



## NOTICE OF HEARING

The C-NLOPB has appointed the Honourable Robert Wells, Q.C. as Commissioner of the Inquiry on Offshore Helicopter Safety. The Inquiry will be divided into two phases. The purpose of Phase I of the Inquiry is to determine and recommend to the C-NLOPB, improvements to the safety regime which in the opinion of the Commissioner would improve offshore helicopter safety to ensure that the risks of helicopter transportation of offshore workers is as low as is reasonably practicable in the Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Area. Phase II shall proceed upon completion of the Transportation Safety Board of Canada Investigation into Cougar Helicopter Sikorsky S92-A Crash.

The Commissioner's mandate will be to inquire into, report on and make recommendations in respect of matters relating to the safety of offshore workers in the context of Operator's accountability for transport, escape, evacuation and rescue procedures while travelling by helicopter over water to installations in the Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Area, in compliance with occupational health and safety principles and best industry practices. Specifically, the Commissioner shall inquire into, report on and make recommendations in respect of safety plan requirements for Operators and the role that Operators play in ensuring that their safety plans are maintained by helicopter operators; search and rescue obligations of helicopter operators by way of contractual undertakings or legislative or regulatory requirements; and the role of the C-NLOPB and other regulators in ensuring compliance with legislative requirements in respect of worker safety. The full text of the Commissioner's Terms of Reference can be found at [www.cnlopb.nl.ca](http://www.cnlopb.nl.ca) or from the Inquiry offices at the address below.

Applications by interested individuals and organizations for standing and funding in relation to Phase I only of the Inquiry will be heard commencing at 10:00 a.m. on August 11, 2009, and continuing on each of August 12 and August 13, 2009, commencing at 10:00 a.m. at the Inquiry offices located at Suite 213, 31 Peet Street, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador. **NO EVIDENCE WILL BE HEARD AT THAT TIME.**

The Criteria for standing in Phase I of the Inquiry and the criteria for funding are set out in the Terms of Reference. The Commissioner's Rules of Procedure and Practice can be obtained by contacting the Inquiry offices at the address or telephone number set out below.

Applications for standing and/or funding are to be submitted to the Commissioner at the Inquiry offices by 4:00 p.m. on July 31, 2009 via mail or facsimile at the following address:

Offshore Helicopter Safety Inquiry  
Suite 213, 31 Peet Street  
P. O. Box 8037  
St. John's, NL  
A1B 3M7  
Tel: (709)722-0911  
Fax: (709) 722-1363