

Out-of-Country Health Services Appeal Panel

[REDACTED] | Edmonton AB | [REDACTED]

November 26, 2020

Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship
c/o Committee Clerk
3rd Floor, 9820 – 107 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 1E7
RSCommittee.Admin@assembly.ab.ca

**Re: Review of the *Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act*
Invitation to Make a Written Submission**

Dear Mr. David B. Hanson, Chair, Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship,

Thank you for your letter inviting the Out-of-Country Health Services Appeal Panel (Appeal Panel) to contribute to the review of the *Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act* led by the Standing Committee on Resource Stewardship.

The Appeal Panel is a steward of the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan and aims to ensure that Albertans have appropriate access to insured health services, aligned with the Alberta standard of care and medical evidence, even if services are not available in Alberta or Canada. The Appeal Panel is an independent panel that operates at arm's length from the Out-of-Country Health Services Committee (Committee) and the Ministry of Health and considers appeals from Albertans regarding decisions made by the Committee under the *Out-of-Country Health Services Regulation* to fund insured medical, oral surgical, and/or hospital services that are not available in Canada.

The Appeal Panel members have had an opportunity to review the *Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act* and we do not have any feedback to contribute at this time but we appreciate your consideration and inclusion. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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Ms. Lorraine Sheremeta
Chair, Out-of-Country Health Services Appeal Panel