Court File No.: CV-23-00703933-00CL

## ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (COMMERCIAL LIST)

BETWEEN:

### **QUALITY RUGS OF CANADA LIMITED**

**Applicant** 

- and -

### WAYGAR CAPITAL INC., AS AGENT FOR NINEPOINT CANADIAN SENIOR DEBT MASTER FUND L.P.

Respondent

IN THE MATTER OF THE *COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT*, R.S.C. 1985, C. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF QUALITY RUGS OF CANADA LIMITED AND THE OTHER COMPANIES LISTED IN SCHEDULE "A" HERETO (THE "APPLICANTS")

### RESPONDING MOTION RECORD OF THE UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS OF AMERICA

(RE: HOLDBACK)

September 21, 2023 ROUSSEAU MAZZUCA LLP

65 Queen Street West, Suite 600 Toronto, ON M5H 2M5

Tel: 416-304-9899 Fax: 437-800-1453

Michael C. Mazzuca (LSO No. 56283V)

michael@rousseaumazzuca.com

Daniel J. Wright (LSO No. 87443L) dwright@rousseaumazzuca.com

Lawyers for the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

TO: THE SERVICE LIST

## ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE COMMERCIAL LIST

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF QUALITY RUGS OF CANADA LIMITED AND THE OTHER COMPANIES LISTED IN SCHEDULE "A" HERETO.

### **SERVICE LIST**

(as of September 18, 2023)

Party	Contact	
GARDINER ROBERTS LLP Bay Adelaide Centre, East Tower 22 Adelaide St. W., Suite 3600 Toronto, ON M5H 4E3 Counsel for the Applicant	Chris Besant Tel: 416-865-4022 cbesant@grllp.com	
DAVIES WARD PHILLIPS & VINEBERG LLP 155 Wellington Street West Toronto, ON, M5V 3J7  Counsel for Ironbridge Equity Partners	Natasha MacParland Tel: 416-863-5567 nmacparland@dwpv.com  Joshua Kuretzky Tel: 416-367-7469 jkuretzky@dwpv.com  Natalie Renner Tel: 416-367-7489 nrenner@dwpv.com	
AIRD & BERLIS LLP Brookfield Place 181 Bay Street, Suite 1800 Toronto, ON M5J 2T9  Counsel for Waygar Capital Inc., as agent for Ninepoint Canadian Senior Debt Master Fund L.P.	Steven L. Graff Tel: 416-865-7726 sgraff@airdberlis.com  Matilda Lici Tel: 416-865-3428 mlici@airdberlis.com	

Party	Contact
WAYGAR CAPITAL INC., AS AGENT FOR NINEPOINT CANADIAN SENIOR DEBT MASTER FUND 372 Bay Street, Suite 901 Toronto, ON M5H 2W9	Don Rogers Tel: 416-565-2738 drogers@waygarcapital.com
RSM CANADA LIMITED  11 King Street West, Suite 700 Toronto, ON M5H 4C7  Monitor	Bryan Tannenbaum Tel: 416-238-5055 bryan.tannenbaum@rsmcanada.com Arif Dhanani
	Tel: 647-725-0183 arif.dhanani@rsmcanada.com
GOODMANS LLP 333 Bay Street, Suite 3400 Toronto, ON M5H 2S7	Joe Latham Tel: 416-587-2202 ilatham@goodmans.ca
Counsel for the Monitor	Erik Axell Tel: 416.840.2579 eaxell@goodmans.ca
MOHAWK CARPET DISTRIBUTION, INC. 160 South Industrial Road Calhoun, Georgia 30701	David Patton General Counsel Tel: 706-629-7721 Dave patton@mohawkind.com
OSLER, HOSKIN & HARCOURT LLPCARPET DISTRIBUTION, INC. 1 First Canadian Place 100 King Street West, Suite 6200 Toronto, ON M5X 1B8	Kathryn Esaw Tel: 416-862-4905 kesaw@osler.com  Marc Wasserman mwasserman@osler.com
Counsel for Mohawk Carpet Distribution, Inc.	

Party	Contact	
LAWSON LUNDELL LLP Brookfield Place 225 – 6th Avenue SW, Suite 1100 Calgary, AB T2P 1N2	Andrea Lutsch Tel: 403-218-7574 alutsch@lawsonlundell.com  Kelly Hannan	
Counsel for Taiga Building Products Ltd	Tel: 403-218-7541 khannan@lawsonlundell.com	
DLA PIPER (CANADA) LLP  1 First Canadian Place  100 King St W, Suite 6000  Toronto, ON M5X 1E2	Danny Nunes Tel: 416-365-3421 danny.nunes@dlapiper.com  Bruce Darlington Tel: 416-365-3529	
Counsel for Macro-Universe Enterprises Ltd. dba Fuzion Flooring	bruce.darlington@dlapiper.com  Howard Krupat Tel: 416-365-3510 howard.krupat@dlapiper.com	
DEVRY SMITH FRANK LLP 95 Barber Greene Road, Suite 100 Toronto, ON M3C 3E9	Michael Farace Tel: 416-446-5818 Michael.Farace@devrylaw.ca	
Counsel for CG Eight Cumberland Inc.		
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF CANADA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Ontario Regional Office, Tax Law Section 120 Adelaide Street West, Suite 400 Toronto, ON M5H 1T1	Diane Winters General Counsel Tel: 647-256-7459 diane.winters@justice.gc.ca	

