COURT FILE NUMBER

COURT

1401-11912 KING'S

1401-11912 KING'S
COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH OF ALBERTA
CALGARY

JUDICIAL CENTRE

PLAINTIFF

LUKAS WALTER and TRAVIS MCEVOY,

and KYLE O'CONNOR as

REPRESENTATIVE PLAINTIFFS



I hereby certify this to be a true copy of the original ORDER Dated this 5 day of APRIL 17074 Jor Clerk of the Court

#### **DEFENDANTS**

WESTERN HOCKEY LEAGUE, McCRIMMON HOLDINGS, LTD. AND 32155 MANITOBA LTD., A PARTNERSHIP c.o.b. as BRANDON WHEAT KINGS., BRANDON WHEAT KINGS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, 1056648 ONTARIO INC., CALGARY FLAMES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, CALGARY SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT CORPORATION, REXALL SPORTS CORP., EDMONTON MAJOR JUNIOR HOCKEY CORPORATION, EDMONTON OILERS HOCKEY CORP., EHT, INC., KAMLOOPS BLAZERS HOCKEY CLUB, INC., KAMLOOPS BLAZERS HOLDINGS LTD., KELOWNA ROCKETS HOCKEY ENTERPRISES LTD., HURRICANES HOCKEY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, PRINCE ALBERT RAIDERS HOCKEY CLUB INC., BRODSKY WEST HOLDINGS LTD., EDGEPRO SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT LTD., REBELS SPORTS LTD., QUEEN CITY SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT GROUP LTD., BRAKEN HOLDINGS LTD., SASKATOON BLADES HOCKEY CLUB LTD., VANCOUVER JUNIOR HOCKEY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, VANCOUVER JUNIOR HOCKEY PARTNERSHIP, LTD., WEST COAST HOCKEY ENTERPRISES LTD., WEST COAST HOCKEY LLP, MEDICINE HAT TIGERS HOCKEY CLUB LTD., 1091956 ALTA LTD., PORTLAND WINTER HAWKS, INC., BRETT SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT, INC., HAT TRICK, INC. d.b.a. SPOKANE CHIEFS HOCKEY CLUB, THUNDERBIRD HOCKEY ENTERPRISES, LLC, TOP SHELF ENTERTAINMENT, INC., SWIFT CURRENT TIER 1 FRANCHISE INC., SWIFT CURRENT BRONCO HOCKEY CLUB INC., KOOTENAY ICE HOCKEY CLUB LTD., MOOSE JAW TIER 1 HOCKEY INC. d.b.a. MOOSE JAW WARRIORS, MOOSE JAW WARRIORS TIER 1 HOCKEY, INC., LETHBRIDGE HURRICANES HOCKEY CLUB, and CANADIAN HOCKEY LEAGUE

**DOCUMENT** 

ORDER

(Approving Settlement, Distribution and

Fees)

Brought under the Class Proceedings Act, S.A.

2003, c. C-16.5

ADDRESS FOR SERVICE AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF PARTY FILING THIS DOCUMENT **CHARNEY LAWYERS P.C.** 

151 Bloor St. W., Suite 602 Toronto, ON M5S 1S4

Theodore P. Charney/ Caleb Edwards

Phone: 416.964.7950 Fax: 416.964.7416

**GOLDBLATT PARTNERS LLP** 

20 Dundas Street West, Suite 1039

Toronto, ON M5G 2C2

Steven Barrett / Joshua Mandryk

Phone: 416.977.6070 Fax: 416.591.7333

Lawyers for the Plaintiff

TO

**TORYS LLP** 

79 Wellington Street West, Suite 3000

Box 270, TD Centre Toronto, ON M5K 1N2 Sarah Whitmore

Phone: 416.865.7323 Fax: 416.865.8209

Lawyers for the Defendants

## <u>ORDER</u>

# APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT, DISTRIBUTION AND FEES

DATE ON WHICH ORDER WAS PRONOUNCED:

April 15, 2024

NAME OF JUSTICE WHO MADE THIS ORDER:

Honourable Mr. Justice R.J. Hall

UPON THE APPLICATION of the plaintiffs for an order pursuant to the *Class Proceedings Act*, S.A. 2000, c. C-16.5, approving the Settlement Agreement, Distribution Protocol and fees of Class Counsel, which was heard in writing on this day, at the courthouse at 601 5th Street Southwest, Calgary, Alberta; AND UPON reading all materials filed, including the Settlement Agreement, Amendment Agreement, Distribution Protocol and on reading the submissions of counsel for all parties; AND UPON being advised of the defendants' consent;

AND WHEREAS the parties attended a joint hearing of the Court of King's Bench of Alberta, Superior Court of Ontario, and Superior Court of Québec on September 15, 2020 seeking approval of the Settlement Agreement, Distribution Protocol, honorarium and fees of Class Counsel.

AND WHEREAS Kobe Mohr and Anthony Poulin objected to the scope of the release in the Settlement Agreement and commenced a class proceeding against some of the Defendants alleging violations of the Competition Act, R.S.C., 1985, c. C-34 (the "Competition Action")

AND WHEREAS by reasons of this Court, released October 22, 2020, the Application for approval was dismissed and this Court directed that the dismissal was without prejudice to the rights of the parties to reapply for settlement approval.

AND WHEREAS This Court further directed that if the parties reapplied with no change to the proposed Settlement Agreement other than a revision to the release, then it would not be necessary to give notice of the settlement approval hearing other than to the objectors. Kobe Mohr and Anthony Poulin and the hearing shall proceed as an application in writing.

AND WHEREAS The Competition Action was dismissed by the Federal Court and all appeals have been exhausted.

