

An appeal

- by -

Mighty Enterprises Ltd. carrying on business as Fresh Slice Pizza  
(“Mighty”)

- of a Determination issued by -

The Director of Employment Standards  
(the “Director”)

pursuant to Section 112 of the  
*Employment Standards Act* R.S.B.C. 1996, C.113 (as amended)

**TRIBUNAL MEMBER:** Shafik Bhalloo

**FILE No.:** 2017A/35

**DATE OF DECISION:** May 8, 2017

## DECISION

### SUBMISSIONS

Gunita Sangha

on behalf of Mighty Enterprises Ltd. carrying on business  
as Fresh Slice Pizza

### OVERVIEW

1. Pursuant to section 112 of the *Employment Standards Act* (the “*Act*”), Mighty Enterprises Ltd. carrying on business as Fresh Slice Pizza (“Mighty”) has filed an appeal of the Determination issued by a delegate of the Director of Employment Standards (the “Director”) on March 3, 2017.
2. The Determination found that Mighty contravened sections 10 (No charge for hiring), 40 (Overtime), 46 (Statutory holiday pay), 58 (Vacation pay) and 63 (Compensation for length of service) and ordered Mighty to pay Peyman Kanzehlee (“Mr. Kanzehlee”) and Farzaneh Naroue (“Ms. Naroue”) (collectively “the Complainants”) \$26,494.70 consisting of wages, vacation pay, return of section 10 payment and accrued interest. The Determination also imposed seven administrative penalties of \$500 each on Mighty pursuant to section 29 of the *Employment Standards Regulation* (the “*Regulation*”). The total amount of the Determination is \$29,994.70.
3. Mighty’s appeal invokes all three grounds of appeal available in section 112(1) of the *Act*, namely, the Director erred in law and breached the principles of natural justice in making the Determination and new evidence has become available that was not available at the time the Determination was being made. Mighty is seeking to have the Tribunal to change or vary the Determination.
4. In correspondence dated March 20, 2017, the Tribunal notified the parties, among other things, that no submissions are being sought from any of them pending review of the appeal by the Tribunal and that following such a review all, or part, of the appeal might be dismissed. If the Tribunal does not dismiss all of the appeal or does not confirm all of the Determination, the Tribunal will invite the Complainants and the Director to file reply submissions on the merits of the appeal. Mighty will then be given an opportunity to make a final reply to the submissions, if any.
5. The Tribunal received the section 112(5) “record” (the “Record”) from the Director on March 21, 2017, and forwarded a copy of the same to Mighty, and provided the latter the opportunity to object to its completeness. Mighty did not object to the completeness of the Record. Accordingly, the Tribunal accepts the Record as complete.
6. I have decided that this appeal is an appropriate case for consideration under section 114 of the *Act*. At this stage, I will assess the appeal based solely on the Determination, the Reasons for the Determination (the “Reasons”), the appeal form and written submissions of Mighty, and my review of the Record that was before the Director when the Determination was being made. Under section 114(1) of the *Act*, the Tribunal has the discretion to dismiss all or part of the appeal without a hearing of any kind, for any of the reasons listed in that subsection. If satisfied the appeal or part of it has some presumptive merit and should not be dismissed under section 114(1), the Complainants and the Director will be invited to file reply submissions on the merits of the appeal. Mighty will then be given an opportunity to make a final reply to the submissions, if any.

## ISSUES

7. Did the Director err in law or fail to observe the principles of natural justice in making the Determination? Is there new evidence that would justify the Tribunal in changing or varying the Determination?

## THE FACTS AND FINDINGS OF THE DIRECTOR IN THE DETERMINATION

8. Mighty was incorporated under the laws of British Columbia on July 17, 2009, and operated a Fresh Slice Pizza franchise from 1387 Marine Drive in West Vancouver.
9. A BC online corporate search of Mighty, conducted by the delegate on August 29, 2016, shows that Rajdeep Sangha (“Mr. Sangha”) is a director and officer of Mighty.
10. On July 22 and July 24, 2016, Mr. Kanzahlee and Ms. Naroue filed their complaints with the Employment Standards Branch alleging that Mighty contravened the *Act* by failing to pay them regular wages, overtime wages, vacation pay, statutory holiday pay and failing to return \$10,000 in deposit paid by them to Mighty for the opportunity to work for Mighty (collectively the “Complaints”).
11. A delegate of the Director conducted an investigation into the Complaints and held a fact finding meeting with the parties at which meeting Mighty was represented by legal counsel.
12. The evidence of the parties including the president of the Franchisor, Fresh Slice Pizza, is summarized in the Reasons.
13. The evidence not disputed between the parties, and summarized by the delegate in the Reasons, includes the following at pages R2 to R4 inclusive:
  - a. Ms. Naroue commenced employment with Mighty as a pizza maker on March 10, 2015 and her last day of employment was July 18, 2017.
  - b. In late 2015, Ms. Naroue asked Mr. Sangha if he would hire Mr. Kanzehlee, who had recently lost his job.
  - c. Mr. Sangha agreed to hire Mr. Kanzehlee as the store manager on the condition that all three parties – Mr. Sangha, Ms. Naroue and Mr. Kanzehlee – execute a memorandum of understanding setting out their mutual intentions pertaining to the operation of Mighty’s pizza store.
  - d. On January 6, 2016, Mr. Sangha, Mr. Kanzehlee and Ms. Naroue executed a memorandum of understanding setting out their “mutual intentions” for the “running and managing” of the pizza store for a period of 2 years commencing February 1, 2016 to January 31, 2018 (“the MOU”).
  - e. The terms of the MOU, as summarized by the delegate, are:
    - The Complainants will together run and manage the store by themselves only, from opening to closing, seven days a week. Mr. Kanzehlee will be the manager of the store.
    - The store hours will be from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. (Monday through Thursday), 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. (Friday and Saturday) and 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. (Sunday).
    - If the Complainants for any reason are unavailable on a particular day, they will arrange for another employee to cover them and will pay that employee out of their own pocket.

