

Citation: RS v Canada Employment Insurance Commission, 2022 SST 1242

Tribunal File Number: GE-22-926

BETWEEN:

R.S.

Appellant

and

Canada Employment Insurance Commission

Respondent

SOCIAL SECURITY TRIBUNAL DECISION General Division – Employment Insurance Section

DECISION BY: John Noonan

DATE OF DECISION: May 6, 2022



REASONS AND DECISION

OVERVIEW

- [1] The Appellant applied for employment insurance benefits.. Further to a request for reconsideration, on December 15, 2021 the Respondent issued a decision under section 112 of the *Employment Insurance Act* (Act). The Appellant does not state when he received the reconsideration decision but the fact that he is appealing the decision is proof that it was communicated to him:
- [2] In accordance with paragraph 52(1)(a) of the *Department of Employment and Social Development Act* (DESD Act), the Appellant had until January 15, 2022 to file an appeal. The Appellant filed an appeal on March 24, 2022, outside the 30-day limit.
- [3] The Tribunal must decide whether to allow an extension of time for the Appellant to appeal pursuant to subsection 52(2) of the DESD Act.

ANALYSIS

[4] In deciding whether to allow further time to appeal, the Tribunal considered and weighed the four factors set out in *Canada (Minister of Human Resources Development) v. Gattellaro*, 2005 FC 883. The weight to be given to each of the *Gattellaro* factors may differ in each case, and in some cases, different factors will be relevant. The overriding consideration is that the interests of justice be served (*Canada (Attorney General) v. Larkman*, 2012 FCA 204; see also *Jama v. Canada (Attorney General)*, 2016 FC 1290, which confirmed this approach in considering whether an extension of time should be granted).

Continuing Intention to Pursue the Appeal

- [5] Additional information regarding this issue was requested in writing from the Appellant on April 19, 2022 with a 10 day time limit to reply. As of today's date no reply has been received.
- [6] Therefore the Tribunal finds that the Appellant did not have a continuing intention to pursue the appeal.

Arguable Case

- [7] The Federal Court of Appeal has found that the question of whether there is an arguable case at law is akin to determining whether there is a reasonable chance of success (*Canada (Minister of Human Resources Development) v. Hogervorst*, 2007 FCA 41); *Fancy v. Canada (Minister of Social Development)*, 2010 FCA 63).
- [8] Again, additional information regarding this issue was requested in writing from the Appellant on April 19, 2022 with a 10 day time limit to reply. As of today's date no reply has been received.

Reasonable Explanation for the Delay

- [9] Again, additional information regarding this issue was requested in writing from the Appellant on April 19, 2022 with a 10 day time limit to reply. As of today's date no reply has been received.
- [10] The Tribunal finds that the Appellant did not provide a reasonable explanation for the delay in filing the appeal.

Prejudice to the Other Party

[11] The Respondent's interests do not appear to be prejudiced given the short period of time that has lapsed since the reconsideration decision. The Respondent has already provided their documents and submissions in relation to the appeal and therefore would not be unduly affected by an extension of time to appeal

CONCLUSION

[12] In consideration of the *Gattellaro* factors and in the interests of justice, the Tribunal finds that an extension of time to appeal pursuant to subsection 52(2) of the DESD Act is refused.

John Noonan Member, General Division – Employment Insurance