

## STANDING ORDERS 44-50

### RULES OF DEBATE

*Members speaking*

44. Every Member desiring to speak is to rise in his or her place, uncovered, and address himself or herself to the Speaker.

(1951 SO 47)

*Members rising  
simultaneously*

45. When two or more Members rise to speak, the Speaker calls upon the Member who first rose in his or her place, but a motion may be made that any Member who has risen “be now heard” or “do now speak”, which motion shall be forthwith put, without debate.

(1951 SO 48)

*Time limits*

46. (1) Subject to Standing Orders 46(2), (3), (4) and (6), no Member shall speak for than 20 minutes at a time in any debate.

(2) The Premier, the Leader of the Opposition, a Minister moving a Government Order and a Member replying thereto immediately after such Minister, a Member moving a motion of non-confidence and the Minister replying thereto, shall not speak for more than 60 minutes at a time in any debate.

(3) The Leader of the Opposition and the Premier have unlimited time when the Leader of the Opposition moves a motion of non-confidence and the Premier replies to such a motion other than an amendment to the Address in Reply or the Budget motion.

(4) The Member speaking immediately in reply to the Minister of Finance in giving the Budget Speech shall be limited to twice the amount of time used by the Minister or three hours, whichever is greater. (5)

The Leader of the Opposition and the Premier may not delegate their right of unlimited time to another

Member under Standing order 46(3).

(6) During debate of a motion in Committee of the Whole House, the Member who makes an opening statement and the Member who replies immediately after that Member may speak for not more than 15 minutes, while all other Members may speak for not more than 10 minutes with no limit on the number of times a Member may speak.

(1951 SO 49 R&S 1999 & amended 2005)

*Closure motion*

47. Immediately before the order of the day for resuming an adjourned debate is called, or if the House be in Committee of the Whole, or of Supply, or of Ways and Means, any Minister of the Crown, who, standing in his or her place, shall have given notice at a previous sitting of his or her intention to do so, may move that the debate shall not be further adjourned, or that further consideration of any resolution or resolutions, clause or clauses, section or sections, preamble or preambles, title or titles, shall be the first business of the Committee, and shall not further be postponed; and in either case such questions shall be decided without debate or amendment; and if the same shall be resolved in the affirmative, no Member shall thereafter speak more than once, or longer than 20 minutes in any such adjourned debate; or if in the Committee on any such resolution, clause, section, preamble or title; and if such adjourned debate or postponed consideration shall not have been resumed or concluded before 1 o'clock in the morning, no Member shall rise to speak after that hour; but all such questions as must be decided in order to conclude such adjourned debate or postponed consideration, shall be decided forthwith.

(1951 SO 50)  
*Relevancy*

48. (1) A Member addressing the House shall, if called to order by the Speaker or by any other Member, resume his or her seat while the point of order is being stated, after which he or she may explain. Any debate on the point of order, which the Speaker may permit, must be strictly relevant.

(2) The Speaker or the Chairperson, after having called the attention of the House, or of the Committee, to the conduct of a Member who persists in irrelevance or needless repetition, may direct him or her to discontinue his or her speech, and if the Member continues to speak, the Speaker may name him or her, or, if in Committee, the Chairperson shall report him or her to the House.

(1951 SO 51)

*Offensive language*

49. No Member shall speak disrespectfully of Her Majesty, nor of any of the Royal Family, nor of the Governor or Administrator of the Government of Canada; nor of the Lieutenant-Governor of this Province; nor use offensive words against any Member of this House. No Member may reflect upon any vote of the House except for the purpose of moving that such vote be rescinded.

(1951 SO 52)

*Speaking twice*

50. (1) No Member may speak twice to a question except in explanation of a material part of his or her speech which may have been misquoted or misunderstood, but then he or she is not to introduce any new matter, and no debate shall be allowed upon such explanation.

(2) A reply shall be allowed to the mover of a substantive motion but not to the mover of an amendment, the previous question or an instruction to a Committee.

(3) In all cases the Speaker shall inform the House that the reply of the mover of the original motion closes the debate.

(1951 SO 53)