Party	Contact
LAX O'SULLIVAN LISUS GOTTLIEB LLP 145 King Street West, Suite 2750 Toronto, ON M5H 1J8	Matthew Gottlieb Tel: 416-644-5353 mgottlieb@lolg.ca
Counsel for Alvarez & Marsal Canada Securities ULC.	Andrew Winton Tel: 416-644-5342 awinton@lolg.ca
	Melissa Calce mcalce@lolg.ca
KOSKIE MINSKY LLP 20 Queen Street West, Suite 900 Toronto, ON M5H 3R3  Counsel for LIUNA Local 183	Demetrios Yiokaris Tel: 416-595-2130 dyiokaris@kmlaw.ca
MINISTRY OF FINANCE Ministry of the Attorney General (Ontario) Collections Branch – Bankruptcy and Insolvency Unit 6-33 King Street West Oshawa, ON L1H 8H5	Tel: 1-866-668-8297 insolvency.unit@ontario.ca
BORDEN LADNER GERVAIS LLP Centennial Place, East Tower 520 – 3 <sup>RD</sup> Ave. SW, Suite 1900 Calgary, AB T2P 0R3	Marin Leci Tel: 403-232-9513 mleci@blg.com
Counsel for Housing One 10th Avenue Corporation	Myles Fish Tel: 403-232-9764 mfish@blg.com
OGILVIE 1400 Canadian Western Bank Place 10303 Jasper Avenue Edmonton, AB T5J 3N6	Matt Feehan Tel: 780-429-6224 mfeehan@ogilvielaw.com  Akhil Vohra
Counsel for Ames Tile & Stone Ltd.	Tel: 780-429-6285  avohra@ogilvielaw.com

Party	Contact	
MILLER THOMPSON LLP Scotia Plaza 40 King Street West, Suite 5800 P.O. Box 1011	Manav Singhla Tel: 416-595-7974 msinghla@millerthomson.com	
Toronto, Ontario   M5H 3S1	Tana Van Klink	
Counsel for Vifloor Canada Ltd.	Tony Van Klink Tel: 1-519-931-3509 tvanklink@millerthomson.com	
GOWLING WLG 100 King Street West, Suite 1600 Toronto, Ontario   M5X 1G5	Pierre Champagne Tel: 1 613 783 8677 pierre.champagne@gowlingwlg.com	
Counsel for Torlys Inc; Metropolitan Hardwood Floors (Eastern) Inc.; Lauzon – Planchers De Bois Exclusifs Inc.; Ceratec Inc.; and Boa-Franc SENC/GP	Haddon Murray Tel: 1 416 862 3604 haddon.murray@gowlingwlg.com	
ROUSSEAU MAZZUCA LLP 65 Queen Street West, Suite 600 Toronto, ON M4H 2M5	Daniel Wright Tel: 416-304-9899 dwright@rosseaumazzuca.com	
Counsel for the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America	Michael Mazzuca Tel: 416-304-9899 Michael@RousseauMazzuca.com	
<b>DELZOTTO, ZORZI LLP</b> 4810 Dufferin Street, Suite D	Robert Calderwood Tel: 416-665-5555	
Toronto, ON M3H 5S8	rcalderwood@dzlaw.com	
Counsel for the Auberge on the Park Residences		
NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT LLP 222 Bay Street, Suite, 300 Toronto, ON M5K 1E7	Evan Cobb Tel: 416-216-1929 evan.cobb@nortonrosefulbright.com	
Counsel for Stone Tile International Inc.		
BUCKWOLD WESTERN LTD. 70, 3239 Faithfull Avenue Saskatoon, SK S7K 8H4	Adam Buckwold ar@buckwold.com	

Party	Contact		
DRUDI ALEXIOU KUCHAR LLP	Tushar Sabharwal		
4950 Yonge St, Suite 508	Tel: 416-569-8069		
Toronto, ON M2N 6K1	tsabharwal@dakllp.com		
Lawyers for Olympia Tile International Inc.	Marco Drudi		
	mdrudi@dakllp.com		
Metropolitan Harwood Floors	Jim Combatti		
6385 Shawson Dr	jimc@metrofloors.com		
Mississauga, ON L5T 1S7 SOTOS LLP	Peter Viitre		
180 Dundas St W, Suite 1200	Tel: 416-977-0007		
Toronto, ON M5G 1Z8	pviitre@sotos.ca		
Laurena fan Islant Namh			
Lawyers for Juliet Neely  LEE BOWDEN NIGHTINGALE LLP	Gregory W. Bowden		
300 – 3700 Steeles Avenue West	Tel: 905-264-6678		
Vaughan ON L4L 8K8	gwb@lbnfirm.com		
MCINNES COOPER	lan Dunbar		
1969 Upper Water St., Suite 1300	Tel: 902-444-8421		
McInnes Cooper Tower - Purdy's Wharf	ian.dunbar@mcinnescooper.com		
Halifax, NS, B3J 3R7			
THE BURNSIDE LAW GROUP	Derek Brett		
202 Brownlow Avenue, Suite 400	Tel: 902-468-3066		
Dartmouth, NS, B3B 1T5	dbb@burnsidelaw.net		
Counsel for 4405967 NS Limited			
CHANDOS CONSTRUCTION LP.	Lyle Brookes		
2680 Skymark Ave, Suite 600, Mississauga	Tel: 587-340-9165		
Ontario, L4W 5L6	lbrookes@chandos.com		
SHANKMAN LAW PROFESSIONAL	Jeff Shankman		
CORPORATION 3190 Steeles Ave. E., Suite 310	Tel: 905-479-7799 jps@jpscounsel.com		
Markham, Ontario L3R 1G9	<u>про фіросовностості</u>		
Counsel for Geranium			

