

Commissioner thank you for agreeing to attend my opening comments I wish to express my views and have these comments included in the records of this proceeding.

Process. Is it not contrary to our democratic and constitutional society that an accused party shall have the right to face his/her accuser?

To be offered an opportunity to question that accuser directly?

I have been advised that your office is bound by some element of confidentiality, that you are not permitted to such disclosure.

How authoritarian is that?

A third party can file a complaint and never have to provide evidence of the alleged facts, or respond directly to the accused party.

The accused is denied the right to face his or her accuser? Or determine the date the accuser ought to have known these so called facts, and the date of filing? Has the 2 year limitation within your guidelines expired?

That process speaks of weaponising your office without risk of repercussion! Through anonymity.

A guide to the lobbyists registration act.

I refer you to page 6, and I quote” a consultant lobbyist is an individual who is paid to lobby on behalf of a client”.

Fact... I have never been paid to advocate on behalf of a client.

Page 11 same publication, and I quote,”an in house lobbyist (persons & partnerships) is an employee, paid director,group of employees and/or group of paid directors who is either individually or collectively spends as much as so hours in a calendar year (Sec,s (7) of the lra-lobbying on behalf of the person or partnership (for profit entity”).)

Fact... None of the above have application to me. Not even to the extent of so minutes or so seconds!

But now to the actual accusation that I performed lobbying without having registered with the appropriate authorities.

Let me be clear.

I did not! But on the mere suggestion, by what I suspect are elements of the life insurance industry, who have chosen to weaponize your office here I stand.

Commissioner. I have 60 very successful years to my credit within the life insurance industry. I have been regaled many times over during those years for my dedication to my clients and indeed by the life industry, all a matter of public record! Have served on many industry association boards and executive boards during those years.

So, you may ask, why would the very industry I served so well and ethically for 60 years choose to weaponize your office against me?

There is a very simple answer!

Throughout the free world and in many provinces of Canada. Owners of a life insurance contract have the right to seek fair market value should they wish to terminate a no longer needed policy. To treat the policy as an asset, a right that has been declared by many courts.

But not in Ontario.

In Ontario, millions of such people, for the most part seniors, have no option but to surrender their policy back to the issuing insurer at either no value or pennies.

And surrender it is. To give back without the option to enjoy the fruit of many years of ownership and premium payments and to, in return receive little or no value at a crucial time in their life.

Why you may ask has the policy increased in value.

By the aging of the insured who now is closer to mortality thus increasing the FMV of the policy significantly.

But in Ontario, the government of the day collabores with the life insurance companies to egregiously deprive these seniors with much needed funds to support their declining years. Much has been made in Ontario of aging of seniors and lifecare costs attributed to same. This asset can mitigate such expenses to seniors.

What happens to the fair market value of these policies, often in the hundreds of thousands of dollars you should ask yourself.

Why they revert to the issuing insurers bottom line rather than to the rightful owner.

I have advocated for a change in ontario laws at the request of clients facing severe financial difficulties in attempts to allow them acces to these funds, rightfully theirs, as opposed to a surrender for little or no value.

I will continue to so advocate, and I retain my right to do so until our provincial government sees fit to cease supporting the life insurers and their well oiled self serving interests, by bringing ontario in line with the rest of the free world.

In this an election year, perhaps the seniors will have a voice at the voting booth.

Thank you for allowing me to make these comments. I will be pleased to respond to any questions put to me.