



Newfoundland &  
Labrador

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

### RULE AMENDMENTS

<b>Effective Date:</b> June 30, 2011	<b>Commission Minute:</b> CM 2011-027
<b>Subject:</b> Directives incorporated into <i>Members' Resources and Allowances Rules</i>	<b>Reference:</b> HOAMC Meeting, June 7, 2011, Tab #8  NL Gazette, June 30, 2011
<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**

Since its establishment in 2007, the Commission has issued a number of Directives respecting the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* (the Rules). Directives are circulated to all Members for inclusion in Tab 12 of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules Manual*.

Due to the large number of Directives issued, a review was done of all existing Directives to identify those which could be incorporated directly into the Rules.

Pursuant to subsection 64(1) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, the Commission, at its June 7, 2011 meeting, approved the following amendments to the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*, subject to final wording by the Office of the Legislative Counsel:

1. Subsection 19(4) of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* is repealed and the following is substituted:
  - (4) Following a general election or by-election, a new member who was not a member in the preceding session of the House of Assembly is, in addition to the constituency office accommodation allowance, entitled to claim amounts associated with the start-up of the member's office in an amount of not more than \$1,000 to defray expenses for supplies and equipment as follows:

- (a) office supplies such as paper trays, 3 hole punch, staplers, pencil holders, scissors, hanging folders, kettle and coffee maker;
  - (b) office equipment such as a computer monitor stand and non glare screen; and
  - (c) other non-consumable items directly related, in the opinion of the Clerk, to establishing a constituency office.
- 2. Section 26 of the Rules is amended by adding immediately after subsection (5) the following:
  - (6) Where a district is not represented by a member, the constituency assistant for the last member representing that district may remain employed as a constituency assistant until a new member is officially declared elected for that district and the required notice period applicable to the constituency assistant has elapsed.
- 3. Subsection 29(1) of the Rules is repealed and the following substituted:

29(1) A member who travels

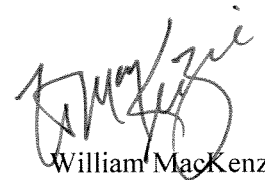
  - (a) to and from the capital region when the House of Assembly is in session;
  - (b) to and from the capital region for constituency business when the House of Assembly is not in session; or
  - (c) to and from his or her permanent residence which is not in his or her district to that district

may claim for travel and living allowance only where the member

  - (d) is engaged in constituency business; and
  - (e) is outside commuting distance of the member's permanent residence.
- 4. Subsection 29(7) of the Rules is repealed and the following is substituted:
  - (7) On a day when a member may claim a meal allowance while on constituency business but only a portion of that day is spent on constituency business, his or her daily meal allowance shall be prorated as follows,
    - (a) breakfast, \$10;
    - (b) lunch, \$15; and
    - (c) dinner, \$25.
- 5. Section 29 of the Rules is amended by adding immediately after subsection (8) the following:
  - (9) On a day when a member is on constituency business where there is no associated travel expense claimed under these Rules, the member may claim for accommodations and a meal allowance in accordance with these Rules.

6. Paragraph 30(g) of the Rules is repealed and the following is substituted:
  - (g) for travel, meals and accommodation of his or her constituency assistant where it is necessary to attend to constituency business, at the same rate for expenses that apply to the member.
7. Subsection 41(1) of the Rules is amended by deleting the word “accommodation” and substituting the words “standard room accommodations”.
8. Subsection 46(3) of the Rules is amended by adding immediately after paragraph(e) the following:
  - (e.1) memorial wreaths used to commemorate veterans and others who served in the armed forces, peace officers, workers killed on the job or who died as a result of work-related illness, and similar memorial commemorations of a public nature;

The rule amendments became effective on June 30, 2011, the date of publication in the NL Gazette.



William MacKenzie  
Clerk of the House of Assembly