#### **EMAIL SERVICE LIST**

cbesant@grllp.com; nmacparland@dwpv.com; jkuretzky@dwpv.com; sgraff@airdberlis.com; mlici@airdberlis.com; drogers@waygarcapital.com; bryan.tannenbaum@rsmcanada.com; arif.dhanani@rsmcanada.com; jlatham@goodmans.ca; eaxell@goodmans.ca; Dave patton@mohawkind.com; kesaw@osler.com; alutsch@lawsonlundell.com; khannan@lawsonlundell.com; danny.nunes@dlapiper.com; bruce.darlington@dlapiper.com; howard.krupat@dlapiper.com; diane.winters@justice.gc.ca; mgottlieb@lolg.ca; awinton@lolg.ca; dyiokaris@kmlaw.ca; insolvency.unit@ontario.ca; Michael.Farace@devrylaw.ca; mfeehan@ogilvielaw.com; avohra@ogilvielaw.com; mleci@blg.com; mfish@blg.com; msinghla@millerthomson.com; tvanklink@millerthomson.com; Dwright@RousseauMazzuca.com; Michael@RousseauMazzuca.com; haddon.murray@gowlingwlg.com; pierre.champagne@gowlingwlg.com; RCalderwood@dzlaw.com; evan.cobb@nortonrosefulbright.com; mcalce@lolg.ca; mwasserman@osler.com; jimc@metrofloors.com; ar@buckwold.com; tsabharwal@dakllp.com; mdrudi@dakllp.com; jimc@metrofloors.com; pviitre@sotos.ca; gwb@lbnfirm.com; ian.dunbar@mcinnescooper.com: dbb@burnsidelaw.net; nrenner@dwpv.com; lbrookes@chandos.com; jps@jpscounsel.com

### **OTHER PARTIES**

ROYAL BANK OF CANADA 10 York Mills Road, 3rd Floor Toronto, ON M2P 0A2	THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA  10 Wright Boulevard Stratford, ON N5A 7X9
TOYOTA INDUSTRIES COMMERCIAL FINANCE CANDA, INC. 60-401 The West Mall Toronto, ON M9C 5J5	DE LAGE LANDEN FINANCIAL SERVICES CANADA INC. 3450 Superior Court, Unit 1 Oakville, ON L6L 0C4
GOLD KEY SALES AND LEASE LTD. 19545 No. 10 Highway Surrey, BC V3S 6K1	RCAP LEASING INC. 5575 North Services Road, Suite 300 Burlington, ON L7L 6M1
CWB NATIONAL LEASING INC. 1525 Buffalo Place Winnipeg, MB R3T 1L9	

### SCHEDULE A OTHER APPLICANTS

### A.1 QSG Opcos (in addition to QRCL)

- 1. Timeline Floors Inc.
- 2. Ontario Flooring Ltd
- 3. Weston Hardwood Design Centre Inc
- 4. Malvern Contract Interiors Limited

### A.2 Holding Companies

- 5. Quality Commercial Carpet Corporation;
- 6. Joseph Douglas Pacione Holdings Ltd.;
- 7. John Anthony Pacione Holdings Ltd.;
- 8. Jopac Enterprises Limited;
- 9. Patjo Holdings Inc.

Court File No.: CV-23-00703933-00CL

## ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (COMMERCIAL LIST)

BETWEEN:

### **QUALITY RUGS OF CANADA LIMITED**

Applicant

- and -

### WAYGAR CAPITAL INC., AS AGENT FOR NINEPOINT CANADIAN SENIOR DEBT MASTER FUND L.P.

Respondent

IN THE MATTER OF THE *COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT*, R.S.C. 1985, C. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF QUALITY RUGS OF CANADA LIMITED AND THE OTHER COMPANIES LISTED IN SCHEDULE "A" HERETO (THE "APPLICANTS")

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TAB	EX	DATE	DOCUMENT
1		September 21, 2023	Notice of Motion
2		September 21, 2023	Second Affidavit of Tomas Bereta
	A	September 18, 2023	A copy of the email sent by Mr. D. Wright to Mr. C. Besant, counsel for Quality Rugs of Canada Limited
	В	September 20, 2023	A copy of the email sent by Mr. C. Besant to Mr. D. Wright
	С	September 20, 2023	A copy of Mr. D. Wright's email to Mr. C. Besant requesting information about the Holdback Funds

TAB 1

Court File No.: CV-23-00703933-00CL

## ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (COMMERCIAL LIST)

IN THE MATTER OF THE *COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT*, R.S.C. 1985, C. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF QUALITY RUGS OF CANADA LIMITED AND THE OTHER COMPANIES LISTED IN SCHEDULE "A" HERETO (THE "APPLICANTS")

#### **NOTICE OF MOTION**

(Re: Holdback)

The Carpenters' Regional Council of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (the "Carpenters' Union") will make a motion to the Honourable Justice Penny of the Ontario Superior Court of Justice Commercial List at 330 University Avenue, Toronto, Ontario on Friday, September 22, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the motion can be heard.

