House of Assembly Management Commission Agenda

Location: House of Assembly Chamber

Date: March 20, 2013 Time: 5:15 – 6:15 p.m.

Tab 1 Minutes

Approval of Minutes for February 27, 2013 meeting

Approval of Minutes for February 28, 2013 meeting

New Business

<u>Tab 2</u> Funding for the District of Cartwright - L'Anse au Clair

<u>Tab 3</u> Intra-constituency Travel Helicopter Allocations

<u>Tab 4</u> Proposed Amendments to the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*



House of Assembly Newfoundland and Labrador

Minutes of the House of Assembly Management Commission

Date: February 27, 2013

Location: House of Assembly Chamber

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Hon. Ross Wiseman, Speaker

Ms. Sandra Barnes, Clerk of the House of Assembly Hon. Jerome Kennedy, Government House Leader Ms. Lorraine Michael, MHA (NDP) Signal Hill - Quidi Vidi

Mr. Vaughn Granter, MHA (PC) Humber West

Ms. Yvonne Jones, MHA (L) Cartwright - L'Anse Au Clair Hon. Joan Shea, MHA (PC) St. Georges – Stephenville

Mr. Dwight Ball, MHA (L) Humber Valley

Other

Mr. Glen Littlejohn, MHA (PC) Port de Grave, Deputy Chair of Committees Ms. Marie Keefe, Policy & Communications Officer, Clerk's Office

CM 2013-001 The Commission, at an *in camera* meeting, approved the creation of

one permanent Systemic Advocacy Consultant position for the Office

of the Child and Youth Advocate.

CM 2013-002 The Commission, at an *in camera* meeting, approved the abolition of

one permanent Individual Advocacy Specialist position for the Office

of the Child and Youth Advocate.

The Speaker tabled a letter to the Commission from the Hon. Jerome Kennedy, Minister of Finance and President of Treasury Board, regarding the recommendations of the Members' Compensation Review Committee with respect to MHA salaries.

CM 2013-003

The Minutes of the House of Assembly Management Commission meeting held on December 4 and 5, 2012 were approved as read.

CM 2013-004

The Commission approved the audited financial information 2012-2013 for the House of Assembly and its Statutory Offices as recommended by the Audit Committee.

CM 2013-005

The Commission ratified the approval of Budget Transfer No. HOABT 2013-0004 to transfer funds to Members' Resources – Grants and Subsidies to provide operational funding for the Independent Member for the period September 13, 2012 to March 31, 2013.

CM 2013-006

The Commission, pursuant to subsection 24(9) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, approved the payment of an expense claim totaling \$62.15 which was submitted by the Member for Burgeo-LaPoile, with the Speaker to determine the appropriate authority for payment in keeping with the provisions of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*.

CM 2013-007

The Commission, pursuant to subsection 24(9) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, approved expense claims totaling \$153.79 for the Member for Burin-Placentia West which were submitted by the Member later than the 60-day deadline as required under subsection 7(6) of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*.

CM 2013-008

The Commission, pursuant to subsection 24(9) of the House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act, approved expense claims totaling \$1051.44 for the Member for Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair which were submitted by the Member later than the 60-day deadline as required under subsection 7(6) of the Members' Resources and Allowances Rules. The Member abstained from voting.

CM 2013-009

The Commission, pursuant to subsection 24(9) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, approved expense claims totaling \$1,558.96 for the Member for Humber East which were submitted by the Member later than the 60-day deadline as required under subsection 7(6) of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*.

CM 2013-010

The Commission, pursuant to subsection 24(9) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, approved expense claims totaling \$1,236.75 for the Member for Mount Pearl South which were submitted by the Member later than the 60-day deadline as required under subsection 7(6) of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*.

CM 2013-011

The Commission, pursuant to subsection 24(9) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, approved expense claims totaling \$283.57 for the Member for St. George's-Stephenville East which were submitted by the Member later than the 60-day deadline as required under subsection 7(6) of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*. The Member abstained from voting.

CM 2013-012

In response to recommendations 1-4 of Members' Compensation Review Committee (MCRC) 2012 with respect to salaries, the Commission directed that MHA salaries be frozen at current levels. Any increases in MHA salaries should only come about as a result of any future recommendations by a Members' Compensation Review Committee appointed after the next provincial general election.

CM 2013-013

The Commission adopted recommendation 5 of MCRC 2012 which recommended that the current MHA pension plan remain unchanged.

