



## Press Release

Attention News Editors

### **Dates set for Hearings for Application for Standing and for General Public Hearings in the Arar Inquiry**

**Ottawa, March 29, 2004** - Mr. Justice Dennis R. O'Connor, Commissioner for the Inquiry into the Actions of Canadian Officials in Relation to Maher Arar will hear applications for Standing on Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup> and Friday April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

The hearings will take place in the Annex Room at the Government Conference Centre, 2 Rideau Street in Ottawa from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will resume at 2:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

No evidence will be heard during those hearings. However, the Commissioner may grant standing to any person or group who can establish that they have a substantial and direct interest in the subject matter of this inquiry. Standing before a Commission of Inquiry gives the individual or group the right to take part in proceedings as directed by the Commissioner and to make submissions to the Inquiry.

It is the present intention that the Inquiry's public hearings will start on Monday June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. and will be held at the Government Conference Centre in Ottawa.

More details will soon be available on our Web site: [www.ararcommission.ca](http://www.ararcommission.ca)

*Established under Part I of the Inquiries Act, the Arar Inquiry was set up on the recommendation of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness to investigate and report on the actions of Canadian officials in relation to Maher Arar. The Commission is also mandated to recommend an arm's length review mechanism for the activities of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police with respect to national security.*

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