**PROPOSED METHOD OF HEARING**: The motion is to be heard orally by video conference VIA ZOOM. Zoom information to be provided by the Court.

### THE MOTION IS FOR:

- 1. **AN ORDER,** that the time for service of the Notice of Motion and the Motion Record is hereby abridged;
- 2. **DIRECTIONS** with respect to the below described Holdback Funds;

- 3. **AN ORDER** requiring that the Applicants (collectively "QSG") and/or the Monitor to confirm whether funds are being held separate and apart with respect to the Holdback Funds and to provide particulars with respect to same;
- 4. **AN ORDER** that, if the Holdback Funds are being held separate and apart, that they continue to be held separate and apart and do not form part of the assets of QSG's estate; and be distributed and used only as set out in the applicable collective agreements, and that this Order survives the termination of these CCAA proceedings and/or any future insolvency;
- 5. **A DECLARATION** that the Holdback Funds are being held in trust and pursuant to the terms of the applicable collective agreements;
- 6. **Alternatively,** if the Holdback Funds are not Ordered to be held separate and apart,
  - a) AN ORDER to lift the stay of proceedings against the directors and officers of QSG to proceed with a grievance or grievances and/or a labour arbitration and/or proceedings at the Ontario Labour Relations Borad against them regarding the Holdback Funds (the "Grievances"), including grievances and/or arbitrations relating breach of trust, breach of fiduciary duty, and breach of the applicable collective agreements;
  - b) **AN ORDER** that the amount of \$95,028.00 (the "**Reserve**"), or such other amount representing the Holdback, be set aside and held separate and apart from the assets of QSG pending the final disposition of the Grievances;
  - c) A DECLARATION that the Reserve does not form part of the assets of QSG's estate and is distributed upon further order of this Court after the conclusion of the Grievances;

- d) **AN ORDER** that the Reserve be funded from any and all accounts receivable collected during these proceedings and/or from any sales proceeds, and/or from the Deferred Purchase Price and the A/R Collections in excess of the Specified Amount (as those terms are defined at paragraph 17 of the Monitor's August 25, 2023 Second Supplemental Pre-Filing Report); and,
- e) **AN ORDER** that any purchaser of QSG's assets not be absolved of the liability for the Holdback; and,
- 7. Such further and other relief as this Honourable Court may deem just.

### THE GROUNDS FOR THE MOTION ARE:

- 1. The Carpenters' Union represents about 55 Pieceworkers employed by QSG (the "Carpenter Pieceworkers"). The Carpenter Pieceworkers continue to work for QSG throughout the CCAA restructuring process with the reasonable expectation that they will be paid and that the portion of their compensation held back by QSG as security for post-filing deficiencies and back charges will be returned to them as per the terms of the applicable collective agreements.
- 2. LIUNA Local 183 ("Local 183") is pursuing a substantially similar motion on behalf of its union Pieceworkers. In the interests of avoiding duplication of resources, and in the interests of saving the Court's valuable time, the Carpenters' Union adopts and relies on the arguments set out in paragraphs 1 through 24 of Local 183's grounds for motion. The Carpenters' Union relies on Local 183's arguments as the basis for the Carpenters' Union's grounds for motion.

3. With respect to the Carpenters' Union, the total holdback that QSG has withheld from the Carpenter Pieceworkers is \$95,028.00 (the "Holdback Funds"). Other than the specified Holdback Funds belonging to the Carpenter Pieceworkers, the Carpenters' Union adopts and relies on the entirety of Local 183's arguments set out in the above-noted paragraphs.

### THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE will be read in support of this motion:

- a) Affidavit of Tomas Bereta, affirmed September 11, 2023;
- b) Second Affidavit of Tomas Bereta, affirmed September 21, 2023;
- c) Motion materials served by Local 183 on September 20, 2023, to the extent it affects the relief sought in this motion and as applicable to the facts of the Carpenters' Union in this motion; and,
- d) Such further and other material as counsel may advise and this Court permit.

September 21, 2023

### ROUSSEAU MAZZUCA LLP

65 Queen Street West, Suite 600 Toronto, Ontario M5H 2M5

Tel: (416) 304-9899 Fax: (437) 800-1453

MICHAEL C. MAZZUCA (56283V) michael@rousseaumazzuca.com

DANIEL J. WRIGHT (87443L) dwright@rousseaumazzuca.com

Lawyers for the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

TO: THE SERVICE LIST

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES' CREDITORS ARRANGEMENT ACT, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, AS AMENDED

AND IN THE MATTER OF A PLAN OF COMPROMISE OR ARRANGEMENT OF QUALITY RUGS OF CANADA LIMITED AND THE OTHER COMPANIES LISTED IN SCHEDULE "A"

Court File No.: CV-23-00703292-00CL

## ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (COMMERCIAL LIST)

Proceeding commenced at TORONTO

### NOTICE OF MOTION (RE: HOLDBACK)

### ROUSSEAU MAZZUCA LLP

65 Queen Street West, Suite 600 Toronto, ON M5H 2M5

Tel: (416) 304-9899 Fax: (437) 800-1453

MICHAEL C. MAZZUCA (56283V)

michael@rousseaumazzuca.com

DANIEL J. WRIGHT (87443L)

dwright@rousseaumazzuca.com

Lawyers for the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

TAB 2

## ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (COMMERCIAL LIST)

IN THE MATTER of the *Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. C-36, as Amended