CM 2013-014

The Commission endorsed the proposal outlined in recommendation 6 of MCRC 2012 that <u>either</u> the MHA pension plan be converted to a defined contribution plan or that the existing defined benefit plan be significantly modified. The Commission directed the Speaker to develop a strategy for undertaking a thorough review of the proposal. This proposed strategy is to be submitted to the Commission for review and approval at a future meeting of the Commission.

CM 2013-015

The Commission did not adopt recommendation 7 of MCRC 2012 and deferred the decision respecting the resources to be provided to the next Members' Compensation Review Committee to the Commission in place at the time of the appointment of the next MCRC.

CM 2013-016

The Commission did not adopt recommendation 8 of MCRC 2012 and deferred the decision respecting the composition of the next Members' Compensation Review Committee to the Commission in place at the time of the appointment of the next MCRC.

CM 2013-017

The Commission adopted recommendation 15 of MCRC 2012 that the MHA for Burgeo-La Poile be granted reasonable access to helicopter travel.

CM 2013-018

The Commission adopted recommendation 16 that helicopter travel should only be availed of if less expensive travel is not available.

CM 2013-019

The Commission adopted recommendation 17 that helicopter travel not be included in intra-constituency allowance and will only be availed of with the specific permission of the Speaker upon representation by the MHA to justify such travel. It further directed that helicopter travel will be budgeted for separately. The Member for Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair abstained from voting.

CM 2013-020

The Commission directed the Speaker to consult with the Members for Burgeo-LaPoile, Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair, Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune and Torngat Mountains to help determine specific helicopter allocations for those districts. The recommended allocations will be brought to a future meeting of the Commission for approval.

CM 2013-021

The Commission adopted recommendation 21 of MCRC 2012 to increase the kilometers from 4,500 to 20,000 for the District of Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune. The dollar amount of the total allocation will be adjusted accordingly.

CM 2013-022

The Commission adopted recommendation 23 of MCRC 2012 to add the amount of \$1,500 to the intra-constituency allowance estimate for the district of Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune for increased ferry travel.

CM 2013-023

The Commission adopted recommendation 22 of MCRC 2012 and directed that the mileage estimate included in the intra-constituency cost estimate for the district of St. Barbe is to be increased from 15,000 to 20,000 kilometres. The dollar amount of the total allocation will be adjusted accordingly.

CM 2013-024

The Commission did not adopt recommendation 25 of MCRC 2012 with respect to the procurement of short-term apartment type rental facilities for MHAs who are traveling to St. John's to attend at the House or to attend to constituency business. Current accommodation

provisions for travel to the Capital Region under paragraphs 31(b) and 35(b) of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* remain unchanged.

CM 2013-025

The Commission adopted recommendation 26 of MCRC 2012 to amend Part VI of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* to allow for Members within reasonable driving distance of the Capital Region to be reimbursed for commuting to their district when the House is in Session instead of staying in temporary accommodations. The Commission further directed that the amendments would include a restriction that the provision would not apply to Members whose permanent residence is located within commuting distance of the Capital Region.

Adjournment: 9:10 p.m. Hon. Ross Wiseman, MHA Speaker and Chair

Sandra Barnes Clerk and Secretary to the Commission



House of Assembly Newfoundland and Labrador

Minutes of the House of Assembly Management Commission

Date: February 28, 2013

Location: House of Assembly Chamber

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Members Present:

Hon. Ross Wiseman, Speaker

Ms. Sandra Barnes, Clerk of the House of Assembly Hon. Jerome Kennedy, Government House Leader Ms. Lorraine Michael, MHA (NDP) Signal Hill - Quidi Vidi

Mr. Vaughn Granter, MHA (PC) Humber West

Ms. Yvonne Jones, MHA (L) Cartwright - L'Anse Au Clair Hon. Joan Shea, MHA (PC) St. Georges – Stephenville

Mr. Dwight Ball, MHA (L) Humber Valley

Other

Mr. Glen Littlejohn, MHA (PC) Port de Grave, Deputy Chair of Committees

Ms. Marie Keefe, Policy & Communications Officer, Clerk's Office

Ms. Marlene Lambe, Chief Financial Officer

Ms. Wanda Lee Mercer, Manager, Financial Planning & Reporting

In Camera Budget Meeting

CM 2013-026

The Commission, at an *in camera* meeting, approved the 2013 - 2014 estimates for the Legislature to be forwarded to the Minister of Finance for inclusion in the 2013 Estimates and voted on in the Legislature.

