage part
- 24 of both the arena and the pool, and I'm not at this --
- 25 at this time, as I make these submissions, I hope to

- 1 be at a later time, privy to the -- the financial
- 2 records of those two (2) organizations as to how
- 3 they've fared in terms of their budgetary projections,
- 4 et cetera, et cetera.
- I know nothing that suggests they
- 6 haven't done anything but quite well in that respect,
- 7 but I do know that it's a -- a wonderful facility to
- 8 visit, that's used by all of the community, in my own
- 9 observation, and in the observation of Mr. Houghton
- 10 and others with which he's familiar.
- 11 And we do know that the Collingwood
- 12 Clippers, which is the -- the major swim organization,
- 13 swim team that uses that facility, is highly pleased
- 14 with the facility.
- 15 I really simply wish to illustrate that
- 16 it's -- both of those projects are highly-successful
- 17 projects, as is Collus PowerStream.
- 18 And I'm not going to go through the
- 19 detailed rigours with which both of -- with which in
- 20 particular the Collus PowerStream was examined by
- 21 various Ontario regulatory organizations, by three (3)
- 22 municipalities, each one looked at this separately
- 23 because they were the owners of PowerStream. So it
- 24 went -- it went through those three (3)
- 25 municipalities.

- 1 This Collus PowerStream thing was
- 2 looked at up and down by two (2) Ontario regulatory
- 3 organizations, by several boards of directors, by
- 4 several municipalities and councils, including the
- 5 Town of Collingwood, the nine (9) person strategic
- 6 partnership crew. This thing was looked at front and
- 7 back by many, including the nine (9) men strategic
- 8 partners -- strategic task force, all of which suggest
- 9 to me that it was the right thing to do, and I think
- 10 history has shown that it was the right thing to do.
- 11 It's in the face of this success that
- 12 arose from these two (2) organizations that Mr.
- 13 Houghton was surprised to see that in February of
- 14 2014, again at the commencement of an election year,
- 15 certain parties chose to make a complaint to the OPP
- 16 with respect to the formation and structure and
- 17 involvement of some in these facilities; that was a
- 18 surprise to Mr. Houghton.
- 19 Mr. Houghton was further surprised to
- 20 find that, again, at the beginning an election -- of
- 21 an election year in February 2014 some members of
- 22 Council, with the resistance of others, chose to make
- 23 the resolution that -- that mandated this particular
- 24 inquiry and an argument can be made that both the OPP
- 25 in the investigation -- OPP investigation and the

- 1 resolution to -- to mandate this inquiry, an argument
- 2 can be made that it was made for political purposes to
- 3 stain the reputation of -- of -- of the mayor and
- 4 others who a particular group on council wish to
- 5 oppose in the election. It was made at a time when
- 6 the mayor had not yet publicly announced that she did
- 7 not intend to -- to continue.
- 8 The reason I -- I -- I mention that is
- 9 because it -- it relates to the question of -- of --
- 10 of funding and the fact that the Town has now -- has
- 11 this obligation with respect to this matter, and
- 12 others such as Mr. Houghton and others now have an
- 13 obligation to -- to involve themselves in the Inquiry
- 14 and incur substantial legal expense for what it can be
- 15 argued the politically -- initially, politically
- 16 motivated inquiry and I don't suggest that -- that the
- 17 inquiry itself will have any political matters that
- 18 will in any way colour its thinking, but there's a
- 19 substantial expense that's going to have to be
- 20 recurred (sic) not only by the Town and by others and
- 21 -- and it's important to consider whether the
- 22 motivation for that was political or not.
- 23 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: And
- 24 that I don't want to get into it now because we're
- 25 just talking about a person's right to participate --

1 MR. FREDERICK CHENOWETH: But we -- we

- 2 are --
- THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: But --
- 4 but getting into the -- what may have prompted an
- 5 individual councillor to vote a certain way, I'm --
- 6 I'm obligated to conduct the Inquiry by virtue of the
- 7 resolution and the way the Municipal Act works.
- 8 They pass a resolution. I conduct the
- 9 inquiry. It doesn't mean that that's not relevant to
- 10 the testimony of a lot of different people, but from
- 11 my purposes -- for my purposes, it -- it's a little
- 12 bit of a stretch from -- for me to get into their
- 13 motivation in calling the inquiry. That issue may
- 14 affect the testimony or the -- or the weight that's
- 15 given as to positions individuals take.
- But I'm -- I'm controlled by the fact
- 17 that there's a resolution passed asking for an Inquiry
- 18 and the Municipal Act says that when that happens, the
- 19 Superior Court conducts an Inquiry.
- 20 MR. FREDERICK CHENOWETH: I don't -- I
- 21 don't disagree with anything Your Honour has said and
- 22 I don't take issue with any of it, but there is no
- 23 question I have no doubt and I'm sure share with Your
- 24 Honour the view that this Inquiry must be just and
- 25 come to a just and fair conclusion.

- 1 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Well,
- 2 I agree with that --
- 3 MR. FREDERICK CHENOWETH: Indeed. And
- 4 with respect to that, the -- the initial impetus for
- 5 the inquiry, its -- its effect on the testimony of
- 6 some witnesses, it's -- it's -- that initial impetus
- 7 relation to the justice which I know this Inquiry will
- 8 -- will seek, in my mind, makes that aspect of the
- 9 Inquiry relevant -- and -- and I'm quite prepared at
- 10 other times to say more about that.
- 11 And -- and I -- and I make these
- 12 remarks really in the -- in the context of -- in the
- 13 context of funding because people are now burdened
- 14 with the obligation to pay substantial fees and one
- 15 has to consider whether or not, without a
- 16 recommendation for funding that's just, and it relates
- 17 to the question of standing because it's important
- 18 that all of the ideas, including the ones that -- the
- 19 one that we've been discussing now, the motivation for
- 20 the inquiry is evident and explored through the course
- 21 of the Inquiry for the reasons I have suggested.
- In any event, to move beyond that
- 23 point, it's -- it will not have gone without notice
- 24 that this year the CBC did an article which led to the
- 25 posting by the CBC in an article that went throughout

- 1 Ontario and through Collingwood of the OPP affidavit.
- 2 I need not say very much about that OPP affidavit
- 3 except its substantial effect on Ed Houghton.
- 4 That affidavit on its front had the
- 5 allegation that:
- 6 "Ed Houghton between the 1st day of
- July, 2012 and the 31st day of
- 8 August, 2012 at the Town of
- 9 Collingwood and elsewhere in the
- 10 province of Ontario, being an
- official of the Corporation of the
- 12 Town of Collingwood, did commit a
- breach of trust in connection with
- 14 his duties of his office, contrary
- 15 to Section 122 of the Criminal
- 16 Code."
- 17 That's a criminal allegation which was
- 18 circulated certainly throughout the province and
- 19 throughout this Town in 2018 shortly after Mr.
- 20 Houghton's retirement from his thirty-nine (39) year
- 21 career in 2016.
- You can imagine the extent of Mr.
- 23 Houghton's distress at that revelation following the
- 24 career which I've described and his commitment to the
- 25 Town for thirty-nine (39) years. "Devastating" is not

- 1 an inappropriate word for the reaction of Mr. Houghton
- 2 to these matters.
- 3 As the Inquiry is fully aware, those
- 4 allegations have not lead to any criminal charges.
- 5 Mr. Houghton has not had an opportunity to deal with
- 6 criminal charges and to clear himself of -- of that
- 7 allegation and it turns out that this Inquiry is his
- 8 only opportunity to do so.
- 9 Mr. Houghton has a strong and
- 10 substantial connection to the issues that are before
- 11 this Inquiry. His reputation in the community has
- 12 been significantly adversely affected by the -- by the
- 13 matters in the way they've unfolded and his interest
- 14 in the Inquiry is to clear and clarify his reputation
- 15 following his thirty-nine (39) year career which he
- 16 built and served this Town in an admirable way and
- 17 received five (5) awards, one (1) of them being
- 18 throughout North America for doing so. So he has, in
- 19 my submission, that substantial interest.
- 20 He also, as a result of the -- of the
- 21 positions he's held, and I won't detail this and I'm -
- 22 I'm -- I'll wrap up my remarks. He obviously is an
- 23 individual with substantial information which can be
- 24 helpful to the Inquiry, which in my view means that he
- 25 should not only be a witness, but should have his own

- 1 counsel at the Inquiry with a full right to cross-
- 2 examine, to bring forward, in his own fashion as he
- 3 chooses to, matters which he regards as important to
- 4 the Inquiry and the recommendations the Inquiry will
- 5 make. He needs to do that to have his opportunity to
- 6 deal with his -- with his own reputation and with the
- 7 information that will lead to the just result of this
- 8 Inquiry and to contribute in a fulsome way to the
- 9 gathering of that information by cross-examining,
- 10 calling witnesses, considering experts, making
- 11 submissions. All of that is -- is pivotal to his
- 12 opportunity.
- 13 Those are my remarks with respect to --
- 14 to standing. I've made some remarks with respect to
- 15 funding. I had the impression, Your Honour, that
- 16 there will be an opportunity later this morning to
- 17 make more detailed remarks with respect to funding and
- 18 I would reserve further remarks on funding until that
- 19 opportunity --
- 20 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Why
- 21 don't we just -- why don't you just -- I appreciate
- 22 why you would think that because of the -- the way in
- 23 which it was put forward, but given the fact that
- 24 every -- Mr. Marron and -- and the other counsel did
- 25 that, why don't you just do it now, and then --

- 1 MR. FREDERICK CHENOWETH: Quite --
- 2 quite content to do so, Your Honour.
- THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: We
- 4 just -- perhaps it's more efficient, actually.

- 6 SUBMISSIONS RE FUNDING:
- 7 MR. FREDERICK CHENOWETH: Indeed.
- 8 I've made the point with respect to the importance of
- 9 the Inquiry, in the face of Mr. Houghton's thirty-nine
- 10 (39) years of --
- 11 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: No,
- 12 no, I got --
- 13 MR. FREDERICK CHENOWETH: And I've
- 14 made the point that there's an argument that can be
- 15 made that this Inquiry is called for the benefit of a
- 16 few at the expense of many, those being, the Town
- 17 folks of -- and ratepayers of the Town of Collingwood
- 18 and at the expense of those who will be personally
- 19 involved in this Inquiry, as Mr. Houghton will no
- 20 doubt be, and the -- and the fees, et cetera that
- 21 they're going to have to incur with respect to -- to
- 22 that.
- I submit that it's -- particularly for
- 24 a gentleman who served the Town in the way he has and
- 25 has been an employee of the Town, an employee of its

- 1 -- of its entity to -- in his retirement, which only
- 2 commenced in June of 2016 to be recar -- to be
- 3 required to have this burden of this subs -- quite
- 4 substantial burden upon him after that career, and
- 5 given what I submit might be argued with respect to
- 6 the benefit of a few at the cost of many.
- 7 In my submission, it's unjust that
- 8 there should not be a recommendation by the
- 9 Commissioner of this Inquiry to the Town that there be
- 10 funding for Mr. Houghton's legal fees at a rate
- 11 consistent with the rates which qualified counsel in
- 12 this -- in this jurisdiction and in the province of
- 13 Ontario charge and we've -- there's been some debate
- 14 on that and I don't think I can add much to that
- 15 debate and you're right, it is -- it is a very vexing
- 16 and difficult question. That's my comment on rates.
- 17 That's my comment on the justice and
- 18 appropriateness of this Inquiry making a
- 19 recommendation of the Town to the Town.
- 20 Mr. Marron made the point that the Town
- 21 has set aside some \$240,000 to fund those who should
- 22 have the assistance of the Town with respect to
- 23 funding of their legal fees. In my respectful
- 24 submission, Your Honour, Mr. Houghton is one (1) of
- 25 those individuals who requires the assistance of the

- 1 Town in his retirement and justice, indeed, requires
- 2 that Mr. Houghton have the benefit of that
- 3 recommendation.
- 4 Those are my submissions with respect
- 5 to funding subject to any questions that Your Honour
- 6 may have.
- 7 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: No, I
- 8 don't have any questions. Thank you very much, Mr.
- 9 Chenoweth.
- 10 MR. FREDERICK CHENOWETH: Very good,
- 11 Sir. Thank you.
- 12 MS. JANET LEIPER: Your Honour, Mr.
- 13 O'Connor is here on behalf of Paul Bonwick.
- 14 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Mr.
- 15 O'Connor...?