AND IN THE MATTER of a Plan of Compromise or Arrangement of Quality Rugs of Canada Limited and the Other Group Listed in Schedule "A" Hereto (the "Applicants")

## SECOND AFFIDAVIT OF TOMAS BERETA (Affirmed September 21, 2023)

I, TOMAS BERETA, in the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, AFFIRM:

- 1. I am a Business Representative for the Carpenters' Regional Council of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (the "Carpenters' Union"). The facts set forth herein are within my personal knowledge or determined from the face of the documents attached as exhibits or from information and advice provided to me by third parties. Where I have relied upon such information and advice, I verily believe same to be true.
- 2. I affirm this affidavit in response to the Application Record of Quality Rugs of Canada Limited (along with its related entities, "QSG") (the "QSG Application"). This affidavit is also affirmed further to my September 11, 2023 affidavit (the "September 11 Affidavit"), and with respect to the below described Holdback.

- 3. I described the origin and evolution of the pieceworker holdback in paragraphs 11-15 of the September 11 Affidavit (the "Holdback"). In short, the Holdback was collected from the rightfully earned wages of pieceworkers engaged in hardwood, carpet, and resilient flooring piecework for QSG (the "Pieceworkers"). The Holdback was collected prior to May 2, 2023, under the Local 183 Flooring Collective Agreement, as described in paragraphs 12-13 of the September 11 Affidavit.
- 4. As I stated in paragraph 11 of the September 11 Affidavit, the Pieceworkers' union representation changed from Local 183 to the Carpenters' Union on May 2, 2023. Despite the change in union representation, QSG's process in dealing with the Holdback for each Pieceworker remains the same. As of the date of this affidavit, QSG has not returned the Holdback to the Pieceworkers (presently represented by the Carpenters' Union, i.e., the "Carpenter Pieceworkers").
- 5. Schedule "C" and Schedule "D" of the Local 183 Flooring Collective Agreement provide particulars for the Pieceworker Holdback regime, which has been maintained pre and post change in union representation (the "Pieceworker Holdback Regime"). Excerpts from the Pieceworker Holdback Regime are set out below:

### ARTICLE 4 – HOLDBACK ACCOUNTS

• • •

4.02 The Company is entitled to create a holdback fund, not to exceed \$2000, for each piecework/subcontractor crew engaged after the introduction of this Collective Agreement. The <a href="holdback account">holdback account</a> may be established by the Company as soon as pieceworker/subcontractor commences work for the Company. The Company shall be entitled to <a href="holdback account">deduct money owing to the pieceworker /subcontractor to fund the holdback account</a> and shall clearly indicate such deductions on the pieceworker invoice. However, in no circumstance shall the Company deduct more than fifteen percent (15%) of any invoice for holdback and/or back charges.

. . .

4.04 The Company acknowledges that the holdback accounts belong to the pieceworkers/subcontractors and that any such monies are held in trust by the Company. The Company will keep all holdback monies in a designated holdback account. By no later than the 15th day of each month each Company which maintains a holdback account for any pieceworker/subcontractor covered by this Collective Agreement shall provide a Holdback Summary Notice to the Union. The Holdback Summary Notice shall list the names of each pieceworkers/subcontractors for whom the Company has a holdback account; together with the balance of the holdback account as of the last day of the month. The Holdback Summary Notice shall stipulate a final total of the holdback amounts held back by the Company for all pieceworkers/subcontractors.

### 6. Notably:

- a. the Holdback Regime describes a "holdback account";
- the funds within the holdback account are solely comprised of money owed to the
   Pieceworkers;
- c. the funds deducted from each Pieceworker are clearly indicated on each invoice;
- d. the funds within the holdback account "belong to the pieceworkers"; and
- e. the funds are "held in trust by the Company".
- 7. The Carpenters' Union's interpretation and understanding of the Pieceworker Holdback Regime is that the parties intended for the creation of a trust. The Carpenter Pieceworkers understand the same to be true. Furthermore, the Carpenter's Union asserts that QSG's obligations as trustee continue to be in force despite the change in union representation described at paragraph 11 in the September 11 Affidavit.
- 8. On or around September 18, 2023, Mr. Wright requested a list of the holdback amounts owing to each Carpenter Pieceworker. Attached hereto as Exhibit "A" is a copy of the email sent by Mr. Wright to counsel for QSG, dated September 18, 2023. On or around September 20, 2023, counsel for QSG reported a total of \$95,028.00 owing to Carpenter Pieceworkers (the "Holdback Funds"). Counsel for QSG undertook to provide a list of the amounts owed to

each individual Pieceworker at a later date. Attached hereto as Exhibit "B" is a copy of the email sent by counsel for QSG to Mr. Wright, dated September 20, 2023. I have been advised by Mr. Wright that the aforementioned list has still not been provided.

