

House of Assembly Newfoundland and Labrador

Minutes of the House of Assembly Management Commission

Date: December 23, 2020

Location: Via Videoconference (WebEx)

Time: 10:12 a.m.

Members Present:

Hon. Scott Reid, Speaker (Chair)

Hon. Steve Crocker, Government House Leader Mr. David Brazil, Opposition House Leader

Hon. Siobhan Coady, MHA (LIB), St. John's West

Ms. Alison Coffin, MHA (NDP), St. John's East-Quidi Vidi Ms. Sherry Gambin-Walsh (LIB), Placentia-St. Mary's Ms. Sandra Barnes, Clerk of the House of Assembly

Other

Ms. Bobbi Russell, Policy & Communications Officer

Regrets

Mr. Barry Petten, MHA (PC), Conception Bay South Ms. Pam Parsons, MHA (LIB), Deputy Speaker

As required by the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, the Chair reported decisions from *in camera* meetings held on February 24 and December 7, 2020. Details of decisions made at those meetings were included with the draft Minutes circulated to the Commission for approval as part of agenda item #1.

CM 2020-035 The Minutes of the Commission meetings held on February 24, October 16 and December 7, 2020 were approved as read.

The Speaker presented a report of Rulings on Allowance Use for the period ended December 18, 2020. In accordance with Section 24 of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, the Commission issued rulings to reimburse expenditures for the following Members that were not submitted within 60-days of being incurred as required under subsection 7(6) of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* (the Rules):

Member for Virginia Waters – Pleasantville \$601.73

Member for Lewisporte – Twillingate \$85.01

As required by the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, financial reports of the Legislature as well as actual expenditures of Members were presented to the Commission for the reporting periods from April 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020, and April 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020.

The 13th Report of the Audit Committee dated 19 June 2020 was presented to the Commission.

CM 2020-036 The Commission appointed the Member for Placentia – St. Mary's as member and Chair of the Audit Committee, effective immediately.

CM 2020-037 The Commission approved the following transfer of funds:

From:

Members' Resources – Allowances and Assistance \$1,900

To:

Members' Resources – Supplies \$1,900

The Member for Conception Bay East – Bell Island recused himself from the vote on the following decision.

CM 2020-038 The Commission approved payment of expenses totaling \$40.00 for the Member for Conception Bay East – Bell Island, with the expenses to be paid within the appropriate allocation for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

The Member for Placentia – St. Mary's recused herself from the vote on the following decision.

CM 2020-039 The Commission directed the following amendment to the Advertising and Publications Policy for Members of the House of Assembly and waived the 2-day waiting period for Commission decisions:

Section 6.0 is amended by adding immediately after Section 6.4 the following:

Section 6.5 Telephone-based Advertising (Robocalls)

The following criteria must be followed when advertising via telephone:

- Distributed to residents of the constituency only;
- Contain a message recognizing a week/day/event at the national, provincial or constituency level; or a message of welcome or congratulations related to a week/day/event at the national, provincial or constituency level;

- Include contact information.

CM 2020-040 The Commission approved payment of expenses related to telephone advertising totaling \$262.95 for the Member for Waterford Valley and waived the 2-day waiting period for Commission decisions.

Adjournment: 11:05 a.m.

Hon. Scott Reid Speaker (Chair)

Sandra Barnes

Clerk and Secretary to the Commission