- A Third employee or Mr. Sangha will be there during baking and packaging of pizzas for all school hot lunch orders for about 3 hours and also for Friday and Saturday evenings from 5:00p.m. to 9:00p.m. This third employee will be paid separately by Mighty Enterprises Ltd.
  - In running and managing the store, the Complainants will follow all Food Safe policies of the Coastal Health Department and their duties will be as described in the Fresh Slice manual.
  - To ensure that the Complainants honour this MOU, maintain the integrity of the business and follow the policies of Fresh Slice Franchise in every respect, they have given a deposit of \$10,000.00 to Mr. Sangha.
  - The deposit of \$10,000.00 will be returned at the end of the two year term, if the Complainants comply with all Fresh Slice policies of the terms of this MOU.
  - The Complainants will ensure that store sales do not drop below the current average.
  - If, for any reason the Complainants quit working or managing the store before the end of the two year term, their deposit will be forfeited.
  - If the Complainants fail to comply with the Fresh Slice policies in running the store, they will forfeit the deposit.
  - Together, the Complainants will be paid a total salary of \$4,000.00 per month.
- f. The Complainants paid Mr. Sangha \$5,000 in cash on January 6, 2016 and further \$5,000 on February 5, 2016, by cheque from their joint bank account.
- g. In January, Mr. Kanzelee began to train under the former manager of Mighty's pizza store while Ms. Naroue continued to work at the store.
- h. From February 1, 2016, the Complainants worked for the monthly wage specified in the MOU.
- i. The Complainants operated the pizza store without serious incident until July 2016.
- j. Mr. Sangha left for India for approximately two months on July 12, 2016.
- k. On July 18, 2016, some members from the franchisor Fresh Slice Pizza's head office, including the vice President, James Cooper, attended the pizza shop.
- l. Subsequently the franchisor demanded the keys to the pizza store and Mr. Kanzelee turned them over to the franchisor.
- m. The franchisor then changed the locks at the store.
- n. Mr. Sangha returned from his trip to India to find that he no longer operated the pizza store.
- o. Mr. Sangha had left the complainants with postdated cheques for their wages for the months of July and August, which the Complainants had tried unsuccessfully to deposit the funds before the date on the cheques.
- p. Mr. Sangha refused to return to the Complainants their \$10,000 deposit.
- q. The parties agreed that Mr. Kanzelee and Ms. Naroue were paid all wages up to and including January 31, 2016.

- r. The relevant time period for the purposes of the Complaints is February 1, 2016 to July 18, 2016. During this period, the Complaints each made \$1,000 biweekly (the Reasons contain a typographical error describing it as “bi-monthly”), totalling \$11,000 each.
14. The delegate meticulously reviewed the evidence of the Complainants, Mighty and the franchisor’s president, Mr. James Cooper, in the Reasons and then proceeded to consider the following five issues: (i) Were the Complainants employees? (ii) Did Mighty receive a payment from the Complainants for employing them? (iii) Was Mr. Kanzelee a “manager”? (iv) Are the Complainants entitled to unpaid regular wages, overtime wages, statutory holiday pay, or vacation pay? (v) Are the Complainants entitled to compensation for length of service?
15. With respect to the first question – whether the Complainants were employees of Mighty – the delegate considered the statutory definitions of ‘work’, ‘employer’ and ‘employee’ in the *Act* and common law tests applied by courts to determine an individual’s status as an employee to the facts in this case. In concluding that the Complainants were employees of Mighty, the delegate reasoned as follows:

The evidence shows that the Complainants performed work normally performed by employees: they were responsible for running the pizza shop, including making pizzas, taking orders, receiving payment from customers and cleaning the restaurant. There was no dispute that Ms. Naroue was an employee before signing the MOU, and her work tasks and responsibilities remained substantially the same after signing the MOU. Moreover, the Complainants’ work was integral to the pizza shop’s operation. Mighty was in the business of selling pizzas as a Fresh Slice franchise; without the Complainants making and selling the pizzas every day, the restaurant could not have operated.

Mighty paid the Complainants and took statutory deductions from their earnings. The Complainants worked exclusively for Mighty at the direction of Mr. Sangha, one of its principals. Although they often worked unsupervised, Mr. Sangha visited the store two to three times per week to check up on them and provide instructions, as an employer would. They enjoyed no opportunity for profit in the performance of their work because they were compensated at a flat rate regardless of how well the pizza shop performed. Mr. Sangha controlled the bank accounts, allowing him to take all the profits. Contrary to Mr. Sangha’s assertion that the Complainants could close the store anytime, they were contractually obligated to keep it open during specified business hours. There was no objective evidence that they hired a delivery company, and Mr. Kanzelee he said he delivered pizzas himself. Another employee was paid by Mighty to help during busy times, and that employee performed substantially the same work as the Complainants: making and selling pizza.

In conclusion, because the Complainants performed work for Mighty that was normally performed by employees, I find they both met the statutory definition of “employee” and the *Act* governed their relationships with Mighty.

16. With respect to the question of whether Mighty received a payment from the Complainants for employing them, the delegate considered section 10 of the *Act* which states:

**No charge for hiring or providing information**

- 10 (1) A person must not request, charge or receive, directly or indirectly, from a person seeking employment a payment for
- (a) employing or obtaining employment for the person seeking employment, or
  - (b) providing information about employers seeking employees.

...

- (3) A payment received by a person in contravention of this section is deemed to be wages owing and this Act applies to the recovery of the payment.

17. Based on the evidence of the parties, the delegate found that the first element of section 10 is satisfied as Mr. Sangha received a total of \$10,000 in the form of both cash and cheque in equal amounts – that is, \$5,000 each.
18. The delegate also found that the second element of the section is satisfied as the payment came from Mr. Kanzehlee who had recently lost his job and was seeking employment at the time the parties signed the MOU.
19. As to the third element, whether the \$10,000 received by Mr. Sangha was a “payment” within the meaning of section 10, the delegate notes that although Mr. Sangha characterized the monies as a deposit (rather than a payment) to be returned if there was compliance with the terms of the MOU, Mr. Sangha did not return the money. Therefore, according to the delegate, a deposit that is not returned becomes a payment and the third element of the section is satisfied.
20. The delegate also found that the last element of the section is also satisfied, that is, the payment was in exchange for employment. More particularly, the delegate notes that in the MOU it states that the payment was to ensure that the Complainants, who were to run and manage the store, maintain the integrity of the business and comply with the Fresh Slice franchise policies. There was also evidence of Mr. Sangha, notes the delegate, that he required the payment before he would allow Mr. Kanzehlee to become the store manager as he did not trust him to run the store.
21. In concluding that the total payment of \$10,000 Mr. Sangha received from the Complainants was in contravention of section 10 of the *Act* as it was for employing them, the delegate states:

