

## Process for Missing Royalty Owner application (MRO)

Where the identity or whereabouts of a royalty owner in a tract or spacing unit cannot be ascertained, a person may on the behalf of the royalty owner, make application for an order authorizing the exploration for oil and gas.

The application is to be made under Section 214(1) of the Oil and Gas Act to the Director of Petroleum. The application must be on company letterhead and signed by an officer of the company. The application must contain the following information:

1. The legal description of the proposed drilling location
2. The proposed formation to which the well will be drilled
3. The legal description of each spacing unit for the drilling location, detailing mineral ownership for each of the spacing units and is to include the bonuses paid, annual rental fees and the royalty rates
4. The names and addresses for all of the owners including lessors and lessees and indication of which minerals are outstanding
5. The application must include a detailed outline of the efforts taken by the applicant or their agents to find the missing owner or lessors. It should include results of general and specific title searches which should include the Certificates of Title, Patents, Plans, Transfers and Road Plans, any notes on the content and dates of telephone calls, meetings and copies of all correspondence between the relevant parties.
6. There must also be an indication in the application where the applicant commits to allocating the royalties for the missing royalty owner to a trust account to be administered by the Minister of Finance – Manitoba.

Once the application is reviewed and minerals are confirmed, a Notice to Publish is drafted and published in the local papers. After approximately 30 days from publication date and if no respondents have come forward, a Ministerial Order for the MRO is sent for approval and registration.

For further information, please contact the Director of Petroleum.