



HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

RULE AMENDMENT – OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

Effective Date: March 5, 2010	Commission Minute: CM 2010 – 024
<p><u>Subject:</u></p> <p>Accommodations when traveling long distances</p>	<p><u>Reference:</u></p> <p>HOAMC Meeting, February 3, 2010 ➤ Agenda Item Tab 8 HOAMC Meeting, February 17, 2010 ➤ Agenda Item Tab 2 NL Gazette, March 5, 2010</p>
<p><u>Issued To:</u></p> <p>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.</p>	<p><u>Contact:</u></p> <p>Marlene Lambe Chief Financial Officer 729 – 2923</p>

BACKGROUND

The *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* formerly prohibited MHAs from being reimbursed for overnight accommodation while on return trips to their district unless they made a request and received permission from the Speaker of the House.

In response to recommendations of the Members' Compensation Review Committee, the Commission approved amendments to the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* which permit MHAs representing identified districts to stay overnight when required. MHAs representing all other districts may stay overnight when traveling long distances only with the approval of the Speaker.

The amendments below reflect the final wording by the Office of the Legislative Counsel.

As required under subsection 15(5) of the Act, the amendments were approved at the February 3, 2010 meeting, distributed to all Members, posted on the House of Assembly website, and given final approval at the next meeting of the Commission held on February 17, 2010.

The rule amendments became effective on March 5, 2010, the date of publication in the NL Gazette.

The *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* are amended by adding the following immediately after section 37:

Accommodations when traveling long distances

37.1(1) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in sections 31 to 37, where a member maintains

- (a) a permanent residence in his or her constituency which is outside the capital region; or
- (b) a permanent residence within the capital region but represents a constituency outside the capital region; or
- (c) a permanent residence outside the capital region in a location that is not in his or her constituency and the constituency is outside the capital region,

and his or her permanent residence or constituency is in a district listed in subsection (2), that member may claim reimbursement for the costs associated with travel between his or her constituency or permanent residence and the capital region, as follows

- (d) with receipts, the actual cost of temporary standard room accommodations for one night while in transit; or
- (e) without receipts, \$53 on the island portion of the province and \$71 in Labrador for one night while in transit when staying in private accommodations; and
- (f) without receipts, the prorated portion of the \$50 daily meal allowance, as contribution to the cost of meals while in transit.

(2) The districts to which subsection (1) applies are:

- (a) Baie Verte-Springdale;
- (b) Bay of Islands;
- (c) Bonavista North;
- (d) Burgeo-La Poile;
- (e) Cartwright-L'anse au Clair;
- (f) Exploits;
- (g) Fortune Bay-Cape LaHune;
- (h) Grand Bank;
- (i) Grand Falls-Winsor-Buchans;
- (j) Grand Falls-Windsor-Green Bay South;
- (k) Humber East;
- (l) Humber Valley;
- (m) Humber West;
- (n) Labrador West;
- (o) Lake Melville;
- (p) Lewisporte;
- (q) Port au Port;
- (r) St. Barbe;
- (s) St. George's-Stephenville East;
- (t) The Isles of Notre Dame;
- (u) The Straits-White Bay North; and
- (v) Torngat Mountains.

(3) Where a claim is made under subsection (1), the night for which an amount was claimed shall not be included in the number of nights of allowable accommodation permitted under this Part.