- 17 SUBMISSIONS BY MR. DAVID O'CONNOR:
- 18 MR. DAVID O'CONNOR: Yeah, I'm -- I'm
- 19 a little upset, Your Honour, because I -- I look
- 20 around and I see names for the -- all -- all the other
- 21 counsel that have given submissions except for me and
- 22 I'm -- I'm wondering if that's a bad sign. My name
- 23 isn't up here, but my name is David O'Connor and I
- 24 here -- I'm here on behalf of Mr. Paul Bonwick, Your
- 25 Honour. In terms of --

- 1 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: I -- I
- 2 have -- I've known -- I guess -- I guess it's true of
- 3 all almost all the counsel but I -- I -- I have known
- 4 all of you for a long time. I did know that your name
- 5 was David O'Connor, even without the nameplate.
- 6 MR. DAVID O'CONNOR: Thank you very
- 7 much, Your Honour. I appreciate that. I was getting
- 8 -- getting a little worried.
- 9 In terms of the application for
- 10 standing I -- I've pro -- provided Your Honour with
- 11 the actual application form which details his
- 12 involvement, as well as the affidavit with respect to
- 13 funding and I don't want to take up a lot of Your
- 14 Honour's time because we're here with very expensive
- 15 counsel, Ms. Leiper and so on that the Town is paying
- 16 for, so far. They might have to pay for more, so, I
- 17 don't want to -- I don't want to take a lot of time
- 18 like Mr. Chenoweth did, but I think that it's obvious
- 19 from the material I've filed that my client has a very
- 20 unique and important interest with respect to his
- 21 position on -- on this Inquiry.
- He was involved with both the things
- 23 that you're looking at, the PowerStream purchase of
- 24 Collus and -- and the -- the other municipal buildings
- 25 that were built. He was retained by the companies in

- 1 both instances that paid him as a consultant to assist
- 2 them in getting the contracts and the -- the -- that
- 3 they did that allowed them to purchase the
- 4 Municipality's company for the -- the Collus company,
- 5 as well as the -- he -- the -- installing the two (2)
- 6 structures that have been spoken about.
- 7 I -- I was advised by Ms. Leiper, your
- 8 counsel, that I had provisional standing at the
- 9 outset, because she and I'm sure you -- by now, Your
- 10 Honour's aware of my client's involvement. I don't
- 11 think there's any question that he should get full
- 12 standing. And so I -- I don't think I'll -- I need to
- 13 say anything more about that. It's obvious.
- 14 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: I --
- MR. DAVID O'CONNOR: Do you have any
- 16 questions --
- 17 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: -- I --
- 18 MR. DAVID O'CONNOR: -- about --
- 19 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: No, I
- 20 -- I don't have any -- any questions about that, Mr.
- 21 O'Connor.
- 22
- 23 SUBMISSIONS RE FUNDING:
- MR. DAVID O'CONNOR: Thank you, sir.
- 25 Going -- moving on to the funding application, I adopt

- 1 Mr. Chenoweth's and other counsel's positions. I -- I
- 2 have to tell you, though, with -- in terms of the
- 3 rate, I'm used to working for a hundred dollars (\$100)
- 4 an hour with Legal Aid, Your Honour, so -- and that's
- 5 been going on for a long time. So all these --
- THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: The
- 7 Town may very well request that you act for everybody,
- 8 Mr. O'Connor.
- 9 MR. DAVID O'CONNOR: Oh, man. So all
- 10 these high-powered counsel that are being brought in,
- 11 your -- your own as well, I'm -- I'm happy to ride
- 12 along on -- on their coattails in terms of the rate.
- 13 I think -- one -- one (1) of the
- 14 observations is that I -- I think Your Honour should
- 15 be made aware of the rate that the Town is paying Mr.
- 16 Will McDowell as their counsel. I think that's
- 17 important as a starting point. If the Town is willing
- 18 to pay him whatever rate that they are, I -- I don't
- 19 think other people -- I certainly have a lot more
- 20 experience than Mr. McDowell in the courtroom, and I
- 21 think that starting there should be another -- some
- 22 way to look -- look at how -- how you fix the rate.
- 23 And Your -- Your Honour's aware of the
- 24 rate that you -- that the Town is paying your counsel
- 25 Ms. Leiper. I won't say anything more about the --

- 1 the rate.
- 2 What I -- what I feel very
- 3 strongly about is this, Your Honour: Is that this
- 4 Inquiry, and -- and hopefully you'll get into it,
- 5 whether it's relevant to the actual things that the
- 6 Town is being asked you -- for you to look at is -- is
- 7 a totally politically-motivated inquiry by five (5)
- 8 members of council. And as a result of their need to
- 9 do this for their own purposes and their own desire to
- 10 get re-elected, all of these people that will be
- 11 witnesses are going to be put out at great expense,
- 12 including my client.
- 13 You know, I have total confidence that
- 14 at the end of the day, Your Honour will find that my
- 15 client did nothing wrong, and nothing illegal, nothing
- 16 criminal, and he -- he's been devastated, as his
- 17 reputation, his financial situation, has been
- 18 devastated by the allegations that have been brought
- 19 out by a -- a minority of members of the -- the
- 20 public, and led by people that eventually got on to
- 21 council, and one (1) of whom is deputy mayor now, and
- 22 running for mayor.
- 23 And -- and the target -- he's been one
- 24 (1) of the main targets of -- of the allegations that
- 25 have been made, having done nothing wrong, and having

- 1 served the community for so many years in various
- 2 capacities, as a -- as a councillor on Council, and he
- 3 was elected as a member of Parliament for two (2)
- 4 terms.
- 5 And he -- he's just -- he's born,
- 6 brought -- brought up here, went to school here, and
- 7 served the community, and continues to do so in
- 8 various ways, through community service work, as well
- 9 as working with different corporations in order to
- 10 advance not only their interests, but the interests of
- 11 the community, as shown by the fact that he -- his
- 12 involvement helped to produce the structures that
- 13 people are using on a daily basis, and everybody's
- 14 happy with, as well as the sale of the -- the Utility
- 15 to PowerStream.
- And so having done all of that and
- 17 committing themselves to the community, why should he
- 18 be put into a position where he's -- where he's done
- 19 nothing wrong to have to pay for counsel to come --
- 20 and if he gets full standing -- on a daily basis to --
- 21 to this Inquiry and for however long it takes, as well
- 22 as the preparation for it, and as you mentioned last
- 23 night at the community meeting, the thousands and
- 24 thousands of documents that somebody's going to have
- 25 to go through.

```
His role is -- is significant, and --
 1
   and part of -- part of the -- what you'll be looking
    into, for instance, is -- is the possible conflict of
 3
   interest between the fact that he is working as a
    consultant for all of the companies involved, and the
   fact that his sister sits on council as mayor, and
 7
   whether there was a conflict in -- in doing so.
                   And -- and he has material and
 8
   documents that -- such as -- I'm reading from one (1)
    in -- in June of 2011, where he writes to certain
10
11
   people and says this:
12
                      "I had the opportunity to meet with
13
                      the clerk of the Town of
14
                      Collingwood, Ms. Sara Almas, this
15
                      morning. During the meeting, I
16
                      described the services my company
17
                      would be willing to -- would --
18
                      would be providing to PowerStream
19
                      throughout the region, as well as
20
                      specific to Collingwood. Ms. Almas
21
                      was kind enough to offer an
22
                      interpretation (opinion) of the
23
                      Provincial Conflict of Interest Act
24
                      as it relates to my sister being a
2.5
                      member of municipal Council.
```

- 1 Almas was quite clear that there is
- 2 no conflict of interest based on my
- 3 company's relationship with
- 4 PowerStream."
- 5 And the -- that's one (1) of the
- 6 thousands of documents that you're going to look at
- 7 that involve him that you'll want to see.
- 8 And I -- I -- the -- the work that's
- 9 going to have to go in to reviewing those documents,
- 10 finding out which ones are relevant, and so on is an
- 11 immense undertaking for any counsel and an expensive
- 12 proposition for any client.
- So the -- the other -- the documents
- 14 that I provided you with respect to funding indicate
- 15 that my client has no money to do that. He cannot
- 16 afford it. He's provided his last two (2) years of
- 17 income tax returns and what he receives. He's -- he
- 18 has no other source of funding anywhere that would
- 19 assist him in -- in retaining counsel.
- 20 And if he can participate without
- 21 counsel, in my submission, because of his unique
- 22 position in -- in these contracts and -- and the
- 23 buildings that were produced, it would turn out to be
- 24 an unfair Inquiry, at least for him. And I think that
- 25 that's what you're here for, is to provide fairness

- 1 for the -- the Inquiry and -- and how it's conducted.
- 2 So, I would ask you to make a
- 3 recommendation to the Town with respect to funding for
- 4 my client. What -- what happens with the Town's
- 5 decisions whether or not to follow your recommendation
- 6 is something that will be very interesting, if you
- 7 make it, but nevertheless, I -- I think in view of his
- 8 financial circumstances, in view of the -- the way
- 9 this Inquiry was called and -- and so on, it would
- 10 only be fair for you to make that recommendation on
- 11 behalf of my client, Your Honour. Those would be my
- 12 submissions.
- 13 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Thank
- 14 you very much, Mr. O'Connor.

15

16 (BRIEF PAUSE)

- MS. JANET LEIPER: Your Honour, maybe
- 19 I'll just say for the purposes of the record, we do
- 20 have other counsel here for other parties, but who
- 21 were identified in advance would not be required to
- 22 make submissions. I just thought -- just to -- to let
- 23 you know.
- 24 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: So
- 25 that who -- who is that?

- 1 MS. JANET LEIPER: So Mr. Breedon is
- 2 here on behalf of the Town of Collingwood in the body
- 3 of the gallery, and Mr. Watson and Ms. Bain are here
- 4 from Gowlings on behalf of Alectra Utilities.
- 5 MR. MICHAEL WATSON: -- Bain, Your
- 6 Honour.
- 7 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Bain?
- 8 MS. JANET LEIPER: I'll -- I'll say it
- 9 if you like. It's Michael Watson and Belinda Bain on
- 10 behalf of Alectra. Thank you.
- MR. DAVID O'CONNOR: And Alectra is
- 12 the -- the new Pow -- PowerStream.
- MS. JANET LEIPER: Correct, Alectra is
- 14 the successor company to PowerStream. Thank you, Mr.
- 15 O'Connor.
- 16 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: So do
- 17 I have it correctly, then, that as far as Alectra is
- 18 concerned, you're relying on -- on the written
- 19 submissions we receive, Mr. Watson? Is that right?
- MR. MICHAEL WATSON: Yes, that's
- 21 right, and in particular --
- 22
- 23 (BRIEF PAUSE)
- 24
- MR. MICHAEL WATSON: Yes, Your Honour.

- 1 Michael Watson, Gowlings, acting for Alectra Utilities
- 2 Corporation.
- 3 And as Mr. O'Connor said, it is the --
- 4 and Ms. Leiper, it is the successor corporation to
- 5 PowerStream Inc., which was the purchaser of 50
- 6 percent of the shares by way of an amalgamation in
- 7 2017. So when we talk about the purchaser, it now is
- 8 Alectra, all right.
- 9 And we made fairly detailed submissions
- 10 by letter dated August 2nd, 2017 -- of 2018, which
- 11 followed up on a -- on a prior letter indicating
- 12 Alectra's interest and the portions of the inquiry in
- 13 which it was -- it is particularly interested. And
- 14 there's nothing more, I believe, that we need to say
- 15 at this point, unless you have any questions, Your
- 16 Honour.
- 17 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: No,
- 18 that's fine. Thank you --
- 19 MR. MICHAEL WATSON: Thank you.
- 20 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: -- Mr.
- 21 Watson. Your position's obvious, I think.
- MR. MICHAEL WATSON: Yes. Thank you.
- THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: All
- 24 right. Anything further?
- MS. JANET LEIPER: There may be one

- 1 (1) other slight housekeeping matter, but I wonder if
- 2 we could have a short break, Your Honour? I think
- 3 we've heard the submissions, and -- and maybe there
- 4 might be some follow-up.
- 5 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: All
- 6 right. Well, we'll take a -- a fifteen (15) minute
- 7 break. In terms of people who have made submissions,
- 8 there's no need -- is it -- there's no need for anyone
- 9 to remain, is there?
- 10 MS. JANET LEIPER: I don't think so,
- 11 if people have to leave, although there is a meeting
- 12 later of all counsel, so if there was --
- MR. FRED CHENOWETH: Your Honour --
- 14 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: You're
- 15 welcome to remain or not, but -- but the point is,
- 16 I've heard from you, and I've got your submission.
- 17 MR. FRED CHENOWETH: I wonder if I
- 18 might just make one (1) additional comment with
- 19 respect to funding that I inadvertently didn't make -
- 20 -
- 21 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: No, go
- 22 ahead, Mr. --
- MR. FRED CHENOWETH: -- my remarks.
- 24 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: -- go
- 25 ahead, Mr. Chenoweth.