In summary, it is clear that Mr. Sangha acting on behalf of Mighty, received a payment of \$10,000.00 from Mr. Kanzehlee, who was seeking employment, in order to employ him. Mighty therefore contravened section 10 of the Act. Section 10 holds that a payment received by a person in contravention of section 10 is deemed to be wages owing and the Act applies to recovery of the payment. The amount of wages or payments an employer may be required by a determination to pay an employee is limited to the amount of wages that become payable or payments that were made in the period beginning six months before the earlier of the date of the complaint or the termination of employment. In this case, Mr. Kanzehlee’s employment terminated on July 18, 2016. Accordingly, the amount of wages Mighty can be required to pay or payments that Mighty can be required to return are those that became payable or occurred on or after January 19, 2016. The evidence shows that the Mr. Kanzehlee [sic] paid Mr. Sangha \$5,000.00 in cash on January 6, 2016, and \$5,000.00 by cheque on February 5, 2016. Accordingly, only the second payment is recoverable under the Act. Mighty must therefore repay Mr. Kanzehlee \$5,000.00.

22. With respect to the third question, whether Mr. Kanzehlee was a “manager”, the delegate reviewed the definition of “manager” in section 1(1) of the *Regulation* which provides:

“**manager**” means

- (a) a person whose principal employment responsibilities consist of supervising or directing, or both supervising and directing, human or other resources, or
- (b) a person employed in an executive capacity;

23. In determining that Mr. Kanzehlee is not a “manager” the delegate relied on the following findings of fact:
- Mr. Kanzehlee’s primary duties were those of a cook, a cashier and a delivery driver.
  - He prepared pizzas, cleaned the restaurant, took payments from customers and delivered pizzas to customers’ homes
  - The staff consisted of Mr. Kanzehlee, Ms. Naroue, a part time employee provided by Mighty and Mr. Sangha’s wife, Ms. Sangha. There was no evidence that these employees required significant direction in completing their tasks which involved making pizzas and serving customers.
  - While the MOU gave Mr. Kanzehlee authority to hire employees, it was at his own cost and not Mighty’s. Therefore, he did not have the authority to make hiring decisions on behalf of Mighty.
  - Mr. Kanzehlee did not have responsibility over significant resources; he only purchased beverages twice when asked by Mr. Sangha; he did not manage a budget; he did not place advertisements.
  - He had no access to Mighty’s bank accounts or records; Mr. Sangha visited the store 2 to 3 times a week to check up on Mr. Kanzehlee and take cash deposits to the bank.
  - He was also not employed in an executive capacity; Fresh Slice’s head office set the menu and controlled the displays.
  - Mr. Sangha and Ms. Sangha liaised with local schools to coordinate hot lunch program; not Mr. Kanzehlee. Mr. Kanzehlee’s role in the program was to only make the pizzas and deliver them.
  - There is no evidence that Mr. Kanzehlee made any strategic decisions of significance on behalf of Mighty.
24. With respect to the fourth question, whether the Complainants are entitled to unpaid regular wages, overtime wages, statutory holiday pay or vacation pay, the delegate carefully reviewed the evidence of the parties noting that the sole timesheet the Complainants provided was of limited assistance. While Ms. Naroue said it was generally accurate in terms of hours she worked, Mr. Kanzehlee said it was made up to satisfy the franchisor’s head office. Mr. Sangha also indicated that the timesheet did not accurately reflect the hours the Complainants worked at the pizza store.
25. Mighty, on its part, did not provide any records of the hours the Complainants worked and Mr. Sangha admitted to the delegate that Mighty did not keep such records. Therefore, the delegate found Mighty breached section 28 of the *Act* for failing to keep payroll records of its employees.
26. The Complainants also failed to keep a record of their hours worked, although not required to do so by the *Act*. In the circumstances, the delegate decided to make his findings based on “a reasoned approximation based on a fair weighing of the available evidence”. As a starting point, the delegate relied on the MOU which set out the hours the Complainants were expected to open and close the pizza store. The MOU, notes the delegate, required the Complainants to operate the stores by themselves from opening to closing, seven days per week and the store hours were described as 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Mondays to Thursdays; 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays; and 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Sundays.

27. The delegate notes that while Mr. Sangha claimed that the Complainants opened the pizza store later than required in the MOU, at 9:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., the delegate found his evidence not persuasive as he did not say that he personally observed them arriving at work. The delegate, in this regard, preferred the unchallenged evidence of the Complainants that there were preparations required to be done before opening the doors of the pizza store and therefore, the work of the Complainants did not necessarily begin when the store was opened but before that.
28. The delegate also accepted Ms. Naroue's evidence that neither her friend, Fatih (who was not paid by Mighty), nor the third employee, Aman, who was paid by Mighty to assist on certain days during busy times, were ever left alone in the pizza store. One of the Complainants was always in the Pizza store and sometimes, when the store was not busy, one of the Complainants would take a break and go home. The Complainants were a couple and lived 3 minutes away from the pizza store. The delegate noted that when one of the Complainants was on break at home, he or she was not working and therefore, the time at home was not compensable, although he or she was on call.
29. The delegate asked Mr. Kanzehlee for an account of his hours worked each day of the week. Mr. Kanzehlee, notes the delegate, said he worked nine hours on Sunday and between 11 to 15.5 hours per day for the rest of the week. The delegate accepted Mr. Kanzehlee's evidence of his start and finish times, but did not accept his evidence of the breaks he took which evidence was inconsistent with Ms. Naroue's evidence that the delegate preferred. More particularly, the delegate noted that Mr. Kanzehlee said he took no breaks on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday and one hour breaks on all other days. Ms. Naroue said that Mr. Kanzehlee usually took a break everyday as she worked every day and was able to relieve him during his break. She said he took afternoon breaks of one, two or three hours as it was not necessary for both Complainants to be in the store between 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Mr. Kanzehlee would wait for a delivery call during his break and waiting for delivery was not compensable time. Based on the above, the delegate concluded that Mr. Kanzehlee took, on average, a two hour break each day. The delegate also accepted Ms. Naroue's evidence that she took approximately one hour break each day.
30. The delegate also noted that while he accepted Mr. Sangha's evidence that the school hot lunch orders were three days a week – Monday, Wednesday and Fridays – he rejected Mr. Sangha's evidence that because his wife helped the Complainants with the school lunch orders, the Complainants were not required to start work until 9:00 a.m. on those days. However, he was not there to observe when the Complainants started work and the delegate preferred the Complainants' evidence that they started work at 8:00 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
31. The delegate also found, based on Ms. Naroue's evidence that Mr. Kanzehlee was not required to arrive at the store early on Tuesdays as he did on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
32. The delegate, based on the evidence of the parties prepared a table summarizing the average hours each Complainant worked each week and concluded that Mr. Kanzehlee worked 72 hours per week and Ms. Naroue 64 hours. He further noted that the only deviations from this assessment would be for statutory holidays (which the delegate dealt with separately in the reasons) and in summer and spring break when school hot lunch orders were not placed. As for the hot lunch orders, the delegate notes that the documentary evidence adduced did not contain all school hot lunch orders but Mr. Sangha did say that lunch orders were prepared on three days per week for the duration of the Complainants employment. The delegate also noted that there were two weeks in March – 14<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> – where lunch orders were not placed and the latest lunch order scheduled in the document adduced in evidence was June 17. Therefore, the delegate concluded that between March 14 and 26 and after June 17, 2016, Mr. Kanzehlee resumed his