- 9. I am advised by Mr. Wright and verily believe that, to date, he has not been informed whether the Holdback Funds are currently being held in trust, and separate and apart from QSG's assets. Attached hereto as Exhibit "C" is a copy of Mr. Wright's email to QSG's counsel requesting information about the Holdback Funds. Specifically, the Union seeks confirmation of the following:
  - a. Why the Holdback Funds were not listed on QSG's asset sheet or in QSG's list of creditors;
  - b. What happened to the Holdback Funds;
  - c. Whether the Holdback Funds were properly held back in a separate trust account; and,
  - d. Whether QSG disagrees that the intent of the applicable collective agreements is to set up a trust.
- 10. If the Holdback Funds are not Ordered to be held separate and apart, the Carpenters' Union seeks *inter alia*:
  - a. an Order to create a reserve (the "Reserve") relating to the \$95,028.00 Holdback Funds, or such other amount representing the Holdback, pending a determination of a grievance to be commenced by the Carpenters' Union regarding the applicable collective agreements; and,

- b. an Order lifting the stay of proceedings as against the directors and officers of QSG to proceed with the above-noted grievance and/or labour arbitration against them regarding the Holdback Funds, including breach of trust, breach of fiduciary duty, and breach of the applicable collective agreements.
- 11. It is paramount to recognize the prejudice that would be inflicted upon the Carpenter Pieceworkers if the Holdback Funds become part of QSG's assets. The Pieceworkers are undoubtedly the most vulnerable stakeholders in these CCAA proceedings as they rely on these wages to support themselves and their families.
- 12. The Holdback Funds only arise under the applicable collective agreements. The Holdback Funds are essential income derived from earned wages which was held back for the mere purpose of correcting potential deficiencies and payment of any back charges. The Holdback Funds never belonged to QSG. Attaching the Holdback Funds to QSG's assets would immediately deprive the Pieceworkers of their earned and unpaid wages.
- 13. The Holdback Funds were deducted from the Pieceworkers' wages and the Pieceworkers were required to pay income tax and HST in respect of those payments. Attaching the Pieceworker Holdback Funds to QSG's assets would provide QSG with an undue windfall while depriving Pieceworkers of a portion of their earned income.
- 14. Additionally, if a Reserve is not created, then the Carpenter Pieceworkers will not have a remedy to pursue in respect of potential grievances. Therefore, the Carpenters' Union asserts that QSG must maintain the Holdback, or a Reserve comprised of the Holdback Funds, as a condition for the Carpenter Pieceworkers' continued work post-CCAA filing.
- 15. I have also reviewed the Affidavit of Graham Williamson, General Counsel to LIUNA Local 183, sworn on September 19, 2023. It is my understanding that Pieceworkers who are

represented by LIUNA Local 183 and the Carpenter Pieceworkers are in a substantially similar position respecting their claim to the their respective holdbacks in the underlying CCAA proceedings. Specifically, the Carpenters' Union adopts and relies on the facts and arguments asserted in paragraphs 83, 85, 88, 89, 90, 91, and 93 of the Affidavit of Graham Williamson.

16. The Carpenters' Union respectfully requests for the preservation of the Holdback Funds in trust pursuant to the obligations set out in the Pieceworker Holdback Regime. In the alternative, the Carpenters' Union respectfully requests the creation of a Reserve for the total amount of the Holdback Funds pending a grievance and/or labour arbitration to be commenced by the Carpenters' Union regarding the applicable collective agreements.

AFFIRMED remotely by Tomas Bereta ) stated as being located in the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, before me in the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, on this 21 day of September, 2023, in accordance with O. Reg. 431/20, Administering Oath or Declaration Remotely.

A Commissioner for Taking Affidavits, etc.

TOMAS BERETA

Daniel Wright, LSO # 87443L

### Schedule "A" – Other Applicants

- A.1 QSG Opcos (in addition to QRCL)
- 1. Timeline Floors Inc.
- 2. Ontario Flooring Ltd.
- 3. Weston Hardwood Design Centre Inc.
- 4. Malvern Contract Interiors Limited
- A.2 Holding Companies
- 5. Quality Commercial carpet Corporation
- 6. Joseph Douglas Pacione Holdings Ltd.
- 7. John Anthony Pacione Holdings Ltd.
- 8. Jopac Enterprises Limited
- 9. Patjo Holdings Inc.

This is **EXHIBIT "A"**referred to in the Affidavit of TOMAS BERETA dated the 21st day of SEPTEMBER, 2023.

A Commissioner for Taking Oaths, Etc.

From: Daniel Wright
To: Besant, Chris
Cc: Ella Price

**Subject:** QSG - Carpenters Holdback CCAA - CV-23-00703933-00CL

**Date:** Monday, September 18, 2023 2:15:17 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

Hi Chris,

During our call on Friday, you mentioned the amount owing to Carpenters' Pieceworkers under the contractual holdbacks is approximately \$105k.

Can you please send a copy of the list of Pieceworkers and amount held back from their wages?

Thank you,

### Daniel Wright

Lawyer

Rousseau Mazzuca LLP **T**: 416.304.9899 x 2010

**F**: 437.800.1453

E: dwright@rousseaumazzuca.com

65 Queen Street West, Suite 600 Toronto, Ontario M5H 2M5

www.rousseaumazzuca.com

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This is **EXHIBIT "B"**referred to in the Affidavit of TOMAS BERETA dated the 21st day of SEPTEMBER, 2023.

A Commissioner for Taking Oaths, Etc.

From: Besant, Chris
To: Daniel Wright
Cc: Ella Price

Subject: RE: QSG - Carpenters Holdback CCAA - CV-23-00703933-00CL

**Date:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 7:49:44 AM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

I don't have the breakdown by installer but will have requested that and will provide once I have it.

