



## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

### RULE AMENDMENT (SECTIONS 18 & 19) – OFFICE ACCOMMODATIONS

<b>Effective Date:</b> April 26, 2013	<b>Commission Minute:</b> CM 2013-042
<b>Subject:</b> Office Accommodations	<b>Reference:</b> HoaMC Meeting – March 20, 2013 ➤ Agenda Item # 4 HoaMC Meeting – April 23, 2013 ➤ Agenda Item # 4
<b>Issued To:</b> All Members of the House of Assembly; Comptroller General; Directors of Government Accounting, Professional Services and Internal Audit, OMSP, and Corporate Services; Office of the Auditor General; Office Managers of Government Caucus, Official Opposition Caucus, NDP Caucus; Assistant Deputy Clerk, Executive Council; Director of Operations, Office of the Premier.	<b>Contact:</b> Marlene Lambe Chief Financial Officer 729-2923

#### **BACKGROUND**

Subsection 18(2) of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* (the Rules) formerly provided Members with an office accommodations allowance of \$7,000 per year. If accommodations could not be obtained within the \$7,000 limit, Members were required to seek the approval of the Speaker to exceed this amount. Many tenders for office accommodations for Members have resulted in lease costs that exceed the \$7000 limit. During the 2013-14 budget process, the Management Commission discussed this issue and approved an amendment removing the office allowance maximum for Members requiring accommodations in leased space.

As leases for Members' office accommodations are based on tender results, the \$7000 limit and the requirement for Speaker approval if the limit is exceeded are not necessary.

Appropriate approvals for the required amendments to Section 18 have been received from the House of Assembly Management Commission and by resolution of the House of Assembly as required under the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*. As result of the amendment, a consequential amendment was also required to Section 19.

Paragraph 18(2)(a) of the Rules is repealed and the following is substituted:

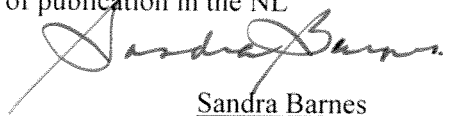
*(2) A member is entitled to the constituency office accommodation expenses described in subsection 19(1).*

Subsections 18(3) and 18(4) of the Rules are repealed.

Subsection 19(1) of the Rules is amended by deleting the words and reference: allowance referred to in paragraph 18(2)(a); and substituting the words and reference:

*“expenses referred to in subsection 18(2)”.*

The amendments to Sections 18 and 19 came into force on April 26, 2013, the date of publication in the NL Gazette.

  
Sandra Barnes  
Clerk of the House of Assembly