normal start time at the store, that is, 11:00 a.m. and Ms. Naroue resumed her normal 9:00 a.m. start time and the end times for both were those set out in the MOU.

33. After taking into account the deviations above from the usual hours of work the Complainants performed, the delegate determined that the wage rate Mighty paid the Complainants for hours they worked was below the minimum wage rate prescribed in the *Regulation* and contrary to section 16 of the *Act*:

The Complainants were each paid \$2,000.00 per month. The Act defines “regular wage”, if the employee is paid a monthly wage, as the monthly wage multiplied by 12 and divided by the product of 52 times the lesser of the employee’s normal or average weekly hours of work. The MOU does not specify how many hours they will work, but I have found that Mr. Kanzehlee worked, on average, 72 hours per week, and Ms. Naroue worked, on average, 64 hours per week. Accordingly, Mr. Kanzehlee’s regular wage was \$6.41 per hour and Ms. Naroue’s regular wage was \$7.21 per hour. In other words, each Complainant was working under a contract providing for a regular wage below the minimum wage. Accordingly, when determining their wages earned, it is appropriate to substitute the prescribed minimum wage at the time of \$10.45 per hour.”

34. In so concluding, and before calculating the regular wages owing to each of the Complainants, the delegate levied a mandatory administrative penalty of \$500 against Mighty for contravening section 16 of the *Act*.

35. With respect to overtime claimed by the Complainants, the delegate found that Mighty failed to pay both Complainants overtime wages and therefore Mighty contravened section 40 of the *Act* and issued another \$500 administrative penalty for this breach.

36. With respect to the Complainants’ claims for statutory holiday pay, the delegate found that Mighty contravened section 46 of the *Act* by failing to pay them statutory holiday pay and levied a further administrative penalty of \$500 for this breach. In the Reasons, the delegate explains:

There is no dispute that the Complainants worked on all statutory holidays. Although Mighty argued that they could have chosen not to work on statutory holidays, the MOU clearly states that they will keep the restaurant open “seven days a week” and does not give permission to close the restaurant on statutory holidays. Moreover, the Complainants both said they worked on each of the statutory holidays in 2016 prior to their termination. In light of Mr. Kanzehlee’s statement that he opened the store a bit later and closed it a bit earlier, as he did on Sundays, I find that on all statutory holidays the Complainants worked the same hours they did on Sundays. They are entitled to an average day’s pay and premium pay as set out in their individual calculation sheets, for Family Day, Good Friday, Victoria Day and Canada Day.

37. With respect to the claim for vacation pay, the delegate concluded, pursuant to section 58 of the *Act*, the Complainants were both entitled to vacation pay on all wages as set out in their individual calculation sheets but Mighty failed to pay them vacation pay. The delegate awarded the Complainants vacation pay and levied a further administrative penalty of \$500 against Mighty for this contravention which the delegate determined occurred on July 20, 2016, 48 hours after the termination of the Complainants’ employment.

38. Finally, with respect to the question of whether the Complainants are entitled to compensation for length of service pursuant to section 63 of the *Act* upon termination of their employment, the delegate notes in the Reasons that Mighty urged him to take into consideration that the restaurant ceased operations because of the Complainants’ actions. In particular, the delegate notes that while Mr. Sangha said it was the Complainants’ failure to properly run the pizza restaurant that caused him to lose the franchise, Mr. Sangha failed to “advance evidence to suggest they were guilty of any particular misconduct”. Moreover, in his interview with Mr. Cooper of Fresh Slice Pizza, the delegate notes that Mr. Cooper indicated that the franchise was in

“rough shape” for a while before Mr. Kanzehlee became involved. In the circumstances, the delegate concludes that there was not sufficient evidence to demonstrate just cause.

39. Further, the delegate also notes that Mr. Sangha did not “fire” the Complainants but their employment terminated when the franchisor seized the restaurant and shut down the operations. The risk of a franchisor shutting down the restaurant is not an unforeseeable risk, according to the delegate, as the MOU contemplates the risk because Mr. Sangha required a deposit from the Complainants in order to ensure they comply with Fresh Slice policies.
40. In the circumstances, the delegate concluded that the Complainants were both owed compensation for length of service under section 63 of the *Act* and that Mighty contravened section 18 of the *Act* for failing to pay them these wages on July 20, 2016, 48 hours after their employment terminated.

### **APPEAL SUBMISSIONS OF MIGHTY**

41. The written submissions of Mighty are made by Gunita Sangha (“Ms. Sangha”), an employee of Mighty and the wife of Mr. Sangha, a director and officer of Mighty. Mr. Sangha has included a written authorization permitting Ms. Sangha to lodge the appeal of Mighty and to make written submissions on its behalf.
42. The written submissions of Ms. Sangha are 12 pages in length. I have read the submissions very carefully and while I do not find it necessary to reiterate them here in great detail (for the reasons I discuss in the Analysis section), I will briefly describe them below under the same headings Mighty has used in its written submissions which are associated with the three appeal grounds.
43. Ms. Sangha has also included a preamble to her submissions under the heading “Background”. In the preamble, she briefly describes and attaches the MOU the Complainants signed with Mr. Sangha and explains that Mighty was operating a franchised business. She states that it was the “misconduct and misbehaviour” of Mr. Kanzehlee during the visit of the representatives of Fresh Slice Pizza that caused the operations to shut down. She attaches the report of the head office staff of the franchisor, Mr. Rabiei, dated July 18, 2016, which document is also part of the Record of the Director and which the delegate had the benefit of at the time the Determination was made.