CM 2013-027

In order to give effect to budget decisions, the Commission, at an *in camera* budget meeting, approved the abolition of the following permanent positions in the House of Assembly Service and Statutory Offices:

- 1. Director of Individual Advocacy and Outreach
- 2. Investigator
- 3. Committee Researcher
- 4. Manager, Legislative Library
- 5. Purchasing Officer
- 6. Sergeant-at-Arms
- 7. Parliamentary Trans- editor
- 8. Voter Registry Co-Ordinator (2 positions)

CM 2013-028

In order to give effect to budget decisions, the Commission, at an *in camera* budget meeting, approved the creation of the following positions:

- 1. Permanent sessional Parliamentary Trans- editor at GL 05
- 2. Permanent sessional Sergeant-at-Arms at HL 17
- 3. Permanent part-time Voter Registry Coordinator at GL 07

Adjournment: 11:30 a.m. Hon. Ross Wiseman, MHA Speaker and Chair

Sandra Barnes Clerk and Secretary to the Commission

House of Assembly Management Commission Briefing Note

<u>Title:</u> 2012 Members' Compensation Review Committee (MCRC) Report

<u>Issue:</u> Increased Funding for the District of Cartwright - L'Anse au Clair

Background:

• The Intra-Constituency Allowance Allocation for the district of Cartwright L'Anse au Clair included \$24,000 for helicopter travel to the remote communities in that District. The allocation for the district of Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune included \$48,000 in the intraconstituency allowance for helicopter travel to the remote communities in the District.

• The following table shows the information from Appendix 10.3 of the Green Report respecting the calculations and assumptions for Intra-constituency allowance for the 2 districts:

| District Name | Meals | Accom. | # of nights in District | Travel | Km | Other travel requirements | Total | Rounded Amount | District Specific Assumptions |
|------------------|---------|---------|----------------------------|----------|-------|---------------------------|----------|-------------------|---|
| CLAC | \$3,750 | \$6,250 | 50 | \$39,116 | 8,800 | \$36,000 | \$49,116 | \$49,200 | 2 helicopter trips |
| FBCLH | \$3,750 | \$6,250 | 50 | \$49,593 | 4,500 | \$48,000 | \$59,593 | \$59,600 | 4 trips/yr to remote part of district, using helicopter. |

- The helicopter allocations for the 2 Districts were included as part of the Intra-constituency allowance for these Districts but had no restriction with respect to its usage. That is, a Member could use it for travel by helicopter or any of the modes of transportation included in subsections 38(2) and 40(1) of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*.
- At its February 27, 2013 meeting, the Commission adopted Recommendation 17 of the MCRC report which recommended that helicopter travel should not be included in intraconstituency cost estimates and should be budgeted for separately. It also recommended that such travel should only be availed of with the specific permission of the Speaker upon representation by the MHA to justify such travel (CM 2013 019 refers).
- The following table represents the revised intra-constituency allocation for Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune and Cartwright L'Anse au Clair with the helicopter allocation removed.

| District | Meals | Accom. | # of | Travel | Km | Other travel | Total | Rounded | Amount Removed |
|----------|-------|--------|-----------|--------|----|--------------|-------|---------|-----------------------|
| | | | nights in | | | requirements | | Amount | (Helicopter |
| | | | District | | | | | | Allocations) |

| District | Meals | Accom. | # of nights in District | Travel | Km | Other travel requirements | Total | Rounded Amount | Amount Removed (Helicopter Allocations) |
|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------------------|----------|-------|---------------------------|----------|-------------------|---|
| Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune | \$3,750 | \$6,250 | 50 | \$1,593 | 4,500 | \$0 | \$11,593 | \$11,600 | \$48,000 (Four, 8 hour trips at \$1,500 per hour cost for flight time) |
| Cartwright- L'Anse au Clair | \$3,750 | \$6,250 | 50 | \$15,116 | 8,800 | \$12,000 | \$25,116 | \$25,200 | \$24,000 (Two, 8 hour trips at \$1,500 per hour cost for flight time) |