- 1 MR. FRED CHENOWETH: And that is that
- 2 it may be that -- that Mr. Houghton, in particular,
- 3 might have other sources to obtain funding from, and
- 4 clearly, any recommendation made by this -- by this
- 5 inquiry to the Town with respect to funding would be
- 6 subject to reduction and/or adjustment if any of those
- 7 other sources are -- are found to be useful.
- 8 Obviously, we were -- we are pursuing
- 9 other sources, but that's an ongoing process which may
- 10 or may not be successful, and we have no alternative
- 11 at the present time but to pursue all avenues by
- 12 making my remarks to you this morning.
- 13 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Yes.
- 14 Sometimes, depending upon the circumstances, there can
- 15 be insurance for liability, that sort of thing. I'm
- 16 not asking you to comment on that, but I would assume
- 17 that with any -- by applying for funding, that if
- 18 there were alternative sources that became available,
- 19 that that would reflect itself in a reduction of the
- 20 Town's financial commitment.
- 21 MR. FRED CHENOWETH: I -- I agree with
- 22 that assertion, Your Honour.
- THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Yes.
- 24 Thank you. All right. Well, we'll -- we'll take
- 25 fifteen (15) minutes. The -- those of you who have --

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1 there's apparently a housekeeping matter, and I'll
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- 2 find out what it is. The -- if you -- there's no need
- 3 for counsel who have made submissions to stay if they
- 4 have something else to do.

5

- 6 --- Upon recessing at 11:35 a.m.
- 7 --- Upon resuming at 11:54 a.m.

8

- 9 THE HONOURABLE FRANK MARROCCO: Please
- 10 sit down. Well thank you, everyone, for your
- 11 assistance this morning. As I indicated, I'll be
- 12 providing in the next little while written reasons
- 13 with respect to standing and funding.
- 14 The applications for standing and the
- 15 reasons why people think they should be able to
- 16 participate, there was an application form, and you
- 17 people will be able to read that application form. As
- 18 I indicated, the financial information will not be
- 19 part of that package. And we'll deal with this as --
- 20 as soon as we can so that people know the extent to
- 21 which they are able to participate in the Inquiry.
- We're concluded for today. Thank you.
- 23 THE COURT REGISTRAR: The hearing is
- 24 adjourned for today.

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73
1 --- Upon adjourning at 11:55 a.m.
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 5 Certified Correct,
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10 Wendy Woodworth, Ms.
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accomplish

accordance

35:15

accounts

22:2

across

act

37:20

52:7,18

62:7

acting

65:23

21:18

23:6 69:1

activities

activity

45:20

actual

6:25

63:5

actually

12:15

28:14

add 58:14

addendum

19:13

addition

6:1,24

19:8,13

14:23

42:5

47:12

25:23

26:4,8

30:19

70:18

address

additional

57:4

60:11

43:22,24

6:7 43:15

acknowledg

ing 11:2

ment 47:5

11,501.	NO THE COLLINGWA	00 11 201	o lage 75	01 00
11:13	11:2,6,7	65:14,20	apparently	35:10
18:23	13:17,24	66:1	13:11	44:24
32:21	16:9	alone 39:8	72:1	appropriat
adequately	17:10		appear 7:6	eness
32:4	19:7,14,1	alternativ	10:21	42:15,16
	5 39:24	e 32:20	38:25	58:18
adjourned 72:24	40:2	35:1		
	46:22	71:10,18	appearance	approval 29:15
adjourning	54:1,2,4	am 26:15	33:8	30:25
73:1	60:12	amalgamati		
adjustment	affirms	on 69:6	APPEARANCE	approved
71:6	14:1	amend	s 2:1	31:2,3
administra	afford	12:12	applicable	April
tive	66:16		16:11	19:21
19:24	afternoon	America	applicants	20:11
29:3	13:11	55 : 18	8:21	34:14
44:16,18		American		44:20
admirable	age 14:6	45:22	applicatio	architectu
55:16	ago 15:5	Amin 19:24	n 11:9	ral 40:16
	agreement		15:11	45:4
adopt	15:24	amount	16:11 19:18	46:13,14
12:11	28:22	17:11 22:6	23:4	47:12
61:25	32:25	23:9,17	27:11	area 21:1
advance	ahead	·	31:14	37 : 22
64:10	70:22,25	and/or	60:9,11	
67 : 21		71:6	61:25	areas 6:9 17:21
adversaria	Aid 62:4	announced	72:16,17	43:10,11,
1 7:5	airports	51:6	applicatio	15
adversely	43:23	announceme	ns 5:9	
55:12	Alectra	nt 10:18	72:14	arena
	2:7	anticipate		40:17 47:15
advise	68:4,10,1	30:11,19	apply 21:7	48:24
42:13	1,13,17	·	applying	40:24
advised	69:1,8	anyone	71:17	argued
61 : 7	Alectra's	5:20,24	appointed	51:15
advocates	69:12	6:12 9:14	7:2	58:5
34:8	-11	70:8	appreciate	argument
affairs	allegation 54:5,17	anything	11:22	50:24
45:21,23	55:7	18:9 24:5	37:4,19	51:1
•		49:6	56:21	57:14
affect	allegation	52:21	60:7	arose
8:2,4,7	s 55:4	61:13		50:12
52:14	63:18,24	62:25	approach 35:13	arrangemen
affected	allocation	69:24		t 43:9,16
8:14	5:22	anywhere	appropriat	•
55 : 12	allowed	66:18	e 13:15	article
affidavit	61:3	apologize	28:10,11	53:24,25
10:24		20:3	33:10,23	aside
	Almas		34:6,10	22:25
1	1	 	I	

58:21 14:4 66:2 23:9, aspect attention basis 8 28:	
aspect attention basis	
	budgetary
9:24 7:10 10:8 64:13,20 53:22	22:6 49:3
11:13 29:23 became bias 20):18
19:17 30:10 Became 41:2 bit 4:2	buildings 25 60:24
53:8 44:8 71:18 52:12	****
- Decome BLT 45:	
27.11 Board 3	31:4 55:16
August 41:20	60:25
45.12	burden
''''' beginning	58:3,4
assist 17:16 50:20 body 68	burdened
39:25 54.8 behalf Bonwick	
$\begin{bmatrix} 30:9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 34.0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4.17.5.10 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2.10 \end{bmatrix}$	53:13
34:12 69:10 4:17 5:12 59:13 59:13	
61:1 authorize 10:21,23 born 14	buses
66:19 20:13 11:10,24 64:5	43:23
assistance available 17:12	
28.6 30.1 32.7.17 25.1 breach	C
58:22,25 33:14,19 38:19,25 54:13	CAO 19:23
72:11 71:18 59:13,24 break	45:1
67.11	7 capacities
assisted avenues 68.2 4.10	64:2
12:7	
associate average bel 39:15 25:9	
1 1 1	capacity
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor	14:13
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18	14:13
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 brief	14:13 care 13:18
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 26:16 39:11,15 25:19	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 0:20 18:5
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 26:16 39:11,15 25:19 71:16 45:00 42:1 67:16	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 9:20 18:5 ,20 23:20
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 26:16 39:11,15 25:19 71:16 45:20 42:1 67:16 67:16 68:23	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 9:20 18:5 23:20 43:22
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 26:16 39:11,15 25:19 71:16 45:20 43:18 67:16 assuming 55:17 69:14	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 9:20 18:5 23:20 43:22 career
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 9 26:16 awards 42:1 67:16 71:16 45:20 43:18 68:23 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 46:19	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 0:20 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 26:16 awards 42:1 67:16 71:16 45:20 43:18 68:23 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 46:19	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 9:20 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 26:16 awards 42:1 67:16 71:16 45:20 43:18 68:23 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 46:19 35:4,20 40:5 43:7 Belinda bring 4	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 9:20 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 26:16 39:11,15 25:19 71:16 45:20 43:18 67:16 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 briefly assure 24:11 40:5 43:7 68:9 56:2 attached 45:6 55:3 68:9 56:2	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3 45:18
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 26:16 39:11,15 25:19 71:16 45:20 43:18 67:16 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 46:19 assure 24:11 40:5 43:7 68:9 56:2 attached 61:10 benefit bringing	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3 45:18 46:1 47:6
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 39:11,15 26:16 45:20 43:18 67:16 71:16 45:20 43:18 68:23 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 46:19 assure 24:11 40:5 43:7 68:9 56:2 attached 61:10 benefit bringing 16:8 62:15,23 32:16 29:22	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3 45:18 46:1 47:6 54:21,24
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 39:11,15 25:19 26:16 45:20 43:18 67:16 71:16 45:20 43:18 68:23 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 46:19 assure 24:11 8elinda 68:9 56:2 attached 61:10 benefit bringing 62:15,23 32:16 29:22 30:9 57:15 30:9	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3 45:18 46:1 47:6 54:21,24
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 30:18 26:16 awards 42:1 67:16 67:16 71:16 45:20 43:18 68:23 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 46:19 assure 24:11 8elinda bring 4 35:4,20 40:5 43:7 68:9 56:2 attached 61:10 benefit bringing 62:15,23 32:16 29:22 57:15 30:9 attaching Belinda broadca	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3 45:18 46:1 47:6 54:21,24 55:15 58:4
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 30:16 26:16 awards 42:1 67:16 67:16 71:16 45:20 43:18 68:23 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 46:19 assure 24:11 40:5 43:7 68:9 56:2 attached 61:10 benefit bringing 16:8 62:15,23 32:16 29:22 57:15 30:9 broadca broadca	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3 45:18 46:1 47:6 54:21,24 55:15 58:4 case 33:16
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 39:11,15 25:19 26:16 awards 42:1 67:16 68:23 45:20 43:18 68:23 68:23 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 briefly assure 24:11 68:9 56:2 attached 61:10 benefit bringing 46:21 57:15 30:9 attaching 58:6 59:2 broadca 36:25 background 5:19,24	14:13 14:13 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3 45:18 46:1 47:6 54:21,24 55:15 58:4 case 33:16 37:14
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 9 26:16 awards 42:1 67:16 71:16 45:20 43:18 68:23 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 briefly assure 24:11 Belinda bring 4 35:4,20 40:5 43:7 68:9 56:2 attached 61:10 benefit bringing 4 62:15,23 32:16 29:22 46:21 57:15 30:9 background 58:6 59:2 broadca attaching 57:15 5:19,24 36:25 57:15 5:19,24 bad 59:22 brought	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3 45:18 46:1 47:6 54:21,24 55:15 58:4 case 33:16 37:14 category
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 9 26:16 39:11,15 25:19 71:16 45:20 43:18 67:16 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 briefly assure 24:11 40:5 43:7 68:9 briefly attached 61:10 benefit bringing 46:21 57:15 30:9 attaching 58:6 59:2 broadca 36:25 57:15 5:19,24 bad 59:22 59:9 7:10 29:9 7:10	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3 45:18 46:1 47:6 54:21,24 55:15 58:4 case 33:16 37:14 category 15:15
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 3 26:16 39:11,15 25:19 71:16 45:20 43:18 68:23 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 briefly assure 24:11 40:5 43:7 68:9 56:2 attached 45:6 55:3 68:9 56:2 16:8 61:10 benefit bringing 21:16 62:15,23 32:16 29:22 46:21 57:15 30:9 background 58:6 59:2 broadca 6:25 5:19,24 brought 6:22 13:10 Bain 2:8 44:25 21:23	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3 45:18 46:1 47:6 54:21,24 55:15 58:4 case 33:16 37:14 category 15:15 21:25
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 39:11,15 25:19 26:16 awards 42:1 67:16 68:23 71:16 45:20 43:18 68:23 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 46:19 assure 24:11 Belinda bring 4 35:4,20 40:5 43:7 68:9 56:2 attached 61:10 benefit bringing 4 62:15,23 32:16 29:22 46:21 58:6 59:2 broadca attaching 58:6 59:2 broadca attend bad 59:22 29:9 7:10 6:22 29:9 7:10 21:23 attended 68:3,5,7, beside 62:10	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3 45:18 46:1 47:6 54:21,24 55:15 58:4 case 33:16 37:14 category 15:15 21:25 CBC
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 9 26:16 awards 42:1 67:16 71:16 45:20 43:18 68:23 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 46:19 assure 24:11 Belinda bring 4 35:4,20 40:5 43:7 68:9 56:2 attached 61:10 benefit bringing 4 62:15,23 32:16 29:22 46:21 57:15 30:9 background 55:19,24 broadca 6:25 5:19,24 broadca 6:25 5:19,24 brought 6:25 5:19,24 brought 6:25 5:19,24 brought 6:25 5:19,24 5:29:9 attend 68:3,5,7, 62:10 68:3,5,7, 62:10 63:18 62:10 63:18	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3 45:18 46:1 47:6 54:21,24 55:15 58:4 case 33:16 37:14 category 15:15 21:25 CBC
1:7 2:4 23:17 believe Breedor 5:5 7:14 Award 16:20 2:18 assume 45:22 30:18 brief 3 26:16 awards 42:1 67:16 67:16 71:16 45:20 43:18 68:23 assuming 55:17 69:14 briefly 22:22 aware Belina 2:8 briefly assure 24:11 8elinda bring 35:4,20 40:5 43:7 68:9 56:2 attached 61:10 benefit bringin 21:16 62:15,23 32:16 29:22 46:21 57:15 30:9 background 58:6 59:2 broadca 6:25 519,24 19:12 6:25 attend 6:22 29:9 7:10 13:10 Bain 2:8 44:25 62:10 attended 68:3,5,7, 68:10 63:18	14:13 68:1 care 13:18 18:5 23:20 43:22 career 14:8 40:10,21 43:8 44:3 45:18 46:1 47:6 54:21,24 55:15 58:4 case 33:16 37:14 category 15:15 21:25 CBC

