



HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

RULE AMENDMENT – SPECIAL OCCASION GREETING CARDS (SECTION 24)

Effective Date: November 24, 2017	Commission Minutes: CM 2017-067
Subject: Special Occasion Greeting Cards – Section 24	Reference: HoaMC Meeting – November 8, 2017
Issued To: 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.	Contact: Wanda Lee Mercer Chief Financial Officer 729-2923

BACKGROUND

At its meeting on November 30, 2016, the Management Commission accepted recommendation #10 of the 2016 Members' Compensation Review Committee (MCRC) that the recovery of expenses related to seasonal and special occasion cards be prohibited (CM 2016-050 refers). To give effect to this recommendation, the Commission approved an amendment to section 24 of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* (the Rules) to remove seasonal and special occasion cards as an allowable expense under the office operations, supplies and communications allocation (CM 2017-021 refers).

At its March 15, 2017 meeting, the Management Commission directed that an Ad Hoc Committee be appointed with representation from each of the three caucuses to review and make recommendations respecting advertising member-created publications. During its deliberations, the Ad Hoc Committee also discussed the restriction on seasonal and special occasion cards, and recommended that the Management Commission consider allowing Members the recovery of expenses related to greeting cards for occasions of anniversary, birthday and sympathy only.

At its meeting of November 8, 2017 the Management Commission accepted the Ad-Hoc Committees recommendation and approved the following rule amendment (CM 2017-067 refers):

Section 24 of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* is repealed and the following substituted:

Office operations, supplies and communications allowance

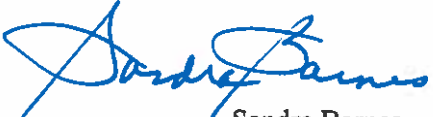
24. (1) A member may claim against the office operations and supplies allowance for reimbursement to cover operational costs of operating a constituency office including,

- (a) office supplies;
- (b) printing;
- (c) photocopies;
- (d) newspapers;

- (e) answering services;
- (f) staff professional development;
- (g) courier services and postage;
- (h) database maintenance;
- (i) advertising in the form and with the content outlined in the policies of the commission;
- (j) special occasion cards;
- (k) those other items identified and directed by the commission.

(2) For the purpose of subsection (1), "special occasion cards" means anniversary, birthday or sympathy cards, but does not include Christmas cards or other seasonal cards.

This rule amendment was Gazetted on November 24, 2017 and is now in effect.


Sandra Barnes
Clerk of the House of Assembly