



**House of Assembly
Newfoundland and Labrador**

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

Date: September 22, 2010

Location: House of Assembly Chamber

Time: 9:00 a.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

Mr. Kelvin Parsons, Opposition House Leader

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

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

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

Regrets:

Hon. Joan Burke, Government House Leader

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

Other:

Ms. Virginia English, Manager, Financial Planning & Reporting

Ms. Marie Keefe, Policy and Communications Officer

CM 2010-047 The Minutes of the House of Assembly Management Commission meeting held on May 26, 2010 were approved as read.

The Speaker gave an update on authorizations made under subsection 18(4) of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* for the period ending June 2, 2010. The amount of \$19,200.00 (HST excluded) was approved for constituency office accommodations for Mr. Clayton Forsey, District of Exploits.

The Clerk reported on authorization given for furniture and equipment expenditures. The Clerk approved \$229.99 for a Fax machine for the constituency office of Ms. Tracey Perry, District of Fortune Bay-Cape LaHune; \$372.36 for a shelving unit for the constituency office of Mr. Wade Verge, District of Lewisporte; and, \$189.00 for HP LaserJet Pro for the constituency office of Mr. Clayton Forsey, District of Exploits.

CM 2010-048 The Commission confirmed that the Estimates for the Legislature for fiscal year 2010-11 as published in the Estimates 2010 document provide the details for the budget approved by **CM 2010-001**.

CM 2010-049 The Commission decided to not proceed with a Request for Proposals for the re-creation of financial information for 1999/2000 and 2000/2001.

Mr. Bob Ridgley, Chair of the Audit Committee, gave a progress report from the Management Commission Overtime Sub-Committee on research and recommendations related to amending the current overtime policies in place for employees of the Newfoundland and Labrador Legislature.

CM 2010-050 The Commission considered the requests from the Member for Burgeo-LaPoile and the Member for St. Barbe respecting intra-constituency allowances and directed that an individual be appointed to conduct an external review of intra-constituency allocations for all Members and to provide a comprehensive report to the Commission.

CM 2010-051 Pursuant to subsection 64(1) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, the Commission approved the following amendment to the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*, subject to final wording by the Office of the Legislative Counsel:

The *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* are amended by adding immediately after section 37.1 the following:

Midweek Sessional Travel for Constituency Business

37.2 (1) Where, while the House of Assembly is in session, a member travels between the capital region and his or her constituency or permanent residence in order to attend to constituency business, that member may claim the costs associated with that travel.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), travel costs may be claimed as if the claim were for one of

the 20 return trips permitted under sections 35, 36 or 37.

CM 2010-052 The Commission declined the request from the Member for Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair to invite the current Child and Youth Advocate to appear before the Management Commission.

The financial reports for the April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010 and for April 1, 2010 to June 30, 2010 were presented to the Commission for review.

The Clerk provided the Commission with a status report on the "Green Report" recommendations. Thirteen of the 275 recommendations are outstanding or have not been completely actioned.

CM 2010-053 Pursuant to subparagraph 20(6)(b)(ii) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, the Commission approved the following amendment to the Cellular and Landline Phone Services Policy for Employees of the House of Assembly Service, Caucus Offices and Statutory Offices, dated February 2010.

Section 4.5 (2): Users are responsible for reimbursing to the Newfoundland Exchequer Account through the Central Cashier's office the cost of personal long distance calls when the total cost of personal calls in one month exceeds \$1.

CM 2010-054 Pursuant to subparagraph 20(6)(b)(ii) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, the Commission approved the following amendment to the Cellular and Landline Phone Services Policy for Members of the House of Assembly and Constituency Assistants, dated May 19, 2009.

Section 4.5 (second paragraph): Each user is responsible for reimbursing to the Newfoundland Exchequer Account through the Central Cashier's office the cost of personal long distance calls when the total cost of personal calls in one month exceeds \$1.

Adjournment: 10:40 a.m.

Hon. Roger Fitzgerald, MHA
Speaker and Chair



Wm. MacKenzie
Clerk and Secretary to the Commission