#### *(i) New Evidence*

44. In support of the new evidence ground of appeal, Ms. Sangha submits:
- a. An Affidavit of a former employee of Mighty, Aman, executed on February 16, 2017, to dispute the Complainants claim of the hours they worked for Mighty.
  - b. Copies of two “Schedule Sheets” allegedly retrieved from Aman from December 2015 and January 2016 which Aman allegedly happened to have in her possession. These Schedule Sheets are also presented with a view to disputing the evidence of the Complainants with respect to the hours they worked at Mighty’s pizza store.
  - c. Some pages from a copy of the Fresh Slice Manual of another franchisee that says that all employees are required to check off their hours on schedule sheets at the start and finish of each shift and must take their breaks. Ms. Sangha also states that the manual “clearly states that employees are not asked to work overtime, but if they choose to do so, they agree to be paid at the regular wage rate.” The documents from the Manual are presented to dispute the hours the Complainants claim they worked. Ms. Sangha also states that the Manual was not available to

Mighty to provide to the delegate before as Mighty lost all its records when the franchisor took possession of the store. Mighty obtained another franchisor's manual on the condition of affording that franchisee confidentiality.

- d. Some messages exchanged between one of the Complainants and Aman on Facebook on February 14, February 20 and March 12, 2016, to challenge the evidence of the Complainants regarding their work days and hours.

45. With respect to why Mighty did not present Aman's evidence to the delegate during the investigation, Ms. Sangha submits:

Innumerable attempts were made to get in touch with Aman, but in vain. But we did not give up and only recently were able to get in touch with her. That is when she explained that she was out of the country for about a month and upon return had moved first to Surrey and then to West Vancouver. She had also joined a full time course in Practical Nursing which she said is demanding and very time consuming therefore she could not get in touch sooner. She also said that since her old phone was broken, she did not get our messages.

When she came to know of what had happened, she decided to give an affidavit as to the facts but has requested not to get directly involved in the matter. Her evidence is very crucial to the matter as it will clarify how many hours Peyman and Farzaneh actually worked and will hugely impact the calculation of the wages they both earned thereby affecting the Appellant's liability.

(ii) *Error of law*

46. In support of the error of law ground of appeal, Ms. Sangha submits:

- a. The Director erred in law in adding an extra hour of work for the Complainants in the morning on days when school hot lunches were prepared by finding that the Complainants came in at 8:00 a.m. when the Memorandum of Understanding required the store to be open at 9:00 a.m.
- b. The Complainants failed to provide proof that they worked an extra hour, from 8:00 a.m., on school hot lunch days.
- c. Mr. Sangha's evidence that school "lunch orders were prepared three days per week for the duration of the Complainants' employment period" as found by the delegate is wrong as Mr. Sangha "only visited the store 2-3 times a week". She states Mr. Sangha, therefore, "did not have firsthand knowledge of the exact dates" and it was she who contracted with the schools, prepared and sent invoices for the school orders". She states that the school orders were only on the dates specified in the emails that were produced during the investigations and challenges the finding of the delegate that "the documentary evidence pertaining to the school hot lunch orders does not appear to include all schools' orders".
- d. The January Schedule Sheet now submitted "clearly shows that on school order dates work began at 9:00 am or 9:30 am." and the Affidavit of Aman also states "that the store opened at 9:00 am on the days of school orders. Therefore, the claim of the Complainants that on school order days they started working at 8:00 am is false."
- e. Based on the foregoing evidence, "a huge number of extra work hours" has been improperly added to the Complainants' award that should not have been.

*(iii) Natural justice*

47. In support of the natural justice ground of appeal, Ms. Sangha submits:
- a. The Director erred in “believ[ing] that the [C]omplainants opened the store at 8:00 am on the days [of] the school hot lunches despite the fact that the MOU clearly states the opening time is 9:00 am.” She further states the Director was wrong in concluding that the time the store is opened is not necessarily the time that work began; “no pizza stores open at 9:00 am” and “[n]o Fresh Slice store opens before 10:00 am”.
  - b. The Complainants said that one of their friends, Fatih, “helped with the work a few hours per week”. While the Complainants did not specify how many hours Fatih worked, “[a] reasonable estimate would be that she helped 2-3 times per week for a total of about 8-10 hours per week” and therefore, these hours would not have been worked by the Complainants and should be deducted from the calculation of hours in the award made to the Complainants.
  - c. The Director has “totally disregarded” the report of Mr. Rabiei from the franchisor’s head office describing the events during the few days before the closure of the pizza shop. According to Ms. Sangha, the report of Mr. Rabiei shows that the pizza store, during Mr. Rabiei’s visit was open at 10:00 a.m. on all days but Sunday when it was open at 11:00 a.m. [It should be noted that Mr. Rabiei does not indicate anywhere in his “report” that the times he notes in the document are when the Complainants started work. Instead, the document appears to show the times he, Mr. Rabiei, was present at the pizza store and his observations then.]
  - d. The Director erred in law in finding that the \$10,000 deposit payment made by the Complainants to Mr. Sangha pursuant to the MOU was payment for obtaining employment since one of the Complainants, Ms. Naroue, had already been working for Mighty for about 10 months when the first half of the deposit payment was made on January 6, 2016, and the other, Mr. Kanzehlee, had already commenced his training on January 4, 2016. The second half of the deposit payment, a further \$5,000, was made on February 5, 2016, but Mr. Kanzehlee started as a manager of the store on February 1, 2016. Therefore, the payment cannot be said to have been made for becoming a manager, according to Ms. Sangha.
  - e. Mr. Kanzehlee is a professional chef and could have found another better paying job. The “mutual understanding was the job security for the couple for 2 years and to ensure they took good care of the store....” If both Complainants decided to quit that would be a “big loss to the business” and it would be hard for Mighty to replace them.
  - f. When the Complainants “took over the management of the store, they did not work any more hours than regular hours required” and Mr. Sangha told the Complainants that 8 hours was all they were required to work each day. Also, the Complainants were not required to be at the store at the same time except during the lunch and dinner hours only which totalled 4 hours when both worked at the same time. Therefore, the Complainants’ were receiving “minimum wages, if not more” for the time they worked. There is no amount owing to them.
  - g. The Complainants “were each being paid the minimum wage, if not more.” Mr. Kanzehlee gave evidence that Mr. Sangha told him that he and Ms. Naroue “would only work about 8 hours... per day” and Mr. Kanzehlee trained with the previous manager and therefore understood the nature of the work.
  - h. Based on the two “Schedule Sheets” from Aman for December 2015 and January 2016, neither of the Complainants worked more hours than “regular hours” required of them.