		JOD 08-14-201	8 Page //	<u> </u>
5:23	60:18	55:14	13:6,21	commenceme
CEO	70:13,17,	clauses	14:2,3,8,	nt 50:14
41:7,11	23 , 25	16:10	10,12,16,	Commencing
44:11	71:1,21		18,24	4:1
	Chenoweth'	clear 45:8	15:18,25	
certain	s 62:1	55:6,14	16:6,22	comment
12:6		66:1	17:20	12:7
17:11,21	cheque	clearly	18:7 20:1	17:17
50:15	37 : 2	21:25	22:5 23:7	32:22
52:5	Chief $1:7$	71:4	25:17	33:20
65:10	5:5 19:23	clerk	27 : 22	35:25
certainly	27:24	65:13	28 : 25	58:16,17
23:18	41:2,3,23		34:1	70:18
54:18	42:2	client	40:6,11,2	71:16
62:19	44:15,18	4:17	1 42:12	Comments
Certificat	choice	13:20,25	43:20	3:4
e 3:20	45 : 3	19:8 26:9 27:15	46:2	commercial
			49:11	29 : 6
Certified	choices	38:19 60:19	50:5	38:11
73:5	41:22	63:12,15	54:1,9,12	Commission
cetera	choose	66:12,15	57:17	
49:4	48:7,11	67:4,11	65:14,20 68:2	er 10:15
57:20	chooses	•		21:8,13,1 7 22:14
CFO 29:12	56:3	clients	Collingwoo	58:9
31:1	choosing	35 : 23	dinquiry.	
change	13:7	client's	ca 5:14	commit
10:17	36:12	15:4 19:4	Collus	54:12
	00.12	(1.10		
		61:10	27:23,24	commitment
charge	chose		27:23,24 29:4,6	commitment 6:19
35:8,22	chose 50:15,22	Clippers 49:12	·	
35:8,22 37:23,25		Clippers 49:12	29:4,6	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13	50:15 , 22	Clippers 49:12 closing	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged	50:15,22 chosen	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4,	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6	50:15,22 chosen 41:19	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6 36:14	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14,	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18 circumstan	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22 coattails	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14,	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6 36:14	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18 circumstan ces 33:4	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14, 23 43:5,10,1	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24 71:20
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6 36:14 38:10	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18 circumstan ces 33:4 35:10,23	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22 coattails	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14, 23 43:5,10,1 3,14	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24 71:20 committed
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6 36:14 38:10 charges 55:4,6	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18 circumstan ces 33:4 35:10,23 67:8	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22 coattails 62:12	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14, 23 43:5,10,1 3,14 44:12,22	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24 71:20 committed 18:15
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6 36:14 38:10 charges	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18 circumstan ces 33:4 35:10,23 67:8 71:14	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22 coattails 62:12 Code 54:16	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14, 23 43:5,10,1 3,14 44:12,22 46:13	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24 71:20 committed 18:15 44:4
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6 36:14 38:10 charges 55:4,6 Chenoweth	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18 circumstan ces 33:4 35:10,23 67:8 71:14 citizens	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22 coattails 62:12 Code 54:16 collective 23:2	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14, 23 43:5,10,1 3,14 44:12,22 46:13 49:17,20	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24 71:20 committed 18:15 44:4 45:25
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6 36:14 38:10 charges 55:4,6 Chenoweth 2:16 3:13	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18 circumstan ces 33:4 35:10,23 67:8 71:14 citizens 17:18	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22 coattails 62:12 Code 54:16 collective 23:2 Collingwoo	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14, 23 43:5,10,1 3,14 44:12,22 46:13 49:17,20 50:1	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24 71:20 committed 18:15 44:4 45:25 committee 42:23
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6 36:14 38:10 charges 55:4,6 Chenoweth 2:16 3:13 4:7	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18 circumstan ces 33:4 35:10,23 67:8 71:14 citizens 17:18 46:8	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22 coattails 62:12 Code 54:16 collective 23:2 Collingwoo d	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14, 23 43:5,10,1 3,14 44:12,22 46:13 49:17,20 50:1 60:24	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24 71:20 committed 18:15 44:4 45:25 committee 42:23 committing
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6 36:14 38:10 charges 55:4,6 Chenoweth 2:16 3:13 4:7 38:18,21,	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18 circumstan ces 33:4 35:10,23 67:8 71:14 citizens 17:18 46:8 City 1:17	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22 coattails 62:12 Code 54:16 collective 23:2 Collingwoo d 1:2,17,19	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14, 23 43:5,10,1 3,14 44:12,22 46:13 49:17,20 50:1 60:24 61:4	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24 71:20 committed 18:15 44:4 45:25 committee 42:23 committing 64:17
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6 36:14 38:10 charges 55:4,6 Chenoweth 2:16 3:13 4:7 38:18,21, 22,24,25	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18 circumstan ces 33:4 35:10,23 67:8 71:14 citizens 17:18 46:8	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22 coattails 62:12 Code 54:16 collective 23:2 Collingwoo d 1:2,17,19 2:18 4:23	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14, 23 43:5,10,1 3,14 44:12,22 46:13 49:17,20 50:1 60:24 61:4 colour	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24 71:20 committed 18:15 44:4 45:25 committee 42:23 committing 64:17 community
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6 36:14 38:10 charges 55:4,6 Chenoweth 2:16 3:13 4:7 38:18,21, 22,24,25 48:1,2,6,	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18 circumstan ces 33:4 35:10,23 67:8 71:14 citizens 17:18 46:8 City 1:17	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22 coattails 62:12 Code 54:16 collective 23:2 Collingwoo d 1:2,17,19 2:18 4:23 5:13,16	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14, 23 43:5,10,1 3,14 44:12,22 46:13 49:17,20 50:1 60:24 61:4	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24 71:20 committed 18:15 44:4 45:25 committee 42:23 committing 64:17 community 37:13
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6 36:14 38:10 charges 55:4,6 Chenoweth 2:16 3:13 4:7 38:18,21, 22,24,25 48:1,2,6, 10,15 52:1,20 53:3	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18 circumstan ces 33:4 35:10,23 67:8 71:14 citizens 17:18 46:8 City 1:17 42:11	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22 coattails 62:12 Code 54:16 collective 23:2 Collingwoo d 1:2,17,19 2:18 4:23 5:13,16 6:3,11	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14, 23 43:5,10,1 3,14 44:12,22 46:13 49:17,20 50:1 60:24 61:4 colour 51:18 commenced	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24 71:20 committed 18:15 44:4 45:25 committee 42:23 committing 64:17 community 37:13 40:7 49:8
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6 36:14 38:10 charges 55:4,6 Chenoweth 2:16 3:13 4:7 38:18,21, 22,24,25 48:1,2,6, 10,15 52:1,20 53:3 57:1,7,13	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18 circumstan ces 33:4 35:10,23 67:8 71:14 citizens 17:18 46:8 City 1:17 42:11 clarificat	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22 coattails 62:12 Code 54:16 collective 23:2 Collingwoo d 1:2,17,19 2:18 4:23 5:13,16	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14, 23 43:5,10,1 3,14 44:12,22 46:13 49:17,20 50:1 60:24 61:4 colour 51:18 commenced 40:23	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24 71:20 committed 18:15 44:4 45:25 committee 42:23 committing 64:17 community 37:13 40:7 49:8 55:11
35:8,22 37:23,25 58:13 charged 6:7 35:6 36:14 38:10 charges 55:4,6 Chenoweth 2:16 3:13 4:7 38:18,21, 22,24,25 48:1,2,6, 10,15 52:1,20 53:3	50:15,22 chosen 41:19 circulated 54:18 circumstan ces 33:4 35:10,23 67:8 71:14 citizens 17:18 46:8 City 1:17 42:11 clarificat ion 25:23	Clippers 49:12 closing 17:8 32:4 39:6 44:22 coattails 62:12 Code 54:16 collective 23:2 Collingwoo d 1:2,17,19 2:18 4:23 5:13,16 6:3,11 8:22,24	29:4,6 32:23 40:13,14, 21 41:1,3,4, 20,25 42:12,14, 23 43:5,10,1 3,14 44:12,22 46:13 49:17,20 50:1 60:24 61:4 colour 51:18 commenced	6:19 13:6,7 20:5 44:5 45:17 46:6 54:24 71:20 committed 18:15 44:4 45:25 committee 42:23 committing 64:17 community 37:13 40:7 49:8

	 	00 14 201		
11,17,23	9:21	considerab	continues	22:23
companies	41:25	le 15:5	64:7	58 : 6
60:25	42:17	considerat	contracts	costs 21:2
65:5	52 : 25	ion 20:20	61 : 2	22:2,20,2
company	conditions		66 : 22	1,22
33:7 61:4	36:24	considerat	contrary	council
65:16	conduct	ions	54:14	1:17
68:14	5:6 16:19	26:18		11:25
	20:16	considered	contribute	14:12,25
company's	52:6,8	41:19	16:24	15:6,8
66:3		considerin	56:8	18:7
complaint	conducted	g 26:7	contributi	20:7,8,10
50:15	67:1	31:9	on	,13,20,24
completed	conducts	56:10	45:20,23	22:9,14,1
19:1	52:19	considers	47:7	7,24 25:1
completene	confidence	26:8	control	26:5,12
ss 20:4	26:5,12		8:19	27 : 6
	63:13	consistent	controlled	31:2,22
completing	confident	7:3 58:11	52:16	33:22
14:5	32:12	constructe		34:13
conceive		d 48:18	Cooper	35:14
45:12	confidenti	constructi	2:12	36:20
conceived	al	on 5:25	10:22	42:21
41:17,18	26:7,16 27:2,4		14:1 16:5	50:22 51:4
·	33:1	consultant 61:1 65:5	19:11 21:25	63:8,21
concept			23:6,19	64:2
12:23 41:22	confidenti	contained		65:6 , 25
	ally 9:9	11:6	cooperate	·
concern	conflict	contains	6:18	councillor
17:18	65:3,7,23	7:15 9:10	copy 19:21	14:13 25:16
18:11	66:2	26:4	core 41:13	52:5 64:2
concerned	conflicts	contend		
9:19 10:7	13:5	11:8	corporatio	councils
12:23	conjunctio	16:11	n 2:8 5:17	50 : 4
68:18	n 19:24	content	27:23	counsel
concerning		57 : 2	41:6	2:3,5
24:14	connection		54:11	7:2,8,13,
27:3	48:3,7,11	CONTENTS	69:2,4	14
conclude	54:13	3:1		11:12,13,
13:9	55:10	context	corporatio	14,16
	consequent	53:12,13	ns 64:9	13:12
concluded 42:1	12:12	contingent	Correct	17:5 18:8
45:13	consider	36:3,7	68:13	20:14,22
72:22	15:10	continue	73:5	21:18
	19:16	51:7	correctly	22:4,9,10 23:6,7
concludes	22:19		68:17	23:6, / 27:5 30:3
14:20	51:21	continued	cost 19:18	32:5
15:2	53:15	41:7 42:2	20:21	34:11,18
conclusion	1		∠∪•∠⊥	

