

## *Vulnerable Persons Hearing Panel Roster*

### **Board Members**

#### Family Members

Carole Boulet, Winnipeg (bil.)  
Susan Boulter, Winnipeg  
Heather Deneka, Beausejour  
Rebecca Dunn, West Pine Ridge  
Theresa Epp, Winnipeg (bil.)  
Arnold (Dino) Flett, Garden Hill  
Brenda Halprin, Winnipeg  
Guy Mercier, Winnipeg (bil.)  
Derrick Turner, Minnedosa

#### Community Members

Becky Adams, Lockport  
Ian Anderson, Lockport  
Cecile Berard, Grande Pointe (bil.)  
Norman Bruce, Swan River  
Ramona Coey, Lorette  
Helena Goerz, Morden (bil.)  
Sheri Grenier-Rooke, Mitchell  
Jeff Fawcett, Brandon  
Vandana Jamadagni, Brandon  
June Letkeman, Plum Coulee  
Brent Scales, Swan River  
Marilyn Robinson, Winnipeg  
Diana Taylor, Swan River  
Bryan Harley, Neepawa

#### Lawyers

Karla Dane, Brandon  
Roger Grégoire, The Pas (bil.)  
Nichole Hiebert, Winkler  
Sandra Kliman, Winnipeg  
Rénald Rémillard, Winnipeg (bil.)  
Harvey Slobodzian, Winnipeg (bil.)  
Sheree Walder, Winnipeg

### **Mandate:**

The VPHP is a hearing panel that provides independent and objective recommendations to the VP Commissioner regarding applications related to substitute decision-maker appointments for vulnerable persons.

### **Authority:**

*The Vulnerable Persons Living with a Mental Disability Act*

**Responsibilities:**

All applications requesting the appointment of a substitute decision maker for a vulnerable person must be heard by a three-member hearing panel comprised of a representative of a family member of a vulnerable person, a lawyer and a community member. The hearing panel is established by the Vulnerable Persons' Commissioner and after conducting the hearing, the hearing panel makes recommendations to the Commissioner with respect to:

- whether the criteria respecting the appointment of a substitute decision maker have been met;
- who the substitute decision maker should be;
- what powers the commissioner should grant to the substitute decision maker; and
- the length and other terms and conditions of the appointment.

**Membership:**

The membership of the hearing panel roster must, in the opinion of the Lieutenant Governor in Council,

- a) be comprised of a minimum of 20 members
- b) have representation of lawyers, parents and/or other family members of vulnerable persons, and community members
- c) have representation from all regions of the province
- d) be comprised of at least 3 bilingual members
- e) be diverse in its membership

**Length of Terms:**

Terms as per LGIC (10 Year Max)

Members may be reappointed.

**Desirable Experience:**

- Be knowledgeable of supports and services for adults living with a mental disability and/or an understanding of the issues affecting adults living with a mental disability.
- Knowledge of The Vulnerable Persons Living with a Mental Disability Act and the principles and concepts of decision-making capacity, supported decision-making, support networks and substitute decision making would be desirable.
- Must be able to communicate verbally and have the ability to ask questions using open ended, non-judgmental language
- Have active listening skills
- Be able to read and interpret legislation and how it applies to the case
- Use plain language
- Adhere to a high degree of confidentiality
- Have the ability to make decisions in a fair and unbiased manner.
- Basic technology skill
- Conduct hearings in a fair and orderly manner.
- Review and analyze complex written material and verbal information in order to ascertain facts and evidence,
- Make decisions in a fair and unbiased manner and provide written summary of appeals.

**Time Commitment:**

Normally a hearing panel will be scheduled within two weeks after an application is referred to a hearing panel. The actual date of the hearing is determined by the availability of the parties. Members must be able to participate in a minimum of 15 full and/or half day hearings each year during normal office hours. Must participate in orientation and ongoing training sessions. Some travel may be required for hearings outside of Winnipeg.

**Meetings:**

Frequency: 90 hearing panels per year (Approx.)  
Location: Winnipeg (70%) teleconferencing options available

**Remuneration:**

Presiding Member: \$336/full-day \$191/half-day  
Members: \$192/full-day \$109/half-day

Members are reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses in accordance with the GMA.