

## STANDING ORDERS 65-70

### COMMITTEES

#### *Standing Committees*

65. (1) At the commencement of the first session of each Assembly, a committee of 5 to be named by the mover shall be appointed on motion of the Leader of the House or other Member of the Government whose duty it shall be to prepare and report, within the first 20 sitting days after its appointment, lists of Members to compose the following Standing Committees of the House:

- (a) Government Services Committee to consist of not more than 17 Members and not less than 7 Members;
- (b) Social Services Committee to consist of not more than 17 Members and not less than 7 Members;
- (c) Resource Committee to consist of not more than 17 Members and not less than 7 Members;
- (d) Public Accounts Committee to consist of 7 Members;
- (e) Privileges and Elections Committee to consist of 5 Members;
- (f) Standing Orders Committee to consist of 5 Members; and
- (g) Miscellaneous and Private Bills Committee to consist of 5 Members.

(2) Each of the said Committees shall elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson at the commencement of every Session, and, if necessary, during the course of the Session.

(3) The Membership of the said Standing Committees shall be as set out in the report of the said Committee of 5 referred to at the beginning of Standing

Order 65(1), when concurred in by the House, and shall continue from Session to Session within an Assembly, but shall be subject to such changes as may be effected from time to time.

(4) The said Standing Committees may sit at all times during the Assembly for which they are appointed, whether or not the House is in Session, adjourned or prorogued.

(5) The said Standing Committees shall be severally empowered to examine and enquire into all such matters as may be referred to them by the House, and, to report from time to time, and except when the House otherwise orders to send for persons, papers and records, to print from day to day such papers and evidence as may be ordered by them, and to delegate to sub-committees all or any of their powers except the power to report direct to the House.

(1951 SO 84)

*Select Committees*

66. (1) No select committee may, without leave of the House consist of more than 7 Members; such leave shall not be moved for without notice, and if it is proposed to add or substitute certain Members after the first appointment of the Committee, the notice is to include the names of the Members proposed to be added or substituted.

(2) No Member who declares or decides against the principle of a Bill, resolution, or matter to be committed, can be nominated to such a committee.

(3) A select committee to draw up an Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne may be appointed at once, without notice.

(1951 SO 85)

*Quorum & order in committees*

67. (1) A majority of the Members of a standing or select committee shall constitute a quorum. The presence of a quorum shall be required whenever a vote, resolution or other decision is taken by a standing or select committee, provided that any such committee, by resolution thereof, may authorize the Chairperson to hold meetings to receive and authorize the printing of evidence when a quorum is not present.

(2) Any Member of the House who is not a Member of a standing or select committee, may, unless

the House or the committee concerned otherwise orders, take part in the public proceedings of the committee, but he or she may not vote or move any motion, nor shall he or she be part of any quorum.

(3) In a standing or select committee, the Standing Orders of the House shall be observed so far as may be applicable with the exception that motions need not be seconded.

(4) The Chairperson of a standing or select committee shall maintain order in the committees, deciding all questions of order subject to an appeal to the committee; but disorder in a committee can only be censured by the House, on receiving a report thereof.

(1951 SO 86  
amended 1999)  
*Changes in a  
committee*

68. Changes in the membership of any committee may be effected by a notice, signed by the Government House Leader to that effect, being filed with the Clerk.

(1951 SO 87)

*Witnesses*

69. (1) No witness shall be summoned to attend before any committee of the House, unless a certificate shall first have been filed with the Chairperson of such committee, by some Member thereof, stating that the evidence to be obtained from such witness is, in the opinion of such Member, material and important.

(2) The Clerk of the House is authorized to pay to witnesses so summoned, a reasonable sum (per diem) during their travel and attendance, to be determined by the Speaker, and a reasonable allowance for travelling expenses.

(3) The claim of a witness for payment shall state the number of days during which he or she has been in attendance, the time of necessary travel and the amount of his or her travelling expenses, which claim and statement shall, before being paid, be certified by the Chairperson and clerk of the committee before which such witness has been summoned.

(1951 SO 88)

*Lists of committees*

70. The Clerk shall display in some conspicuous part of the House a list of the several standing and select committees.

(1951 SO 89)