INQUIR	T LE COLLINGWO	JOD 08-14-2018	8 Page /9	01 93
35:1,14,1	16:7	deal	describe	37 : 11
8 36:13	27:11,14,	9:22,23	5 : 12	39:10
38:24	16 35:16	13:18		45 : 20
39:14	39:16	18:14	described	52 : 10
45:11	critical	19:7 27:6	6:9 41:5	64:9
56:1,24		42:7 55:5	54:24	differenti
58:11	29:22	56:6	65:16	
59:21	cross 39:3	72:19	desirabili	ation
60:3,15	56 : 1	daaliaa	ty 17:20	23:5
61:8	cross-	dealing 5:8 18:11	desire	difficult
62:10,16,	examine	3:0 10:11	63:9	58:16
24 64:19	17 : 7	Dean 42:11		difficulti
66:11,19,	21:10	debate	detail	es 26:18
21 67:20	45:11	58:13,15	39:19	
70:12		·	40:19	difficulty
72:3	cross-	decades	46:19	21:1
counsel's	examining	40:8	47:9	diploma
11:16	56:9	December	55:21	14:6
62:1	current	14:21	detailed	dir 26:15
	10:22	decide	26:3 32:9	
county	23:6	26:13,24	41:12,17	direct
14:25			45:6,12	7:22
course		decision	46:18	16:13
18:3	daily	15:4,17	49:19	18:5 21:5
29:24	64:13 , 20	28:21	56 : 17	23:21
41:25		decision-	69:9	39:17
42:7	date 10:4	making	details	40:14
53:20	13:4,7	29:14	46:23,25	directed
court 5:5	15:6 16:1 35:2	decisions	60:11	10:13
13:5	33:2	44:23	determine	27 : 13
52:19	dated	67:5		directing
72:23	10:24		30:17	43:25
	19:21	deficienci	determined	44:7
courtroom	20:11	es 30:18	21:17	
21:20	34:14	definitely	devastated	direction
62:20	39:25	32:6	63:16,18	25:23
cover	69:10	deliver	Devastatin	26:4 27:9
25:19	David 2:10	17:10		directly
created	3:16		g 54:25	8:3,14
26:19	42:10	demonstrat	develop	17 : 23
creation	59:17,18,	ed 44:5	47:18	28:16
41:8	23 60:5,6	46:17	developmen	45 : 2
	61:15,18,	demonstrat	t 37:23	Director
crew 50:6	24 62:9	ion 45:16		43:19
criminal	68:11	depending	difference	44:13
6 : 7	day 6:24	71:14	11:23	directors
54:15,17	10:24		23:11	50:3
55 : 4 , 6	37 : 3	deputy	different	
63:16	54:6,7	14:14,15,	8:1,8	disagree
criteria	63:14	24 63:21	21:19	52 : 21
CITCELIA				

disclose	during	elements	36:17	s 64:13
35:15	29:24	31:8 32:3	entities	everyone
discloses	65:15	else 72:4	29:7	72:10
47:10	duties	elsewhere	entitled	evidence
discourage	54:14	54:9	21:6	6:24
36:2	duty 7:8	eminent	entity	7:7,12
discussing		42:20	40:13	17:6,7
53:19	E	employed	58:1	18:18
discussion	earlier	14:7	equate	21:9,23 32:13
15:17	18:6	employee	47:24	33:9 42:8
18:9 25:5	easy 33:12	27:22	erection	evident
distance	Ed 54:3,6	43:16	47:17	53:20
37:18	education	57 : 25	err 12:10	
distress	14:5	employees	20:4	exactly 16:3
54:23	Edwin 2:16	22:13	essence	23:13
document	38:25	employer	42:22	24:15
6:14 20:6	effect	32:23	essential	examine
documents	53:5 54:3	employment	17:3	30:2 32:2
8:10,18	efficient	14:10	establishe	39:4 56:2
18:18	57:4	32:24	d 21:12	examined
27:3		encourage	35:17	47:9
30:16	effort 35:1	6:12,17,2	establishm	49:20
39:5		0 12:4	ent 15:7	example
64:24 65:9	eight 7:24	13:1		11:24
66:6,9,13	either 7:6	Energy	estimate 34:17	38:12
dollars	17:23	31:4		except
22:7 23:1	elbow	engaged	estimating	54 : 3
62:3	25:12	7:20	21:2	59:21
domain	elbows	engineerin	et 49:4	excess
9:14	25:6	g 40:23	57:20	45:19
done 49:6	elected	enlarge	event 34:5	exclusion
63:25	14:11,14,	16:16	48:21 53:22	11:18
64:16,18	17 29:3	ensure 7:8		exclusivel
doubt	64:3	20:17,18	events	y 37:1
52:23	election	21:22	6:21	executive
57:20	14:22	22:16	eventual	41:2,4,23
drafted	50:14,20, 21 51:5	enter	28:21	42:3
7:17		28:22	eventually	43:19
draw 15:16	electrical 40:22	entered	41:1	44:13
		14:7	63:20	47:9
dual 30:7	element 18:14	entire	everybody	exercise
dump 9:13		21:14	4:4,21 30:16	47:18
duration	elementary	46:1	62:7	Exhibit
29:16	14:4	entirely		16:9
		-	everybody'	

46:21	17:18	fairly	finally	former
existed	extended	7:12 69:9	15:3	29:2
43:16	18:2	fairness	16:23	32:23
existing	extensive	16:25	18:22	forms
29:2	15:21	18:11,14,	financial	8:8,11
	16:4	16 66:25	9:7,12	forty 22:7
expect 33:10	extent	falls	11:5	23:1
	11:22	21:25	19:8,14	forum
expectatio	26:22	familiar	26:1,3,19	17:14
n 29:20	28:9	49:10	27:24	
34:17	30:15		32:6,8,10	forward
expected	36:8 40:1	family	33:13 49:1	6:17 16:1
5 : 12	44:1 46:6	40:7	49:1 63:17	21:23
21:21	54:22	fared 49:3	67:8	26:12 56:2,23
30:7	72:20	Fareed	71:20	
35:18	eye 20:19	19:24	72:18	forwarded
expended	eye 20.19	fashion		25 : 25
33:17	F	12:12	finding 66:10	Frank 1:7
34:4	face	39:24		3 : 5
expenditur	38:12,13	56:2	fine 10:17	4:3,9,12,
e 33:18	44:14		69:18	18 5:4
	50:11	February	first	10:16
expense	57:9	15:6	4:15,22	11:20
46:3 51:14,19		50:13,21	5:1 32:24	12:14,19,
57:14,19	facilities	feel 5:2	Firstly	22 13:13
63:11	5:23,25 31:5	32:5 63:2	16:12	18:24
	50:17	feels	fit 47:17	19:3
expensive		28:10		23:10,14, 24
60:14	facility	31:25	five 45:19	24:3,10,1
66:11	47:16,17,	fees	55:17	3,17,21
experience	18,24	5:19 , 24	63 : 7	25:8
7:11	48:16,22	53 : 14	fix 62:22	26:11
15:16	49:7,13,1	57 : 20	folks	28:13
29:24		58:10,23	57 : 17	31:16,19
62:20	fact 18:7	fifteen	follow	36:23
expert	41:3	15:1 70:6	follow-up 70:4	37 : 6
17:6	42:22	71:25		38:2,6,9,
experts	45:17 46:1,8	fight 25:9	force	16 47:22
39:6	51:10	_	42:6,9	48:4,8,13
56:10	52:16	filed	43:6 50:8	51:23
explain	56:23	10:23	form 60:11	52:3 53:1
7:18	64:11	26:1 32:9	72:16,17	56:20
	65:4,6	33:16	formation	57:3,11 59:7,14
explanatio	fail 23:4	39:24	50:16	60:1
n 19:4		60:19	formed	61:14,17,
explored	fair 22:18	final	41:5	19 62:6
53:20	52:25	33:20	46:25	67:13,24
expressed	67:10	35:25	10.20	68:7,16
_	1			l ,

		JOB 00 11 201		
69:17,20,	55 : 3	gallery	68:4 69:1	18:17,19
23	fully-	68 : 3	Grade 14:5	heart
70:5,14,2	owned	gathering	granted	41:16
1,24	40:22	56:9	21:14	held 1:16
71:13,23 72:9	fulsome	generally	30:6,13	26:5
	39:24	16:20	33:15	41:10,14
frankly	56:8	17:25	grants	55 : 21
44:10	fund 26:24	37:13	21:8	help 42:13
Fred 38:24	32:15	gentleman		_
70:13,17,	58:21	57:24	great	helped
23			63:11	64:12
71:1,21	funding	George	group 43:2	helpful
Frederick	3:8,11,14	2:12 3:7	51:4	6:13 7:24
2:16 3:13	,17	4:5,11	guess	10:3
4:7	8:22,23,2	10:11,12,	10:17	21:22
38:21,22	5 9:3,8,17,	19 12:1,18,2	15:12	28:14
48:2,6,10	19	1,25	22:21	39:20
,15	18:21,23	13:16	60:2	48:9
52:1,20	19:18	18:22		55:24
53:3	22:15,20	19:2,6	Н	Heritage
57:1,7,13	23:4,23	23:13,15	happens	5:23
59:10	24:1,14	24:1,9,12	27:2	he's 35:2
front 50:6	25 : 21	,15,19,23	37:14	39:2
54:4	26:23	25:11	52:18	49:10
Fryer 2:14	27:3	gets 25:25	67:4	55:21
25:1,15	31:11,14,	64:20	happy	63:16,23
27:5,15	23 32:20		62:11	64:5,18
28:4,16	33:7,14,2	getting	64:14	66:16 , 17
31:23,25	4 35:16	52:4		highlighte
32:19	36:1,3,6,	60:7,8 61:2	haven't	d 19:22
33:6,10,1	15,18,25		10:4 49:6	
8	51:10	given	having	highly
34:6,21,2	53:13,16	19:18	63:25	45:14,24 47:4,10
5 35:11	56:15,17, 18 57:6	52:15	64:16	49:13
Fryer's	58:10,23	56:23	hear 9:3	
27:21	59:5	58:5	10:9	highly-
32:24	60:13	59:21	12:16	regarded
fulfilling	61:23,25	glowing	24:5 42:7	42:9
39:21	66:14,18	46:23	heard 6:24	45:24
	67:3	gone 53:23	17:20	highly-
full 11:11	70:19	governance	70:3,16	successfu
15:19	71:3,5,17	6:3	hearing	1 49:16
21:8 27:17	72:13		9:24 34:5	high-
37:16	funds 31:6	governed	72:23	powered
39:2 56:1	32:17	26:17		62:10
61:11	44:24	government	hearings	
64:20		38:3	6:8,20,22	hiring 34:11
		Gowlings	,25 10:5	24:11
fully 8:13		J -		

