

APPENDIX

Practice Recommendations

These are practice recommendations of the House of Assembly that were recommended by the 1999 Select Committee on the Standing Orders and subsequently adopted by the House. It is important to note that the procedures, guidelines, etc. listed here are practices and are not Standing Orders; and further, that this is not a complete collection of the practices of the House of Assembly.

Parliamentary Calendar

1. (1) During a Session of the House of Assembly, the House shall ordinarily meet

- (a) in the Winter-Spring from the second Monday in March to the Friday before the Victoria Day weekend with a break from the end of the sitting day on Maundy Thursday to the third Monday after Easter; and
- (b) in the Fall for a minimum of four weeks adjourning not later than one week before Christmas.

(Amended 2005)

(2) Where the Government intends to extend the date of the adjournment of the House under paragraph 1(a) or (b), the Government House Leader shall after notice has been given make a motion to extend the sitting of the House and the motion shall be put without debate.

(3) Whenever the House stands adjourned, if the Speaker is satisfied, after consulting with the Government that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time than set out in number (1), the Speaker may give notice that being so satisfied the House shall meet, and therefore the House shall meet to transact its business as if it had been duly adjourned to that time.

(4) In the event the Speaker is unable to act owing to illness or other cause, the Deputy Speaker or Deputy Chair of Committees shall act in the Speaker's stead for the purpose of this item.

Parliamentary Group

2. To be recognized as a parliamentary group in the House of Assembly, the group must be a registered party in accordance with the *Elections Act, 1991*, must have contested two-thirds of the number of seats in the House of Assembly at the preceding General Election and have elected at least three Members, at the preceding General Election or at a by-election. This definition would not affect the ruling of Mr. Speaker McNicholas in 1987 concerning the right of a two person group with respect to Ministerial Statements or other decisions made with respect to the entitlements of the New Democratic Party Members of the House.

Petitions

3. (a) Where a petition does not conform to the requirements of Standing Orders 90 to 92 and the Speaker considers that in substance the petition is by its nature of concern and interest to Members of the House, the Speaker may waive the Standing Orders in this regard and rule that the particular petition is in order.
- (b) All petitions must be certified by a Table Officer before presentation.
- (c) Form _____ of _____ Petition:

PETITION

TO THE HONOURABLE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY OF THE PROVINCE OF
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED

The Petition of the undersigned residents

HUMBLY SHEWETH

WHEREAS _____
(states the reason(s) for the Petition)

WHEREAS _____

WHEREUPON the undersigned, your Petitioners, humbly pray and call upon
the House of Assembly to

(The prayer expresses the request of the Petitioners)

AND as in duty bound your Petitioners will ever pray.

DATE: _____

Name (Please print)

Address

Signature