



May 29, 2019

Attention: Medical Professionals/MRPs

Dear Doctor:

**Re: Request for Expressions of Interest
CRT Roster of Independent Medical Professionals**

As of April 1, 2019, the Civil Resolution Tribunal (CRT) has jurisdiction over motor vehicle injury disputes \$50,000 and under. These can include disputes about accident benefits, disputes about whether an injury is a “minor injury” as defined by the Insurance (Vehicle) Act, and disputes about damages and liability.

Motor vehicle injury disputes will require the CRT to make decisions on medical issues. Those decisions may include the cause and diagnosis of the injuries, the duration and nature of the impacts, the disabilities created by the injuries, and any restrictions or limitations on the injured party’s activities and employment.

To assist the CRT in making decisions, tribunal members can order the completion of independent medical examinations (IMEs), either on request of a party to the dispute or on the tribunal’s own initiative. Under the CRT Rules, the CRT Chair may establish a roster of medical professionals who are willing and qualified to provide an IME in a motor vehicle injury dispute.

I am writing to inquire whether you are willing to be placed on this roster, so you will be eligible for service as an independent medical professional when requested by the CRT.

If your name is included on the roster, a CRT member may select you to complete an IME in a dispute, based on your area of specialization. The CRT would then contact you and provide you with information about the nature of the request, including the proposed fee. You could then accept or decline to provide the IME in that dispute.

If you accept the request, the CRT will provide you with the terms of reference for the IME. The terms of reference are set by a CRT member and will specify the questions to be answered in the IME report, the format for the report, and the time frame for completing it. The terms of reference may also include any evidence or information that the tribunal member wants the medical professional to consider. The IME report will include: a) your expert opinion on the questions posed in the terms of reference; and b) any comments or explanation about the basis for that opinion.

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Although medical professionals may prepare their reports based only on a review of medical evidence and information, the CRT Rules allow the medical professional to require the injured party to attend for an examination before preparing the report.

The CRT will disclose the medical professional's report to the parties to the dispute and they will have an opportunity to make submissions on it before the CRT makes its decision. The CRT may request that the medical professional clarify the opinion or report, or specific aspects of it.

One or more of the parties to the dispute will be responsible for paying the fees and expenses charged by the medical professional for preparing the report. However, there is a \$2,000 limit on the amount that a party can recover for those costs. The CRT expects that the fees and expenses charged by a medical professional to prepare an IME will be proportional to the effort required to comply with the terms of reference. In any event, the fees and expenses cannot exceed the \$2,000 limit, except in exceptional circumstances where pre-approved by the CRT.

Medical professionals will normally act alone in providing an IME report to the CRT. Once the CRT has selected a medical professional to prepare an IME, the task cannot be delegated.

If you are willing to be considered for placement on the CRT's roster as an independent medical professional, please complete and return the enclosed form (Expression of Interest to Provide Independent Health Professional Assistance or Advice to CRT) and return it to the CRT by email, mail or fax at your earliest convenience:

Attention: Shannon Salter, CRT Chair

By email to: info@crtbc.ca

By fax to: 250 356-6552

By mail to: Civil Resolution Tribunal
PO Box 9239, STN PROV GOVT
Victoria BC V8W 9J1

Please include your resume with the Expression of Interest.

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Please note that completion of an Expression of Interest does not guarantee that you will be included on the roster. Medical professionals will be screened to ensure they have the necessary qualifications, including membership in good standing with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia. The CRT must also ensure that medical professionals who provide IMEs do not have any real or apparent conflicts of interest and there are no circumstances which may give rise to a reasonable apprehension of bias.

Final approval of additions to the roster of independent medical professionals will be made by me, as CRT Chair. There is no deadline for submitting an expression of interest in the IME roster, but I encourage you to do so as soon as possible.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and for considering acting as an independent medical professional for the CRT.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Shannon Salter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shannon Salter
Chair