	(I IC COLLINGW	002 00 11 201	.o rage os	01 30
history	36:23	59:2 71:2	67 : 19	46:16
28:20	37:6	Houghton's	68 : 8	51 : 21
50:10	38:2,6,9,	40:20	72:1,11	53 : 17
Honour	16 47:22	45:17	illegal	56 : 3
4:6,8	48:4,8,13	54:20,23	63:15	60:20
10:13,14,	51:23	57 : 9		62 : 17
21 12:4	52:3 53:1	58:10	illustrate	impression
13:2	56:20		49:15	56:15
14:22	57:3,11	hour 18:3	I'm 5:4	
15:13	59:7,14	34:19,24	11:2,3,10	inadverten
16:8	60:1	37:24	, 13 12:15	tly 70:19
24:24	61:14,17,	38:1 62:4	13:8,24	inappropri
25:7,24	19 62:6	hourly	15 : 13	ate 55:1
27:9 28:9	67:13 , 24	33:23	24:4,6	Inc 5:17
31:14	68:7,16	34:10,16	25 : 15	69:5
32:10	69:17,20,	35:13 , 15,	26:15	69:5
35:4	23	19,22	27 : 12	inclu
36:21	70:5,14,2	36:6,9,13	31:12,19,	27 : 18
38:15,23	1,24	,24 37:8	21 32:11	include
52:21,24	71:13,23	housekeepi	33:22	39:3,7
56:15	72:9	ng 70:1	35:5,21	•
57:2	Honour's	72:1	37 : 17	included
58:24	11:4		40:1 44:6	40:12,14
59:5,12,1	60:14	hundred	46:5	42:10
9,25	61:10	22:7,25	47 : 25	includes
60:7,10	62:23	62:3	48:2,3,22	26:2
62:4,14	hope 48:25	Hurontario	,24 49:18	including
63:3,14	_	1:18	52:5,6,16	18 : 16
67:11,18	hopefully		, 23 53:9	50:4,7
68:6 , 25	25:18	I	55:21 , 22	53 : 18
69:16	63:4	<u>I'11 40:18</u>	59:18,22,	63 : 12
70:2,13	hopes		24 61:9	inclusivit
71:22	12:11	ideas	62:3,11	
Honourable	Houghton	53:18	65:9	y 12:10
3:4	2:16	identified	71:15	income
4:3,9,12,	38:19,25	67 : 21	imagine	9:11
18 10:16	39:11,16	identify	54:22	66 : 17
11:20	40:6,9	33:13	immediatel	Incorporat
12:14,19,	43:1,8,12		y 48:17	ed 15:25
22 13:13	,18	identifyin	_	•
18:24	44:2,16	g 7:21	immense	incur
19:3	45:1,13	I'll 4:19	66:11	51:14 57:21
23:10,14,	46:11	6:4,5,10	<pre>impact 6:2</pre>	
24	47:5 49:9	10:18	28:24	indeed
24:3,10,1	50:13,18,	18:3	impetus	53:3 57:7
3,17,21	19 51:12	39:19,21	53:4,6	59 : 1
25:8	54:3,6	44:8	·	independen
26:11	55:1,5,9	46:19	importance	t 46:23
28:13	57 : 19	55:22	11:8 57:8	indiasts
31:16,19	58:24	61:12	important	indicate
				23:2 44:1

	T LE COLLINGWO	OD 00 14 2010	raye 04	01 73
46:6	22 30:8	34:6,12,2	45:14	45:2
66:14	32:8,10,1	2 35:19	integrity	introducto
indicated	2,13	36:2,18	20:18	ry 4:20
11:4	45:6,9	38:23	intend	investigat
15:19	55:23	39:1,17,1	11:1	ed 33:8
20:11	56:7,9 72:18	8,20 40:5 41:13,16	17:25	
38:24		43:25	25:18	investigat
42:3	informed	45:5,14,1	51 : 7	ion 50:25
72:11,18	10:6	5 46:12	intended	invite
indicates	15:15	50:24	32 : 16	13:2
20:2,5,7,	initial	51:1,13,1		involve
12 22:8	53:4,6	6,17	interest	5 : 17
indicating	initially	52:6,9,13	7:22	51:13
69:11	51:15	,17,19,24	16:14 19:4 21:5	66 : 7
indication	initiative	53:5,7,9,	33:6	involved
22:1	28:20	20,21	39:10,12,	5:24 30:3
		55:3,7,11	18	40:18
indirectly	inquire	,14,24	55:13,19	41:15,21,
17:23	5:12	56:1,4,8	60:20	24
indiscrimi	inquiries	57:9,15,1 9 58:9,18	65:4 , 23	43:12,21
nately	6:18 36:5	60:21	66:2	45:2
9:13	inquiring	63:4,7	69:12	57 : 19
26:20	8:15	64:21	interested	60:22
individual	inquiry	66:24	11:18	65 : 5
22:13	1:3 2:3,4	67:1,9	17:18	involvemen
23:18	4:23	69:12	69:13	t
45:25	5:2,7,10,	71:5	interestin	40:12,15
52:5	11,21	72 : 21	g 43:21	44:6
55:23	6:1,6,14	Inquiry's	47 : 14	50:17
individual	7:3,13,14	5:15	48:18	60:12
s 20:9	,23 8:2,4	39:21	67 : 6	61:10 64:12
52:15	11:19	installing	interests	
58:25	13:8 15:7,20,2	61:5	11:23	involves
info 15:15	2	instance	22:12	6:14
informa	16:15,19	65:3	37:17,18	isn't
27:6	17:1,3,22		64:10	59:23
informatio	18:15	instances	interpreta	issue 9:19
n 6:13,15	20:10,16	61:1	tion	24:7 34:2
7:15	21:2,6,19	institutio	65 : 22	37:4,11
9:7,10,12	,21	ns 40:11	interrupt	38:13
,15,25	27:18,20	insurance	47 : 23	52:13,22
11:5	28:1,7,12	9:11	interview	issues 7:9
26:1,3,8,	,18	71:15	10:2	8:2,6
10,14,19,	29:22,23 30:1,3,9	intake		17:19
22 27:7	30:1,3,9	13:5	intricatel	41:15
28:17,19,	32:1,15	integral	y 40:18	55 : 10
23	33:6	43:3	41:15,21	it'll 12:8
29:1,5,8,		- 3 . 0		

INQUIR	RY re COLLINGW	OOD 08-14-2018	Page 85	of 95
I've 7:2	kinds 45:8	24:22	lifetime	mandate
13:4,6	Kirsten	70:11	14:3	5 : 15
15:21	2:4 7:13	leaving	limitation	39:21
16:20		36:13	28:3,10	41:13
19:22	knowledge		·	51:1
54:24	28:6	led 43:12	limitation	mandated
56:14	29:23	53:24	s 34:3	50:23
57:8,13	31:7	63:20	limited	
60:2,10,1	41:12,17	legal	28 : 7	manner
9 70:16	43:3	11:12	35 : 23	22:19
	45:12	20:14,21	limits	Maple
J	known	21:18	36:17	47:15,19
Janet 2:3	46:10	22:10		March
4:16 7:13	60:2,3	32:5	little	15 : 23
24:25	KPMG	36:17	52:11	42:1
38:18	42:18,19	37:13	59:19	Manionu
59:12		51:14	60:8 72:12	Marjory 19:25
67 : 18		58:10,23		
68:1,8,13	${\mathtt{last} \ 17:14}$	62:4	live 6:24	mark 17:10
69:25	64:22	Leiper 2:3	lived 14:3	Marrocco
70:10	66:16	4:14,16	40:7	1:7 3:5
job 7:10	later 24:7	7:13	Loblaw's	4:3,9,12,
joint	46:18	24:25	14:10	18 5:4
27:19	48:20,23	26:2 32:9		10:16
	49:1	38:18	local 13:5	11:20
judgment	56:16	59:12	locations	12:14,19,
48:16	70:12	60:15 61:7	47:13	22 13:13
judicial		62:25	long 27:21	18:24
1:3 4:23	law 6:16	67:18	60:4 62:5	19:3
15:7	37:23	68:1,8,13	64:21	23:10,14,
20:10,16	lawyer	69:4,25	lot 52:10	24
21:19	25:15	70:10	60:13,17	24:3,10,1 3,17,21
July 54:7	42:10		62:19	25:8
juncture	lawyers	Leonard 19:25		26:11
48:23	7:6 35:6		lower 38:4	28:13
June 58:2	37:22	less 35:8	luminaries	31:16,19
65:10	lead 7:13	37:25	42:10	36 : 23
	17:6 55:4	lesser		37 : 6
jurisdicti	56:7	21:16	M	38:2,6,9,
on 58:12	Leaf 47:19	letter	main 31:8	16 47:22
justice		69:10,11	63:24	48:4,8,13
1:7 3:4	Leafs		major	51:23
5:5,6	47:15	level	49:12	52:3 53:1
53:7	least	27:16		56:20
58:17	29:16	liability	majority	57:3,11
59:1	30:15	71:15	35 : 22	59:7,14
	36:11	life 14:8	man 32:14	60:1
K	66:24	15:4	42:19	61:14,17,
key 29:13	leave		43:6 62:9	19 62:6
	l			

1112011	(I IC COLLINGW	000 00 14 201	io lage oo	01 99
67:13,24	51:11	37:21	68:5,9,20	42:11
68:7,16	70:1 72:1	47:23	, 25	munici
69:17,20,	matters	52 : 9	69:1,19,2	13:19
23	15:17	means	2	
70:5,14,2	28:18	32:14,21	mind 36:19	municipal
1,24	29:25	55:24	53 : 8	13:19
71:13,23	30:9		mine 37:1	19:10 37:23
72:9	40:1,18	measures 47:2		52:7 , 18
Marron	41:12		minority	60:24
2:12 3:7	44:7	meet 65:12	63:19	65:25
4:5,11,16	46:11,12	meeting	minute	
,19	51:17	4:25	70:6	municipali
10:9,11,1	55:2,13	13:11	minutes	ties
2,19	56:3	17 : 15	71:25	49:22,25
11:21	maximum	18:2		50:4
12:1,18,2	36:13	64:23	moment	Municipali
1,25	may 4:25	65 : 15	8:16	ty 20:15
13:16	7:23 10:3	70:11	39:19	Municipali
18:22	12:5,11	meets	money 5:22	ty's 61:4
19:2,6 23:13,15	17:22	27 : 15	33:17,18	_
24:1,9,12	20:2	39:16	36:4	myself 37:18
,15,18,19	21:13,15	member	66 : 15	3/:10
,23	34:19	22:13	months	
25:5,11	39:9	29:13	44:20	N
34:15	44:20	42:5	46:24	nameplate
56:24	48:19	43:1,5	morning	60:5
58:20	52:4,13	64 : 3	4:4,5,8,2	<pre>nature 7:3</pre>
material	59:6 62:7	65 : 25	1 13:5	33:21
16:9 31:8	69:25	members	20:5 25:7	necessary
60:19	71:2,9,10	6:20	26:2 32:9	45 : 14
65:8	maybe 4:19	20:23	56 : 16	negative
	48:23	22:10,17	65 : 15	15:8
materials 13:17	67:18	34:12	71:12	
19:7,14	70:3	42:18,19,	72 : 11	neverthele
25:24	mayor	21 50:21	motivated	ss 5:1
33:16	10:22	63:8,19	51 : 16	67:7
34:7	11:24,25	membrane	motivation	NHL 48:11
matter 9:1	14:14,15,	40:16	51:22	night
13:3,4	17,20,24	45 : 4	52 : 13	17:14
16:14	16:6 23:6	men 42:21	53 : 19	64:23
19:5 21:6	51:3,6	50:7	move 31:13	nine
26:23	63:21,22		53:22	42:6,19,2
27:1 37:8	65:6	mention		1 43:6
39:12,14,	McDowell	51 : 8	moved	46:1
18,25	62:16,20	mentioned	40:25	50:5,7
40:15	McFadden	64:22	moving	nor 33:3
42:25	42:10	Michael	61 : 25	
45:7	mean 23:11	2:7	Muncaster	north
48:18	mean 23:11			37:24