AND WHEREAS The parties have executed an Amendment Agreement to the Settlement Agreement modifying the scope of the proposed release in accordance with the directions of the Superior Courts of Alberta, Ontario, and Québec and the parties have not otherwise modified the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

AND WHEREAS by order of Martin J. of this Court, dated April 13, 2016 the contingency fee agreement between Lukas Walter and Charney Lawyers PC, dated February 25, 2016, was approved and the financing and indemnity agreement between Lukas Walter, Charney Lawyers PC, BridgePoint Global Litigation Services Inc and Bridgepoint Indemnity Company (Canada) Inc, dated March 9, 2016 was approved ("Approved Funding Agreement").

### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- THIS COURT ORDERS that, in addition to the definitions used elsewhere in this Order, for the purposes of this Order, the definitions set out in the Settlement Agreement, Amendment Agreement and Distribution Protocol apply to and are incorporated into this Order.
- THIS COURT ORDERS that in the event of a conflict between this Order and the Settlement Agreement, Amendment Agreement or Distribution Protocol, this Order shall prevail.

# Settlement Agreement, Amendment Agreement and Distribution Approval

- 3. THIS COURT ORDERS That this Order, including the Settlement Agreement, Amendment Agreement and Distribution Protocol, is binding upon each member of the Class that did not validly opt out, as well as all Releasors, including those Persons who are minors or mentally incapable, and the requirements of Rule 2.11 of the Alberta Rules of Court are dispensed with in respect of the Alberta Class Action.
- 4. THIS COURT ORDERS That the Distribution Protocol, Settlement Agreement and Amendment Agreement are fair, reasonable and in the best interests of the Class.
- 5. THIS COURT ORDERS That the Settlement Agreement and Amendment Agreement, attached as Schedule "A", are hereby approved pursuant to section 35 of the Class Proceedings Act, SA 2003, c C-16.5, and shall be implemented and enforced in accordance with their terms.
- 6. THIS COURT ORDERS That the Distribution Protocol, attached as Schedule "B", is hereby approved and shall be implemented and enforced in accordance with its terms.
- 7. THIS COURT ORDERS that Travis McEvoy, Kyle O'Connor; and Lukas Walter shall each receive an honorarium of \$10,000, payable from the Settlement Amount.
- 8. THIS COURT ORDERS that, upon the Effective Date, each Releasor has released and shall be conclusively deemed to have forever and absolutely released the Releasees from the Released Matters as set out in the Amendment Agreement attached at Schedule "A".

- THIS COURT ORDERS that RicePoint Administration Inc. and it's affiliates (the "Administrator") are appointed to administer the Distribution Protocol.
- 10. THIS COURT ORDERS the Administrator may apply the Distribution Protocol in assessing the individual entitlements of the Class Members to the Claim Fund and make any determinations without further order of the Court.
- 11. THIS COURT ORDERS that calculations of Class Member entitlements to the Claim

  Fund made by the Administrator pursuant to the Distribution Protocol are final and binding
  on the Class Members.
- 12. THIS COURT ORDERS that the Administrator shall be remunerated its reasonable fees and disbursements from the Settlement Fund without further approval of the Court;
- 13. THIS COURT ORDERS that, other than that which has been provided in the Settlement Agreement, no Releasee shall have any responsibility or liability whatsoever relating to the administration of the Settlement Agreement.

## Notice of Settlement Approval

14. THIS COURT ORDERS that notice to the Class Members that the Settlement Agreement has been approved and the Class may submit an Administration Form shall be by text message, e-mail and regular mail (as available) in accordance with s. 8.1(3) of the Settlement Agreement.

# Class Counsel Fees and Payment to Funder

- 15. THIS COURT ORDERS that fees payable in the total amount of \$9,946,182, plus disbursements of \$521,767.55 and plus applicable taxes, representing the total legal fees collectively for the Ontario Class Acton, Alberta Class Action and Québec Class Action, are approved, subject to any further order after approvals in the Alberta and Québec Class Actions, and shall be paid to Class Counsel from the Settlement Amount.
- 16. THIS COURT ORDERS that \$1,744,277.00 shall be paid to BridgePoint Global Litigation Services Inc and Bridgepoint Indemnity Company (Canada) Inc, pursuant to the Approved Funding Agreement, dated March 9, 2016 or other such amount as approved by this Court and calculated after the Claims Deadline, Distribution of the Claims Fund and payment of all Administration Expenses, payable from the Settlement Amount.

## Dismissal, Termination and Ongoing Oversight

- 17. THIS COURT ORDERS that, in the event that the Settlement Agreement is terminated in accordance with its terms or otherwise fails to take effect for any reason, this Order shall be declared null and void and of no force or effect without the need for any further order of this Court and without notice to the Class.
- 18. THIS COURT ORDERS that, upon the Effective Date, the Alberta Class Action is hereby dismissed without costs and with prejudice.
- 19. THIS COURT ORDERS that, for the purposes of administration and enforcement of the Settlement Agreement and this Order, this Court will retain an ongoing supervisory role.
- 20. THIS COURT ORDERS that Class Counsel, the Defendants and/or the Claims

  Administrator may make a motion or motions to the Court for directions necessary to

administer the settlement of this Action or to authorize payment to the Class Members and/or for any other disbursements.

- 21. THIS COURT ORDERS that the terms of this Order shall not be effective unless and until a corresponding order/judgment with no material differences is obtained from each of the Superior Court of Ontario and the Superior Court of Québec.
- 22. THIS COURT ORDERS that there shall be no costs of this Application.

Honourable Mr. Justice R.J. Hall