



**House of Assembly
Newfoundland and Labrador**

**Minutes of the House of Assembly
Management Commission**

Date: June 7, 2011

Location: Speaker's Boardroom

Time: 3:10 p.m.

Members Present:

Hon. Roger Fitzgerald, Speaker

Mr. William MacKenzie, Clerk of the House of Assembly

Ms. Lorraine Michael, MHA (NDP) Signal Hill - Quidi Vidi

Hon. Joan Burke, Government House Leader

Mr. Tom Osborne, MHA (PC) St. John's South

Mr. Bob Ridgley, MHA (PC) St. John's North

Regrets:

Hon. Jerome Kennedy, MHA (PC) Carbonear – Harbour Grace

Mr. Kelvin Parsons, Opposition House Leader

Ms. Yvonne Jones, MHA (L) Cartwright - L'Anse Au Clair

Other:

Ms. Marlene Lambe, Chief Financial Officer

Ms. Marie Keefe, Policy and Communications Officer

CM 2011-022

The Commission, at an *in camera* session, approved the remuneration for Mr. Victor Powers, Chief Electoral Officer at the EP-06 level point total of 2328, at Step 1.

CM 2011-023

The Minutes of the House of Assembly Management Commission meeting held on March 23, 2011 were approved as read.

CM 2011-024 The Minutes of the House of Assembly Management Commission *in camera* meeting held on March 30, 2011 were approved as read.

CM 2011-025 The Minutes of the House of Assembly Management Commission *in camera* meeting held on May 25, 2011 were approved as read.

CM 2011-026 The Commission directed that severance benefits for Members are to be calculated and paid based on 81.2 % of gross Member salary as established by s. 11 (1) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*.

CM 2011-027 Pursuant to S. 64 of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, the Commission approved the following amendments to the *Members' Resources & Allowances Rules* and rescinds the related Commission Directives effective upon the coming into force of the Rule amendments:

Subsection 19(4) of the Rules is repealed and the following is substituted: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.

Directive 2007-008 is rescinded, effective upon the Gazetting of the Rule amendment.

Section 26 of the *Members' Resources and Allowances 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.

Directive 2008-005 is rescinded, effective upon the Gazetting of the Rule amendment.

Subsection 29(1) of the Rules is repealed and the following is 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.

Directive 2007-011 is rescinded, effective upon the Gazetting of the Rule amendment.

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.

Directive 2007-007 is rescinded, effective upon the Gazetting of the Rule amendment.

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.

Directive 2010-010 is rescinded, effective upon the Gazetting of the Rule amendment.

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.

Directive 2007-009 is rescinded, effective upon the Gazetting of the Rule amendment.

Subsection 41(1) of the Rules is amended by deleting the word “accommodation” and substituting the words “standard room accommodations”.

Directive 2008-006 is rescinded, effective upon the Gazetting of the Rule amendment.

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;

Directive 2007-005 is rescinded, effective upon the Gazetting of the Rule amendment.

CM 2011-028 The Commission rescinded Directives 2007-006 and 2007-010, effective immediately.

CM 2011-029 Pursuant to subparagraph 20(6)(b)(ii) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, the Commission approved the Guidelines on Dissolution of the Newfoundland and Labrador House of Assembly, dated June 2011.

Adjournment: 4:10 p.m.

Hon. Roger Fitzgerald, MHA
Speaker and Chair

Wm. MacKenzie
Clerk and Secretary to the Commission