- i. The finding of the breach of section 18 of the *Act* fails to take into consideration that “the shutting down of the store was totally unexpected and unforeseen”. Mighty had orders with schools for the next school year.
- j. If it were the case, as the delegate states, that “there is always the risk that the franchisor will terminate the franchise agreement for failing to meet standards” then “no one would buy franchised businesses. Mighty ran the business for 7 years without any “major incident” and it was Mr. Kanzehlee’s misconduct that causes the store to shut down.
- k. The delegate erred in finding that Mighty contravened section 28 of the *Act*. While Mr. Sangha admitted that he personally did not keep track of the hours worked by the employees, Fresh Slice policy requires all employees to check off hours they worked on the schedule sheet and the December and January schedule sheets show that the Complainants recorded their individual hours. This is how hours are recorded at Fresh Slice location. In this case, however, the Complainants “stopped check marking their hours... [because] they were coming to the store and going home so many times in a day taking turns...that it just became too difficult for them to record their hours every now and then.”
- l. As the “records were lost, the complainants (being husband and wife) connived to extract money out of us by taking advantage of the laws....”
- m. The Complainants “were not working overtime nor were they ever asked to work overtime.” The Fresh Slice manual states that “no employee would be asked to work overtime but if they choose to do so, they would be paid regular wages”. Mr. Sangha informed the delegate about this policy of the franchisor but because all the records were lost when the store was shut down, he could not produce this evidence. In the circumstances, the delegate erred in holding that Mighty contravened section 40 of the *Act*.
- n. “Although there was no compulsion on the [C]omplainants to keep the store open on Statutory holidays, the store was kept open on those days.” However, based on the December 2015 sheet Aman produced, on all long weekends – Saturday, Sunday, and Monday – the store opened late at 11:00 a.m. and closed early at 6:00 p.m. and Aman worked on both Saturday and Sunday shown in the December 2015 sheet and closed the store on the long weekend; she confirmed the shorter hours of the store on long weekends. Therefore, only statutory pay from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. is owed for each statutory holiday between February, 2016 and July 18, 2016. Also, the Good Friday holiday, being on a Friday, Aman worked alone for 4 hours.
- o. Because the Complainants were salaried, “the intention was to pay them at the end of the first year of the contract.” The Complainants’ pay stub shows the vacation pay as owed and they were going to be paid at the end of the year.
- p. “[I]n view of the new evidence, it is clear that the [C]omplainants were not working overtime therefore are not eligible for the overtime wages.”
- q. “The Statutory pay and Vacation pay would be calculated to be much less in the light of the new evidence and therefore, the interest accrued would also be much less. Similarly, the figures for the Compensation of the length of service would also be different.”
- r. Based on the Schedule Sheets obtained from Aman for December 2015 and January 2016, the hours the Complainants worked are disputed.
- s. Mr. Kanzehlee was a “manager” as he trained with the previous manager and “given 10% commission the day the store sales crossed \$1000.00”, although not mentioned in the MOU. He was paid a single commission cheque for the months of February to April inclusive.

Mr. Kanzehlee “was ordering inventory for the store and also bought other stuff for the store that was not on the inventory list”. A copy of an email dated September 19, 2016, is included from a supplier stating that “Ray ordered on the phone from 10 May 2016 to June 2016”. Ray is the name Mr. Kanzehlee goes by.

- t. The delegate stated in the Reasons that the Complainants “were contractually obligated to keep the store open during specified hours’ and could not have closed the store anytime.” Therefore, it stands to reason that they “could not have opened the store before the opening time either; but the Director has believed the complainants when they said they opened the store at 8:00 am on some days of the week.”
- u. Mr. Kanzehlee only did deliveries of the school lunches and all other deliveries were done by a delivery company that Mr. Kanzehlee hired. Mr. Kanzehlee also fired the “old contractual driver”.
- v. Although the MOU states that the Complainants would “run and manage the store by themselves only from opening to closing, seven days per week”, it does not say they both were required to work; they were told they would each work about 8 hours a day.

48. In conclusion, Ms. Sangha states, in light of “all the new evidence provided...the Complainants have lied about the hours worked by them.” She further submits that all of the administrative penalties levied against Mighty should be cancelled. She states no overtime is owed to the Complainants and, in fact, they may have been overpaid. She states that in the seven years of the store’s operation not a single complaint has been filed against Mighty and now, “[s]uddenly, when the business was shut down by the Franchisor, two complaints are filed and the complainants happen to [be] husband and wife.” She points out that neither of the Complainants had any complaints “in the six months that they worked preceding the shut down.”

## ANALYSIS

49. Section 112(1) of the *Act* provides that a person may appeal the determination on the following grounds:

- (a) the director erred in law;
- (b) the director failed to observe the principles of natural justice in making the determination; and
- (c) evidence has become available that was not available at the time the determination was being made.

50. The Tribunal has consistently stated that an appeal is an error correction process, with the burden on the appellant to persuade the Tribunal that there is an error in the Determination on one of the statutory grounds listed in section 112(1) above.

51. Having said this, the grounds of appeal listed in section 112(1) do not provide for an appeal based on errors of fact and the Tribunal has no authority to consider appeals which seek to have the Tribunal reach a different factual conclusion than was made by the Director unless the Director’s findings raise an error of law. The test for establishing an error of law is rather strict, requiring the appellant to show, on a balance of probabilities, that the Director’s findings of facts are perverse and inexplicable, in the sense that they are made without any evidence, that they are inconsistent with and contradictory to the evidence or that they are without any rational foundation (see *Britco Structures Ltd.*, BC EST # D260/03). Short of the appellant discharging this burden to show an error of law, the Tribunal must respect and defer to the findings of fact made by the Director.

52. As indicated previously, Mighty has framed its appeal on error of law, failure by the Director to observe principles of natural justice in making the Determination, and “new” evidence.

