

**NOVA SCOTIA REGULATORY AND APPEALS BOARD**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE MOTOR CARRIER ACT**

**-and-**

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION of TRAVELPORTAL TRAVEL INC.** for the issue of a Motor Carrier License

**BEFORE:**



Roland A. Deveau, K.C., Vice Chair

Julia E. Clark, LL.B., Vice Chair

M. Kathleen McManus, K.C., Ph.D., Member

**DECISION AND ORDER**

Travelportal Travel Inc. applied to the Board on March 26, 2025, for the issuance of a Motor Carrier License to operate one (1) 11 to 14 -passenger vehicle for the purposes of providing guided and self-guided tours, as described in the application.

Notice of the Application was posted in the Royal Gazette on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, as well as posted on the Board's website and forwarded to licensed motor carriers by email, fax or mail. John Jeffrey Babineau o/a Anchor Tours, and Paul McNeil o/a Halifax Titanic Historic Tours objected to the application. The objectors indicated that there is a sufficient supply of existing licensed carriers offering similar services and vehicles, which are able to handle the level of expected demand.

The Board issued its Notice of Public Hearing on April 30, 2025. An oral hearing was scheduled for Friday, June 13, 2025, at 1:30 pm, at the Offices of the Board, 1601 Lower Water Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia. The Notice provided for the pre-filing of evidence, with the Applicant's Evidence/Submissions to be filed by Friday, May 9, 2025, and the Objectors' Evidence/Submissions by Friday, May 23, 2025. The Applicant's Rebuttal Evidence, if any, was to be filed by Friday, June 6, 2025. None of the parties filed evidence or supporting written submissions.

The hearing was held as scheduled Friday, June 13, 2025, at 1:30 pm, at the Offices of the Board. In new license applications, an applicant has the burden of showing that the license should be granted. The Applicant did not appear at the hearing, but the Objectors did attend and confirmed their reasons for opposing the application.

The Board noted that the Applicant did not file evidence in support of its application and, further, did not appear at the hearing. The Board concluded that the Applicant has not shown that the application should be granted.

Accordingly, the Board orders that the application by Travelportal Travel Inc. is denied.

**DATED** at Halifax, Nova Scotia, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June 2025.

*Pamela McGarrigle*

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Clerk of the Board