

Pre-Hearing Dispute Resolution Conference

What is a pre-hearing dispute resolution conference?

Pre-hearing Dispute Resolution Conferences are used by the Board to assist in managing and resolving an application. A Pre-hearing Dispute Resolution Conference is the first step in an application (unless the parties request that their matter go directly to mediation).

The purpose of the conference is to discuss the issues, evidence, and likelihood of resolution, then set the next steps.

Agenda items may include:

- set the date, location and time required for the mediation or hearing
- determine witnesses and whether summaries of a witness's evidence is required
- set dates for the exchange of documents or expert reports in advance of the mediation or hearing
- discuss any other matters that may be necessary for the fair and efficient conduct of the mediation or hearing
- define the issues that will proceed to mediation or hearing
- determine what facts are agreed to between the parties
- answer questions and provide information about the mediation and hearing process and what is expected of the parties

Where can I find more information?

For more details on Pre-Hearing Dispute Resolution Conferences, please refer to the Surface Rights Board website at www.srb.lcb.gov.ab.ca, or contact:

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The **Surface Rights Board** is an independent adjudicative tribunal established under statute by the Province of Alberta. The Board provides independent, accessible, fair, timely and impartial processes when operators and landowners or occupants fail to agree on compensation related to resource activity on privately owned lands or occupied public lands. The Board operates under many different pieces of legislation, including the *Alberta Surface Rights Act*.

For more information on mediation conferences, please see the Mediation Conference Information Bulletin.

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