#### The totals at Sept 15 are

L 27 Carpenters Carpet 30,248.00 L 27 Carpenters Hardwood 64,780.00

Chris Besant • Partner

Gardiner Roberts LLP

Bay Adelaide Centre - East Tower, 22 Adelaide St W, Ste. 3600, Toronto, ON M5H 4E3

T 416.865.4022 | F 416.865.6636 | E cbesant@grllp.com | www.grllp.com/p/christopherbesant

**From:** Daniel Wright [mailto:Dwright@RousseauMazzuca.com]

Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 10:31 AM

**To:** Besant, Chris **Cc:** Ella Price

Subject: RE: QSG - Carpenters Holdback CCAA - CV-23-00703933-00CL

Good morning, Chris,

I'm following up to the email below.

Thanks,

### **Daniel Wright**

Lawyer

Rousseau Mazzuca LLP

**T**: 416.304.9899 x 2010

**F**: 437.800.1453

E: dwright@rousseaumazzuca.com

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From: Daniel Wright

**Sent:** September 18, 2023 2:15 PM **To:** Besant, Chris <cbesant@grllp.com>

Cc: Ella Price < Ella @Rousseau Mazzuca.com>

Subject: QSG - Carpenters Holdback CCAA - CV-23-00703933-00CL

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This is **EXHIBIT "C"**referred to in the Affidavit of TOMAS BERETA dated the 21st day of SEPTEMBER, 2023.

A Commissioner for Taking Oaths, Etc.

From: Daniel Wright
To: Besant, Chris

Cc: <u>Ella Price</u>; <u>Michael Mazzuca</u>

Subject: RE: QSG - Carpenters Holdback CCAA - CV-23-00703933-00CL

Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 3:59:20 PM

Attachments: image001.png RE OSG.msq

Hi Chris,

Thank you for getting back to us.

We understand that Demetrios Yiokaris, counsel for LIUNA Local 183, sent you an email on September 17, 2023, regarding QSG's holdback obligations under the Local 183 Collective Agreements (attached). We would like to know if you have replied to Mr. Yiokaris' inquiries.

The Carpenters' Union are also interested in receiving similar answers to the below listed inquiries as it pertains to the Carpenters' Union and their Pieceworkers members:

- a. Why was the holdback money not listed on QSG's asset sheet, or in the list of creditors;
- b. What happened to the holdback money;
- c. Was the holdback money ever held back in a separate account; and
- d. Does the company agree that the intent of the Collective Agreement is to set up a trust?

As indicated in your email below, QSG currently holds \$95,028.00 for the benefit of Carpenter Pieceworkers (the "Holdback Funds"). The entirety of the Holdback Funds was drawn from the rightfully earned wages of the Carpenter Pieceworkers. The Carpenter Pieceworkers were represented by Local 183 prior to May 2, 2023. Therefore, the Holdback Funds were collected pursuant to Local 183's Flooring Collective Agreement. Excerpts from the holdback provision are set out below.

### **ARTICLE 4 - HOLDBACKACCOUNTS**

...

4.02 The Company is entitled to create a holdback fund, not to exceed \$2000, for each piecework/subcontractor crew engaged after the introduction of this Collective Agreement. The <a href="holdback account">holdback account</a> may be established by the Company as soon as pieceworker /subcontractor commences work for the Company. The Company shall be entitled to <a href="holdback account">deduct money owing to the pieceworker /subcontractor to fund the holdback account</a> and shall clearly indicate such deductions on the pieceworker invoice. However, in no circumstance shall the Company deduct more than fifteen percent (15%) of any invoice for holdback and/or back charges.

...

4.04 The Company acknowledges that the holdback accounts belong to the pieceworkers/subcontractors and that any such monies are held in trust by the Company. The Company will keep all holdback monies in a designated holdback account. By no later than the 15th day of each month each Company which maintains a holdback account for any pieceworker/subcontractor covered by this Collective Agreement shall provide a Holdback Summary Notice to the Union. The Holdback Summary Notice shall list the names of each pieceworkers/subcontractors for whom

the Company has a holdback account; together with the balance of the holdback account as of the last day of the month. The Holdback Summary Notice shall stipulate a final total of the holdback amounts held back by the Company for all pieceworkers/subcontractors.

It is evident from the language in the collective agreement that the parties intended to create a trust. It was intended that the holdback would be "held in trust" by QSG, kept in a "designated holdback account", and a list of the names of the Pieceworkers together with the balance of the account would be recorded in a "Holdback Summary Notice".

As of May 2, 2023, Local 183 was displaced by the Carpenters' Union to represent Pieceworkers engaged in hardwood, carpet, and resilient floor covering piecework for QSG. It is essential to note that despite the change of union representation, QSG never returned the Holdback Funds to the Pieceworkers. It is the position of the Carpenter' Union that the Pieceworkers Holdback Funds continue to be held in trust by QSG.

The Carpenters' Union respectfully requests answers to the above listed questions.

