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## **Arrangement to Improve Efficiency and Independence for ITAB**

The Environmental Appeal Board/Forest Appeals Commission (EAB/FAC) has recently agreed to assume responsibility for providing administrative services and managing appeals to the Industry Training Appeal Board (ITAB), pursuant to a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Ministry of Economic Development (MED).

The ITAB was created to hear appeals from decisions of the Chief Executive Officer of the Industry Training Authority. The tribunal anticipates a relatively low volume of appeals.

The agreement will enable ITAB to take advantage of existing expertise at the EAB/FAC and cost-effectively deliver services to ITAB members and stakeholders. The ITAB also will be able to access the resources of the larger tribunals, including the EAB/FAC specialized electronic case management system, an onsite hearing room and access to the EAB/FAC legal libraries. The parties anticipate that ITAB will eventually use EAB/FAC technical expertise to develop and maintain its own Web site. The arrangements will also reinforce the perception of the ITAB as an independent decision-making entity.

Pursuant to the MOU, Alan Andison, Chair of the EAB and the FAC, will continue to provide the day to day direction for the registry staff, with input on ITAB-related matters from Marcia McNeil, Chair of ITAB. Although the tribunals will share a registry, they remain distinct entities and the specialized knowledge for each tribunal will continue to be maintained by separate membership.

The MOU builds on the success of an earlier agreement, in which EAB/FAC agreed to provide registry services for the Community Care and the Assisted Living Appeal Board (CCALAB) and the Hospital Appeal Board (HAB). That agreement was described in an earlier [article](#) on the Administrative Justice Office web site.