53. I will address each ground of appeal below.

### ***New Evidence***

54. In *Bruce Davies and others, Directors or Officers of Merilus Technologies Inc.*, (BC EST # D171/03), the Tribunal delineated four conjunctive requirements that must be met before new evidence will be considered. More particularly, the appellant must establish that:

- (a) the evidence could not, with the exercise of due diligence, have been discovered and presented to the Director during the investigation or adjudication of the complaint and prior to the determination being made;
- (b) the evidence must be relevant to a material issue arising from the complaint;
- (c) the evidence must be credible in the sense that it is reasonably capable of belief; and
- (d) the evidence must have high potential probative value in the sense that, if believed, it could on its own, or when considered with the other evidence, have led the Director to a different conclusion on the material issue.

55. Under the new evidence ground of appeal, Mighty adduces the affidavit of its part-time employee, Aman; two Schedule Sheets for December 2015 and January 2016 that it says Aman had in her possession; and some Facebook and phone messages exchanged between one of the Complainants and Aman in February and March 2016 (about a year before the Determination was made). It also adduces some select pages from the Franchisor’s manual borrowed from another franchisee as Mighty says it lost its manual and all its documents and records when the store was shut down.

56. In her submissions on behalf of Mighty under each ground of appeal, Ms. Sangha, in a very significant way, relies on the above evidence repeatedly to challenge the evidence adduced by the Complainants during the investigation of the Complaints and more importantly the delegate’s conclusions of fact, in the Reasons, on material issues including particularly whether the Complainants were entitled to unpaid regular wages, overtime wages, statutory holiday pay and vacation pay. To this end, the appeal, to a great extent, may be described as a house of cards. If the foundational evidence advanced by Mighty or Ms. Sangha on Mighty’s behalf, is shaky and rejected, then the arguments of Ms. Sangha, based on this evidence, must also fall. That is precisely the conclusion I have reached with respect to the purported new evidence of Mighty and the arguments based on that evidence.

57. More particularly, I find the purported new evidence Mighty has submitted on appeal is not “new evidence” and I am not persuaded that it was not available at the time the delegate adjudicated the Complaint and, therefore, the said evidence fails to qualify as “new evidence” based on the first criteria for admitting new evidence in *Re Merilus Technologies Inc.*, *supra*. My reasons for this conclusion follow.

58. Ms. Sangha states that “innumerable attempts were made to get in touch with Aman, but in vain.” She does not provide set specific detail when any of the attempts were made to contact Aman and by whom. She also does not give any general idea about the period – from when to when – these attempts were made except to say that “only recently were able to get in touch with her” (*vis*). Ms. Sangha states that Aman was out of the country for a month but does not explain when and Aman’s affidavit does not mention she was out of the country. Ms. Sangha says that when Aman returned from being out of the country, she moved to Surrey and

then to West Vancouver. Again this is not corroborated by Aman in her affidavit and there is no evidence, if this happened when it happened. Ms. Sangha also says that Aman's old phone was broken and "she did not get our messages". She does not, again, indicate when the messages were left for Aman. Aman's affidavit also makes no mention of a broken phone and how long the phone was broken – a few days or months - or any messages she received from Ms. Sangha or Mighty at any time. Ms. Sangha states that "when she came to know of what had happened, she decided to give an affidavit as to the facts and requested not to get directly involved in the matter". How Aman "came to know of what had happened" is somewhat of a mystery in Ms. Sangha's submissions and Aman does not shed any light on the subject in her affidavit either.

59. It is also curious that the two Schedule Sheets for December 2015 and January 2016 that Ms. Sangha states Mighty obtained from Aman are not at all mentioned in Aman's affidavit. It is also curious that Aman would keep the two work schedules for all employees throughout the period she was out of the country and her subsequent moves to Surrey and West Vancouver.
60. I am not at all persuaded by Ms. Sangha's submissions that Aman was not available during the investigation or before the Determination was made. I also note the Affidavit of Aman was executed on February 16, 2017. It stands to reason that Ms. Sangha or Mr. Sangha or Mighty connected with Aman sometime before that date in order to have Aman's affidavit prepared and executed. The Determination was made on March 3, 2017. It is safe to say that the evidence from Aman including the documentary evidence was in Mighty's possession before the Determination was made but it did not provide it to the delegate nor advise the delegate, before the Determination was made, that it had reached out to or connected with a significant witness whose evidence (to use Ms. Sangha's words) "hugely impact[s] the calculation of the wages" the Complainants earned. One would have thought that Mighty, in the circumstances, would have made mention of Aman to the delegate and perhaps asked for an extension of time to submit Aman's evidence.
61. In the circumstances delineated above, I do not find the evidence of Aman – her Affidavit, the two Schedule Sheets and her Facebook and phone messages – produced in the appeal qualify under the first part of the test for new evidence set out in *Re Merilus Technologies, supra*.
62. I am also not persuaded that Mighty could not have, with the exercise of due diligence, discovered and presented to the Director copies of the pages from the Fresh Slice manual it now relies on in the appeal, during the investigation or adjudication of the Complaints and prior to the Determination being made. While Ms. Sangha says that Mighty lost its manual and it was "only after much request and persuasion that one of the franchisees let us have a look at the manual and copy relevant pages of it", she does not say when, between the time the Complainants filed their Complaints in July 2016 and the Determination was made on March 3, 2017, she first requested the third party franchisee to give her access to the manual nor does she provide any evidence of advising the delegate that she had any intention to rely on the manual and was seeking it from another franchisee.
63. In the result, I reject the evidence adduced by Mighty as "new evidence" and I dismiss Mighty's new evidence ground of appeal.