We are looking forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

### **Daniel Wright**

Lawyer

Rousseau Mazzuca LLP

**T**: 416.304.9899 x 2010

**F**: 437.800.1453

E: dwright@rousseaumazzuca.com

65 Queen Street West, Suite 600 Toronto, Ontario M5H 2M5

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From: Besant, Chris <cbesant@grllp.com>Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 7:49 AMTo: Daniel Wright <Dwright@RousseauMazzuca.com>

Cc: Ella Price <Ella@RousseauMazzuca.com>

Subject: RE: QSG - Carpenters Holdback CCAA - CV-23-00703933-00CL

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### The totals at Sept 15 are

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Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2023 10:31 AM

**To:** Besant, Chris **Cc:** Ella Price

Subject: RE: QSG - Carpenters Holdback CCAA - CV-23-00703933-00CL

Good morning, Chris,

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### **Daniel Wright**

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From: Daniel Wright

Sent: September 18, 2023 2:15 PM
To: Besant, Chris <cbesant@grllp.com>
Cc: Ella Price <Ella@RousseauMazzuca.com>

Subject: QSG - Carpenters Holdback CCAA - CV-23-00703933-00CL

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Thank you,

### **Daniel Wright**

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From: <u>Demetrios Yiokaris</u>

To: Besant, Chris; L. Joseph Latham (jlatham@goodmans.ca)
Cc: Michael Mazzuca; Daniel Wright; Graham Williamson

Subject: RE: QSG

**Date:** Sunday, September 17, 2023 5:28:09 PM

**Attachments:** email logo 130 64 5db7375d-510d-48d5-8d7d-a7f67d95887d1111.png

Chris and Joe,

I write regarding the holdback obligations of the company; and seek responses to four questions below.

As indicated in our affidavit served a few weeks ago, Article 17.08 of the Collective Agreement allows QSG to withhold an amount from the Pieceworker from their earned compensation of up to \$2,000 for payment of any back charges or deficiencies. These funds are owned by the Pieceworker, not the company. Moreover, these funds are to be held in trust in a separate holdback account. Also, every month, QSG is to provide any accounting as to the holdback amounts they are currently holding in trust. Article 17.08 of the Collective Agreement provides:

#### 17.08 - Holdback Account

- (a) The Company may at its option withhold an amount from the Pieceworker/Subcontractor not to exceed the sum of two thousand (\$2,000.00) for payment of any back charges or deficiencies. The said amount may be withheld for a period not to exceed six (6) months from the date of commencement of work by the Pieceworker/Subcontractor for the Company or three (3) months from the time that the Pieceworker/Subcontractor no longer works for the Company, whichever is the greater.
- (b) It is understood that any holdback referred to in subparagraph (a) above consists of amounts owing to the Pieceworker/Subcontractor, subject to the provisions of Article 17.06 or subparagraph (a) above. When, for the purpose of establishing a holdback, amounts are deducted from the invoiced totals owing to Pieceworkers/Subcontractors, written notice shall thereafter be given to the Pieceworker/Subcontractor and the Union of the amounts designated for holdback. When amounts are deducted from holdback as a result of back charges or deficiencies, written notice shall thereafter be given to the Pieceworker/Subcontractor and the Union of the amount of such deduction.
- (c) By no later than the 15th day of each month each Company which <u>maintains a holdback</u> account for any Pieceworker/Subcontractor covered by this Collective Agreement <u>shall</u> provide a Holdback Summary Notice. The Holdback Summary Notice shall list the names of each Pieceworkers/Subcontractors for whom the Company has a holdback account; together with the balance of the holdback account as of the last day of the month. The Holdback Summary Notice shall stipulate a final total of the holdback amounts held back by the Company for all Pieceworkers/Subcontractors.
- (d) There shall be no penalty for the first violation by a Company of subparagraphs (b) and (c) during the life of this Collective Agreement. If, during the life of this Collective Agreement, the Company should breach subparagraph (b) or (c) a second time they shall pay damages to the

Union of one hundred dollars (\$100.00), and five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for each violation thereafter. [emphasis added]

Attached at Exhibit G to the affidavit we filed is the Holdback Summary Notice prepared by QSG with respect to the Local 183 Pieceworkers as of June 30, 2023, which was sent around July 15, 2023. The total amount as of the end of June 2023 was \$90,000. I anticipate the amount currently being held in trust is probably around that amount.

#### Please confirm:

- a. why these monies were not listed on the company's asset sheet, or in the list of creditors;
- b. what happened to this holdback money?;
- c. were the funds ever held back into a separate account?; and,
- d. does the company agree that the intent of the Collective Agreement and/or Article 17.08 is to set up a trust?

Regards,



#### **Demetrios Yiokaris (he/him)**

T: +1 416-595-2130 | F: +1 416-204-2810 | E: dyiokaris@kmlaw.ca Koskie Minsky LLP, 20 Queen Street West, Suite 900, Toronto, ON. M5H 3R3 kmlaw.ca

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WAYGAR CAPITAL INC., AS AGENT FOR NINEPOINT CANADIAN SENIOR DEBT MASTER FUND L.P.

and

### **QUALITY RUGS OF CANADA LIMITED et al.**

**Applicant** 

Respondents

Court File No. CV-23-00703933-00CL

## ONTARIO SUPERIOR COURT OF JUSTICE (COMMERCIAL LIST)

Proceeding commenced at TORONTO

# RESPONDING MOTION RECORD OF CARPENTERS' UNION (RE: HOLDBACK)

### ROUSSEAU MAZZUCA LLP

65 Queen Street West, Suite 600 Toronto, ON M5H 2M5

Tel: 416-304-9899 Fax: 437-800-1453

Michael C. Mazzuca LSO# 56283V Email: <u>michael@rousseaumazzuca.com</u>

Daniel J. Wright LSO# 87443L

Email: dwright@rousseaumazzuca.com

Lawyers for the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America