45:22	obviously	66:10	organizati	Park 5:23
55:18	12:7	ongoing	on 41:8	Parliament
note 14:9	18:10	71:9	43:21	64 : 3
17:9 34:7	19:16	0	49:12	
44:1	37:7	Ontario	organizati	participat
46:16	41:11	1:19 31:4	ons 7:21	e 5:9
47:14	55 : 22	37:21 49:21	42:4 44:6	7:7,25
noted	71:8		46:15	8:5,6,12,
15:21	occasion	50:2	49:2,21	13 9:5
29:12	6 : 6	54:1,10 58:13	50:3,12	32:1,3
			·	34:21
nothing	occurred 27:25	open 6:19	others	51:25
18:3 49:5	40:19	opening	8:13,14	66:20
63:15,25	40:19	3:4 5:2	42:11	72:16,21
64:19	O'Connor	17:6 32:3	49:10	participat
69:14	2:10 3:16	39:5	50:22	ing 8:17
notice	59:13,15,		51:4,12,2	participat
53:23	17,18,23	openness	0	ion 7:23
	60:5,6	16:25	otherwise	8:7,11
notion	61:15,18,	opinion	10:13	9:6,18
23:12	21,24	65 : 22	34:24	16:7,18,2
November	62:8,9	OPP	outline	4 17:4
30:25	67:14	50:15,24,	12:4,10	27:17
nutshell	68:11,15	25 54:1,2	·	31:23
15:13	69:3		output	39:20
10.10	October	opportunit	46:4	
	14:22	y 17:5	outset	particular
ob 33:17	offer 45:9	30:5,14	25 : 22	8:15
OD 33.17	65:21	32:11	61:9	13:19
obligated		36:11	outside	15:15
52:6	offers	40:2,4	20:13	47:6
obligation	6:16	48:19 55:5,8		49:20 50:23
51:11,13	office	56:5,12,1	owners	50:23
53:14	54:14	6,19	49:23	68:21
observatio	officer	65:12		71:2
n 49:9	19:24		P	
	27:24	oppose	package	particular
observatio	41:2,4,23	51 : 5	72:19	ize 39:22
ns 62:14	42:3 43:4	opposed	page 3:2	particular
obtain	44:16,18	10:14	16:9	ly 57:23
71:3		opposition	20:6,7	69 : 13
abtaining	official	15:8	paid	particular
obtaining	54:11		5:19,24	_
11:16	oh 28:2	option	61:1	s 11:5
14:6	62:9	36:12		13:18
obvious	Okay 12:25	order	paragraph	14:1
33:17	19:6	22:15,16	13:21,22,	15:11 39:23
60:18	24:24	26:4,8,16	25 15:3	
61:13		27:1 34:4	16:12,17,	parties
69:21	ones 53:18	64:9	23 18:13	7:6 11:18
	l			[

	VI IC CODDINOW		.o rage oo	01 70
20:22	8:3,4,12	32:17,21	motivated	40:22
21:18	10:2,6	46:3,6	63 : 7	43:13
22:9,17	12:11	personally	pool 40:17	PowerStrea
36:11	18:2	57:18	47:21	m 5:17
39:9	38:11,12		48:22,24	15 : 25
50:15	52:10	persons	•	28:22
67:20	53:13	7:21,24	portion	29:4,6
partner	62:19	9:4	34:5	40:14
41:20	63:10,20	person's	portions	41:4,19,2
partners	64:13	51 : 25	69:12	5 43:5,14
50:8	65:11	perspectiv	position	44:12,22
	70:7,11	e 28:17	14:14	46:13
partnershi	72:15,17,	29:17,21	15:2	49:17,20,
p	20		16:21	23 50:1
41:5,9,17	per 34:24	pertinent	34 : 25	60:23
42:6,13,1	percent	9:25	41:7,10	64:15
5,20,22	5:16	pivotal	60:21	65:18
43:6	40:13	46:12 , 15	64 : 18	66:4
46:25	69:6	56:11	66 : 22	68:12 , 14
47:1,3,11		placed	positions	69:5
50:6	perception	34:3	41:14	practical
party	20:17		52:15	13:3
27:19,20	perhaps	plan 13:10	55:21	
32:2 37:2	57:4	play 21:19	62:1	practice
45:15	period	30 : 7		37 : 22
pass 52:8	15:22	please 4:9	position's	precipitou
1 -	16:4	38:23	69:21	s 44:15
passed	44:19,21	72 : 9	positive	pre-dates
52:17	48:17	pleased	42:24	15:23
past 15:1	permission	49:13	possession	preparatio
Paul 2:10	5:9 9:4		8 : 19	n 64:22
59:13,24		point 7:4	possible	
PAUSE	permit	15:23	6:16	prepare
67:16	34:11	16:3	32:23	6:10 12:9
68:23	36:10	17:12	65:3	34:4
	permitted	23:8,16 53:23		prepared
pay 53:14	30:2	57:8,14	post 6:23	11:13
60:16	person	58:20	posted	12:3,15
62:18	21:4,9	62:17	7 : 19	19:20,22,
64:19	27:19	69:15	posting	23 34:13
paying	30:8 42:6	70:15	53:25	46:22
20:21	50:5			53:9
60:15	personal	political	potential	present
62:15,24	9:12 11:4	51:2,17,2	6:15 21:2	7:11
payments	13:18	2	22:21	17:14
29:10	14:1	politicall	42:13	71:11
pensionabl	15:11	y 51:15	Pow 68:12	President
e 19:12	20:5	politicall	power	41:2,3,7,
	26:19	y-	29:14	11,22
people		-		11,44

42:2	64:12	20:25	45:20,21,	question
44:11	produced	22:15	23 63:20	8:9 , 25
previous	66:23	26:9	publicized	9:5,18,23
44:15		28:6,17	26:20	12 : 5
	profession	29:18,21		29:1,5,9
previously	al 48:12	30:1	publicly	30:2
34:15	progress	66:25	51:6	36:24 , 25
price	10:7	provided	public's	45:2 51:9
28:24	42:13	9:8 22:5	30:10	52 : 23
prior 13:7	progressed	33:24,25	published	53 : 17
15:5 16:1	40:25	34:11,17	10:5	58:16
29:7,8		36:6		61:11
69:11	projected	60:10	purchase	questions
	19:18	66:14,16	15 : 24	31:15
privacy	projection		40:15	36:21
11:4	s 49:3	provides	60:23	59:5,8
private		30:4	61:3	61:16,20
9:7 38:11	projects	providing	purchased	69:15
privy	49:16,17	65 : 18	31:5 33:9	
48:22	promised	72:12	purchaser	quick 25:4
49:1	25:5	province	69:5,7	quite 8:3
	prompted	35:7	69:3,7	12:15
pro 60:10	52:4	37 : 20	purpose	40:17
probably		54:10,18	13:8	41:24
6:5 25:9	proposal	58:12	43:25	43:12,21
Procedural	5:19		purposes	44:10,21
11:3	propose	Provincial	13:23	45:1
11:3	13:23	65 : 23	15 : 12	46:3,8,23
Procedure	16:16	provision	23:3 51:2	49:6 53:9
7:17	proposed	19:11	52 : 11	57:1,2
18:12,13	30:16	provisiona	63 : 9	58:3 66:1
21:12	42:16	1 61:8	67 : 19	
proceeding			pursuant	R
5:2 21:14	propositio	public	41:18	railways
proceeding	n 66:12	4:22,24		43:23
s 7:22	prosecutor	6:6,8,18,	pursue	raised
9:21 12:8	s 7:5	19,20	48:19	14:2
15:20	prospect	9:14,24 10:5 12:6	71:11	
20:23	39:13	13:23	pursuing	raising
		15:4,14	71:8	37 : 4
process	protect	17:14,15		range
5:19	37:17	18:17		34:24
7:18,20	protected	20:19	qualified	38:7
18:16	39:12	26:10,22	58:11	ranks 41:1
20:19	protection	28:21		
71:9	6:16 34:8	32:16	qualifying	rate 33:23
processes		34:8	24:19	34:10,16,
41:18	proud 47:6	38:12	quality	19
produce	provide	43:20	47:16	35:5,13,1
8:9,18	6:15 8:23	44:13	48:16	5,20,22 36:6,9,14
1 0.4 10				

1112011	T IC COLLINGW	000 00 14 201	lage 50	01 95
37:9	49:15	43:3 56:4	10:14	relevant
58:10	53:12	recommende	reflect	7:11
62:3,12,1	reason	d 33:25	71:19	21:22
5,18,22,2	30:5 51:8	36:9		27 : 25
4 63:1			reflected	28:17
ratepayers	reasonable	record	7:9	29:24
28:25	34:3,24	12:6	regard	30:8 52:9
46:7	reasons	13:23	12:8 18:4	53:9 63:5
57:17	9:20 24:7	26:10	regarded	66:10
	47:4	67:19	47:5	relying
rates	53:21	records		68:18
35:6,19 36:24	72:12,15	49:2	regards	
37:20	recar 58:2	recreation	56 : 3	remain
37:20		al	region	33:1
58:3,10	rece 30:24	5:22 , 25	65 : 19	70:9 , 15
·	receive	31:5	registered	remarks
rather	68:19		15:8	4:20
36:13	received	recurred		12:3,6
Ravio 2:14	9:9 31:23	51:20	REGISTRAR	13:9
3:10	45:19	reduction	72 : 23	53:12
25:3,4,13	55:17	71:6,19	regular	55 : 22
27:8		re-elected	35:15,18,	56:13,14,
28:15	receives	14:19	22	17 , 18
31:12,18,	66:17	63:10	regulatory	70:23
21	recessing	03.10	49:21	71:12
37:5 , 15	72:6	re-	50:2	remunerati
38:5,8,14	recommend	election		on 44:17
re	28:10	25 : 17	relate 6:2	
3:8,11,14	33:25	refer	8:19	rendered
,17 14:21	35 : 12	11:1,6	related	13:20
18:21		13:18,21	17 : 22	repeat 6:5
31:11	recommenda	reference	relates	27:12
57:6	tion	5:11,13	51:9	repeating
61:23	8:22,24	6:9 7:9	53:16	20:3 40:1
	9:16,17	8:20	65:24	
reach	24:2,14	15:11		repetitiou
23:17,18	27:3	16:1	relating	s 5:1
reaction	31:22	17:21,24	19:12	report
55:1	33:22	18:6 19:9	relation	6 : 10
reading	34:15		5:20 8:24	19:20
13:23	35:9,14	referencin	29:10	20:8,9
65:9	36:2,20	g 17:19	53 : 7	25 : 24
	53:16	20:9 22:2	relations	34:13,14,
ready 4:13	58:8,19	referred	8:6	18
realities	59:3	16:20		46:21,24
38:11	67:3,5,10	17 : 15	relationsh	47:8
really	71:4	26:3	ip 29:6	represent
18:25	recommenda	27 : 23	66:3	7:4 20:15
24:5 43:9	tions 9:2	34:15	relationsh	22:11,12
44:1 46:5	42:24	referring	ips 29:2	
1 11.T 40.0	I	rererring	•	representa

~ -		000 00 14 201		
tion 29:3	59:1	70:19	14:9	d 13:24
representa	res 30:21	71:5	retirement	salaries
tions	reserve	72:13	54:20	29:9
39:8,9	24:7	respected	58:1 59:1	sale
	56:18	45 : 25	returns	5:18,20,2
representa		respectful	66:17	2 30:25
tives 29:4	resident	28:11		44:25
29:4	40:6	36:22	revelation	46:13
representi	resistance	58:23	54:23	64:14
ng 22:4	50:22		review	
23:7	resolution	responsibi	15 : 22	Sandra
reputation	50:23	lity 5:6	30:15	2:12
51:3	51:1	8:18	32:11,12	10:22
55:11,14	52:7,8,17	11:17	39:5	13:25
56:6		43:10,11	reviewing	16:5
63:17	resolve	responsibl	66:9	19:11
request	37:12	e 9:13		21:24
5:18 8:21	resources	restrictio	ride 62:11	23:6,18
9:8 15:18	32:7	n 37:9	rights	Sara 65:14
18:23	33:13		21:16	sat 25:6
19:19	34:8	restrictio	rigours	
23:22	respect	ns 34:3	49:19	satisfacti
25:19,21,	25:21	rests 37:1		on 26:9
23 27:10	26:23	result	roads	satisfy
33:3 36:1	28:3,20,2	18:9 28:7	43:22	32:14
44:10	3 29:9,14	31:7	role 9:1	saving
62:7	30:22	43:15	21:20	12:13
requested	31:13,15	44:25	30:7,23	saw 47:17
7:25	33:21,23	45:10	65 : 1	saw 4/:1/
23:22	34:2	55 : 20	roofs	scheduling
36:10	36:15	56:7 63:8	40:16	9:23
	39:1		45:4	school
requesting	42:14,25	resuming 72:7	46:14	14:4,5
9:4 11:3	43:13,14	12:1	47:13	64 : 6
13:9	44:9	retain	Room 1:17	seat 4:10
27:17	45:6,22	30:14		17:4
31:21	47:20	34:21	Rule 18:19	25:10
35:5,21	48:21	retained	rules	
requests	49:6	11:14	7:17,18,1	second
8:25	50:16	18:8	9 11:3	4:13
require	51:11	20:14	18:12,13	14:19
28:8	53:4	22:11	21:11	16:9 33:5
33:18	56:13,14,	60:25	running	40:17
	17	retaining	25:17	41:6
required 32:15	57:8,21	66:19	63:22	secondary
58:3	58:5,22 59:4			14:4,5
67:21	60:12,20	retire	Ryan 2:18	Section
	66:14	15 : 4		11:2
requires	67:3	retired	S	54 : 15
58:25			safeguarde	-