### ***Error of law***

64. In *Gemex Developments Corp. v. British Columbia (Assessor) of Area #12 – Coquitlam*, [1998] BCJ No. 2275, the BC Court of Appeal defined error of law inclusively as follows:
1. a misinterpretation or misapplication of a section of the Act [in *Gemex*, the legislation was the *Assessment Act*];



2. a misapplication of an applicable principle of general law;
  3. acting without any evidence;
  4. acting on a view of the facts which could not reasonably be entertained; and
  5. adopting a method of assessment which is wrong in principle.
65. Under the error of law ground of appeal, Ms. Sangha's argument disputes the delegate's calculation of the wages payable to the Complainants because "there is an error in the calculation of the hours worked [by both Complainants]." In advancing this argument, Ms. Sangha challenges the delegate's findings of fact including the delegate's reliance on Mr. Sangha's evidence that school hot lunch orders were prepared three days a week during the Complainants' period of employment. She states that Mr. Sangha only visited the store 2 to 3 times per week but she had firsthand knowledge of the exact dates for the school hot lunch orders and suggests that the delegate erred in adding "huge number of extra work hours" to his calculation of hours worked by the Complainant.
66. As indicated previously, the Tribunal has no authority to consider appeals which seek to have the Tribunal reach a different factual conclusion than was made by the Director unless the Director's findings raise an error of law. I find that this is what Ms. Sangha is attempting to do here, that is, to persuade the Tribunal to reach a different factual conclusion. However, Ms. Sangha has not shown, on a balance of probabilities, the delegate's findings of facts are perverse and inexplicable or inconsistent with and contradictory to the evidence or that they are without any rational foundation. The delegate preferred the evidence of the Complainants over Mighty's on the subject, which it was open for the delegate to do. I do not find Ms. Sangha has shown any foundation for an error of law ground of appeal in her submissions.
67. I also note that under the error of law ground, while Ms. Sangha is attempting to call into question the evidence of Mighty's own witness, Mr. Sangha, stating that he did not have firsthand information that she did with respect to the days when school hot lunches were prepared at the store during the Complainants period of employment, the time for providing her evidence was during the investigation and before the Determination was made. An appeal is not the time to provide evidence for the first time, particularly when the evidence in question was available during the investigation and before the Determination was made.
68. While Ms. Sangha challenges the delegate's finding that Mr. Kanzehlee was not a "manager" under her submissions under the "natural justice" ground of appeal, I find this argument is best dealt with under the error of law ground of appeal. Ms. Sangha argues that that Mr. Kanzehlee was trained under the previous store manager and received 10% commission if sales exceeded \$1,000 in a day. She also submits that he ordered inventory "including stuff that was not on the inventory list". For these reasons, he should have been found a "manager", she submits.
69. I find that the delegate correctly referred to and relied on the definition of "manager" in section 1(a) and (b) of the *Regulation* and considered the principal employment responsibilities of Mr. Kanzehlee including whether Mr. Kanzehlee's work involved supervising and/or directing human or other resources when determining whether he was a "manager". I summarize the considerations the delegate made in determining this question at paragraph 23 of this decision.
70. Based on the total characterization of his duties, the delegate found Mr. Kanzehlee was not a manager and I find his reasons and conclusion persuasive. In the circumstances, I do not find the delegate to have erred in law within the meaning of error of law in *Gemex Developments, supra*.

71. Ms. Sangha also challenges the delegate's conclusion that the \$10,000 payment made by the Complainant to Mr. Sangha (as Mighty's representative) pursuant to the MOU was a payment for hiring them within the meaning of section 10 of the *Act*. She states it was a deposit to be returned to the Complainants at the end of the two year term of their employment. She adds the "*mutual understanding was job security for the couple for 2 years* [emphasis mine] and to ensure they took good care of the store..." This argument is advanced under the natural justice ground of appeal but, like the challenge to the delegate's conclusion that Mr. Kanzehlee was not a manager, it is best dealt with under the error of law ground of appeal.
72. Having said this, I note that the delegate meticulously laid out the essential elements of section 10 of the *Act* at page R10 of the Reasons and convincingly demonstrated the facts in this case satisfied the requisite elements in section 10 and his finding that the payment in question was one Mighty received for employing the Complainants. I find particularly convincing the instructive analysis of the delegate in the last paragraph at page R10 and continuing over at the top of page at R11 of the Reasons, which I have set out verbatim at paragraph 21 of this decision. I do not find anything turns on the fact that the \$10,000 payment was made in two separate payments of \$5,000 each; the first on January 6, 2016, two days after Mr. Kanzehlee had begun his training to work at the store, and the second \$5,000 payment on February 5, 2016, after he had started as a "manager". Also, I do not find that Ms. Naroue's employment having commenced about 10 months before the first payment was made or before the MOU was signed changes anything. In her own appeal submissions, Ms. Sangha says unequivocally of the \$10,000 payment that the "*mutual understanding was job security for the couple for 2 years*" [emphasis added]. Relatedly, the delegate's finding that Mr. Sangha's evidence was that "he required the payment before he would allow Mr. Kanzehlee to become the manager because he did not trust him to run the restaurant" also bolsters the delegate's conclusion that the payment received by Mr. Sangha or Mighty from the Complainants was in contravention of section 10 of the *Act*.
73. On those facts and analysis of the delegate, I am satisfied the delegate made no error in law in finding the payment in question was made to Mighty in exchange for employing the Complainants (or at least one of them).

### ***Natural Justice***

74. In *Imperial Limousine Service Ltd.* (BC EST # D014/05), the Tribunal explained the principles of natural justice as follows:

Principles of natural justice are, in essence, procedural rights ensuring the parties have an opportunity to know the case against them; the right to present their evidence; and the right to be heard by an independent decision maker. It has been previously held by the Tribunal that the Director and her delegates are acting in a quasi-judicial capacity when they conduct investigations into complaints filed under the *Act*, and their functions must therefore be performed in an unbiased and neutral fashion. Procedural fairness must be accorded to the parties, and they must be given opportunity to respond to the evidence and arguments presented by an adverse party. (See *BWI Business World Incorporated*, BC EST #D050/96)

75. I have carefully reviewed the long submissions of Mighty under the natural justice ground of appeal and set them out in some detail in paragraph 47 subparagraphs a to v inclusive of this decision. I can say with good confidence that I do not find Ms. Sangha's submissions establish the natural justice concerns that typically operate in context of the complaint process here. Instead, I find Ms. Sangha's submissions are largely in the nature of a dispute with the delegate's findings, or conclusions, of fact made in the Determination and in many areas a re-argument of the submissions made by Mighty in the investigation of the Complaints. I find Ms. Sangha has not persuaded me there is any basis or authority for me to interfere with the delegate's

findings of fact on any of the grounds set out in section 112(1) of the *Act* including the natural justice ground of appeal.

76. Accordingly, Mighty has failed to meet its burden and I find there is no reasonable prospect that this appeal can succeed and I dismiss it pursuant to section 114(1)(f) of the *Act*.

### **ORDER**

77. Pursuant to section 115 of the *Act*, I order the Determination issued on March 3, 2017, be confirmed together with whatever further interest that has accrued under section 88 of the *Act* since the date of issuance.

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**Shafik Bhalloo**  
**Member**  
**Employment Standards Tribunal**