11/2011/	T IC OULLINOW	JOD 00-14-201	o rage 92	
sector	27:22	59 : 22	somebody's	stand 39:8
38:12,13	34:21	signal	64:24	standing
seek	65:16	12:20	somewhat	11:9,10,1
32:20,23	session	significan	44:14	1
33:7 35:1	4:23 26:7	t 23:9,16	sort 26:17	15:12 , 19
48:1 53:8	sets 16:10	34:20	37 : 10	16:8
seeking	settlement	35 : 21	71:15	19:19
11:10	32:25	37:19	sought	21:7,8,13
14:21		40:12	17:19	23:22
17:4	seventeen	47:5,14	36:4	25:20
19:19	20:6	65:1		27:10,12,
28:4	several	significan	source	16,17,20 28:3,8,11
39:1,2	50:3,4	tly	66:18	30:6,13,2
seem 23:3	severely	35:5,8	sources	2 33:15
34:19	44:11	55 : 12	32:20	39:1,2,16
seen 36:5	sewers	Simcoe	36:4,8	53:17
	43:23	14:25	71:3,7,9,	56 : 14
selection			18	60:10
45:3	share 5:16	similar	speaking	61:8,12
self-	15:24	22:23	11:24	64:20
evident	40:13	39:10	37 : 13	72:13,14
30:23	46:13 52:23	simply 9:9	specific	stands
sell 28:20		17:16	27 : 13	11:12
senior	shareholde	43:4	65:20	start 4:19
42:18	rs 41:6	49:15	specifical	25:14
	shares	single 7:4	ly 25:25	
sense	28:24	sir 24:20	26:6	starting
11:11	40:13	59:11	28:19	4:17
12:4 30:12	69:6	61:24	29:7	62:17,21
	sharing	sister	44:21	starts
separately	43:16	65:6,24	spoken	25:14
49:22	sharp 25:6	·	39:13	stated
September	_	sit 72:10	61:6	18:13
28:5 29:8	short 9:20	sites 45:5		statement
served	70:2	sits 65:6	Sprung 45:3	17:6
14:12,15,	shorten	situation		statements
25 55:16	12:8	19:14	staff	11:7,15
57 : 24	shortly	63:17	19:20	18:1 39:6
64:1,7	54:19		20:9,24	
server	shown	skill 7:11	22:10,17, 20 34:14	status
15:14	50:10	slight		19:8,15
service	64:11	70:1	staff-	45:22
13:20		snowplowin	sharing	stay 72:3
19:10	sic 51:20	g 43:24	43:9	stipulates
46:7 64:8	sidewalks	social	stage 27:4	22:3
	43:23	9:11	stages 8:1	strategic
services	sign 25:9		_	41:4,16,2
5:16		sold 28:24	stain 51:3	41.4,10,2

	(1 IC COHHINGW	JOD 00 14 201	id lage 55	01) 5
0 42:6,20	17:8,11	50:11	surprised	23 16:1
43:6	18:21	successes	50:13,19	17:21 , 22
46:25	23:21	47:1	swim	32:25
47:1,3,11	24:16		49:12,13	49:3
50:5,7,8	25:3,19,2	successful	47.12,13	59:25
stream	0 27:13	46:15		60:9
6:25	29:19	47:4,11		62 : 2 , 12
	30:21	71:10	table 3:1	64:4 70:7
Street	31:11,13	successor	17:5	testify
1:18	32:18	68:14	29:16	10:3
stretch	36:15,16,	69 : 4	talk 69:7	testimony
52:12	22	sued 6:7	talking	20:25
strong	38:15,21		51:25	52:10,14
55:9	40:3	suffice		53:5
strongly	48:25	33:2	target	
31:25	56:11	sufficient	63 : 23	thank 4:11
34:7 36:1	57:6	34:20	targets	10:8,12,1
63:3	59:4,17,2 1 61:23	suggest	63 : 24	9 12:1
	67:12,22	36:16	task	13:16
structure	68:19	50:8	42:6,9	19:6,7 23:15
33:24	69:9	51:16	43:6	
50:16	70:3,7	suggested	44:17	24:17,20, 24 27:8
structures	72:3	32 : 19	50:8	28:13
61:6		36:17	tasked	36:23
64:12	submit 21:24	53:21	42 : 12	38:14,16,
subject	39:15		tasks	23 48:5
16:14	57:23	<pre>suggesting 47:23</pre>	44:11	59:8,11
17:21	58:5			60:6
18:19		suggests	tax 66:17	61:24
20:9 21:5	submitted	49:5	team 29:13	67 : 13
28:18	20:10	sum 23:2	47:19 , 25	68:10,14
36:20	46:11	summarize	48:12	69:18,19,
39:18	submitting	30:24	49:13	22 71:24
59:5 71:6	24:4		technologi	72:10,22
submission	subs 58:3	summary	st 40:24	Thanks
17:2	substantia	47:10		24:23
28:12,15	1 7:22	summer	television	That's
55:19	16:13	47:17 , 18	6 : 21	48:8
58:7,24	21:4	Superior	tended	
66:21	39:17	5:5 52:19	16:8	themselves
70:16	46:9,20	suppliers	term 14:20	7:1 51:13
submission	51:14,19	45:4	terminatio	64:17
s	53:14		n 44:15	theoretica
3:7,8,10,	54:3	sure 9:25		1 12:23
11,13,14,	55:10,19,	10:1 48:3 52:23	terms	there's
16,17	23 58:4	61:9	5:11,13	6:19 8:5
8:10	success		6:9 7:9 8:19	11:23
9:3,5	47:24,25	surprise	14:12,15,	13:11
10:11	<u> </u>	50:18	17.12,17,	18:4
1				

1112011	TI LE COLLINGWO	OD 00 14 201	o rage 94	01 99
19:20	7:12	,16,17,24	n 5:18	
23:5,20	thousand	15:18,24	29:11,15,	U
24:6		16:6,22	25 30:23	ultimately
37:11,14	22:7 23:1	17:20	31:2,3	30:18
47:9	thousands	18:7	42:1,16,1	31:5
51:18	64:23,24	19:25	7 43:4	unable
52:17	66:6	22:4,11,1	44:23	35:3
57:14	throughout	5,19,23		
58:13	14:3,7,23	23:7	transactio	unbiased
61:11	15:20	24:14	ns 6:2	22:18
69:14	16:21	25:16,25	8:2 27:25	underlinin
70:8	27:23	26:6,12	33:7	g 46:5
72:1,2	53:25	27 : 5	46:16	_
they're	54:18,19	28 : 25	Transcript	understand
7:5 27:2	55:18	29:4	3:20	24:22
33:15	65:19	31:22	transcript	45:21
57:21	timeframe	34:1,13,1	s 6:23	48:14
		8 36:20		understood
they've	16:5,21	40:11,21,	treasurer	10:2
22:25	Timothy	23	19:25	undertakin
49:3	2:14	42:12,14,	treated	g 66:11
55:13	25:15	23	22:18	_
third-	today 5:8	43:17,22,	trial 6:6	unfair
generatio	6:5 7:20	24		66 : 24
n 40:6	9:4,20	44:3,4,5,	true 60:2	unfettered
third-	72:22,24	9,10,16,1	trust	11:11
party	tone 5:3	8,24	32:10	15 : 19
46:20,23	tone 3:3	45:9,17,1	54:13	39:2
47:8	top 37:10	9	try 10:1	unfolded
	topping	46:2,4,7,	_	55:13
thirteen	36:12	8,22 50:5	trying	
43:18		51:10,20	12:15	unique
44:12,19	top-up 36:7	54:8,12,1	37:17	28:16
thirty		9,25	47:25	29:17,21
45:25	Toronto	55:16	48:1	39:12
thirty-	42:11	57:16,17,	turn 6:10	46:3,9 60:20
nine	47:15,19	24,25 58:9,19,2	66:23	66:21
40:9,10,2	total	0,22 59:1	turned	
0 43:8	63:13	60:15	9 : 15	unjust
44:2	totally	62:7,15,1		58 : 7
45:18	63:7	7,24 63:6	turns 55:7	unless
54:20,25		65:13	twenty	10:13
55:15	Town 1:2	67:3 68:2	46:24	18:4
57:9	2:18 5:13	71:5	twenty-one	23:20
	6:3,11		19:9	24 : 5
thirty-two	8:22,24	Town's		31:14
14:9	9:1,16	43:10,11,	type 19:19 32:14	32 : 4
Thoreson	10:22	15 67:4	32:14	69:15
2:4 7:14	11:14,17, 25 13:20	71:20	34:4	unlikely
thoroughly	14:2,8,12	transactio	J ⊐. ⊐	33:2
	14.4,0,14			

INQUIF	RY TE COLLINGW	OOD 08-14-2018	Page 95	OI 95
37:12	34:23	7:14,19	who's 4:14	44:4
updates	various	10:6	whose 7:23	workforce
10:5	17:18,19	weight	33 : 7	14:7
upon 4:1	18:1	52:14	wide 38:7	working
20:24	40:11	welcome		14:8 62:3
58:4	41:6 44:6	4:22	willing	64:9 65:4
71:14	45:11	11:21	62 : 17	
72:6,7	46:7	70:15	65 : 17	works
73:1	49:21		wish 40:4	43:20
	64:1,8	welcoming	49:15	44:13
upset	vary 35:23	4:22	51 : 4	52 : 7
59:19	_	we'll 5:8	withdraw	worried
urge 19:16	vexing	10:9	13:10,14	60:8
urging	36:25	48:19	13:10,14	wrap 55:22
17:11	37:3,4	70:6	withstandi	_
1/•11	38:13	71:24	ng 32:2	write 37:2
usage	58:15	72:19	36:11	writes
48:17,23	view 7:4	Wendy	witness	65 : 10
useful	39:3 40:2	73:10	17:3	
40:3 71:7	52:24		21:25	written
Utilities	55:24	we're 4:12	29:21	8:10
	67:7 , 8	7:18,20	30:8 32:1	17:10
2:7 68:4	virtue	8:15 17:4	45:10,15	68:18
69:1	52:6	18:10	55:25	72:12
utility		27:17		wrong
5:16	visit 49:8	51:24	witnesses	63:15 , 25
27:22	vocal 40:3	60:14	6:15,17	64:19
28:4,21	vote 52:5	72:22	8:8,9	
40:22		we've	17:7 21:10	Y
43:13	voted	53:19		yep
64:14	15:6,7	58:13	30:2,12,1	12:18,21
Uukkivi	voting	70:3	4,17,20 32:2 39:4	yesterday
2:14 3:10	15:9	whatever	45:11	4:25 6:4
24:25		11:22	53:6	
25:3,4,13		62:18	56:10	yet 10:4
27:8	wasn't		63:11	51:6
28:15	12:15	wherein		you'll
31:12,18,		11:3	wonder	63:4 65:2
21	watch 16:5	whether	70:1,17	66:7
37:5 , 15	Watson 2:7	6:14	wonderful	you've
38:5,8,14	68:3,5,9,	26:24	49:7	17:15
	19,20,25	30:17	wondering	18:25
	69:1,19,2	51:21	59:22	10.23
variance	1,22	53:15		
35:21	ways 46:18	63:5 65:7	Woodworth	
36:9	64:8	67 : 5	73:10	
		whole	work 35:18	
variances	website	11:25	64:8 66:8	
37:20	5:14		worked	
variation	6:21,23	whom 63:21	MOTYGO	
	I	1		