- MCRC recognized that, if recommendation 17 was adopted, additional funds might be required for travel by road in the District of Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune given the size of the district. It recommended that the number of kilometers allocated for travel in that district be increased from 4,500 to 20,000. The Commission approved funding of \$5,500 for the additional 15,500 kilometres at its February 27, 2013 meeting (CM 2013-021 Refers).
- MCRC also recognized that, if recommendation 17 was adopted, additional funds might be required for travel by ferry in the District of Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune and recommended that an amount of \$1,500 be added to the intra-constituency allowance estimate for the increased ferry travel. The Commission approved additional \$1,500 funding for ferry travel at its February 27, 2013 meeting (CM 2013-022 Refers).
- The District of Cartwright L'Anse au Clair is impacted by recommendation 17 in the same manner as the District of Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune. Both districts have approximately 500 road kilometres. However, additional funds were not provided for road travel and for ferry for the District of Cartwright L'Anse au Clair.
- The following table represents the revised intra-constituency allocation for Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune following the adoption of recommendations 17, 21 & 23 and for Cartwright L'Anse au Clair if recommendations 21 & 23 are applied to that District.

| Dist. | Meals | Accom. | # of nights in District | Travel | Km | Other travel requirements | Total | Rounded Amount | District Specific Assumptions |
|-------|---------|---------|----------------------------|----------|--------|---------------------------|----------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| FBCLH | \$3,750 | \$6,250 | 50 | \$8,593 | 20,000 | \$1,500 | \$18,593 | \$18,600 | Ferry travel |
| CLAC | \$3,750 | \$6,250 | 50 | \$20,591 | 20,000 | \$1,500 | \$30,591 | \$30,600 | Ferry travel |

Analysis:

Legal Consultation:

Not applicable.

Internal Consultation(s):

Corporate & Members' Services; Law Clerk

External Consultation(s):

Not applicable.

Comparison to Government Policy:

Not applicable.

Financial Impact:

If the Commission extends the provisions of recommendation 21 to the District of Cartwright L'Anse au Clair, an additional \$3,975 must be added to the intraconstituency allowance allocation to cover the reimbursement cost of the increased kilometers.

If the Commission extends the provisions of recommendation 23 to the District of Cartwright L'Anse au Clair an additional \$1,500 must be added to the intra-constituency allowance allocation for ferry travel in that district.

If both recommendations are adopted, the total increased cost for that district is \$5,475.

Legislative Impact:

If the provisions of recommendations 21 and 23 are extended to the District of Cartwright L'Anse au Clair, an amendment will be required to the Schedule to the Rules to reflect the revised intra-constituency allowance allocation for that District.

Options:

Road Kilometres

- 1. The Commission increases the kilometers from 8,800 to 20,000 for the District of Cartwright L'Anse au Clair and directs that the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* be amended to add an additional \$3,975 to the intra-constituency allowance allocation for that District.
- 2. The Commission maintains the 8,800 kilometers with no increase to the current intraconstituency allowance allocation for the District of Cartwright L'Anse au Clair.

Ferry Travel

- 1. The Commission adds \$1,500 to the intra-constituency allowance allocation for the District of Cartwright L'Anse au Clair for increased ferry travel and directs that the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* be amended to add an additional \$1,500 to the intra-constituency allowance allocation for that District.
- 2. The Commission does not add the amount of \$1,500 to the intra-constituency allowance estimate for the District of Cartwright L'Anse au Clair for increased ferry travel.

Status:

• The current Schedule remains in effect.

Action Required:

• The direction of the Commission is required.

Prepared by:

Marie Keefe

Approved by:

Sandra Barnes

Approved by:

Date:

March 4, 2013

House of Assembly Management Commission Briefing Note

<u>Title:</u> Intra-constituency Travel Helicopter Allocations

Issue: Revised allocations for helicopter travel as a result of the adoption of

Recommendations 15 & 17 of MCRC 2012.

Background:

• At its February 27, 2013 meeting, the Commission accepted Recommendations 15 & 17 of the Members' Compensation Review Committee (MCRC) 2012 which states:

- 15. The MHA for Burgeo-La Poile be granted reasonable access to helicopter travel.
- 17. Helicopter travel should not be included in intra-constituency cost estimates and should only be availed of with the specific permission of the Speaker upon representation by the MHA to justify such travel. It should be budgeted for separately.
- As a result of adopting recommendation 17, the amounts estimated for helicopter travel under the Intra-constituency travel allocation were removed for the impacted Districts as follows:

Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair = \$24,000 Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune = \$48,000 Torngat Mountains = \$20,000

Total \$92,000

- To fully implement recommendation 17, the Commission needs to determine a new allocation to be put into the new Line Object created specifically for helicopter travel for the three Districts indicated above and for the District of Burgeo-LaPoile.
- The Commission directed the Speaker to consult with the Members of the four Districts to assist in determining proposed helicopter allocations, with the proposed allocations to be approved by the Commission (CM 2013-020 refers).
- The Speaker consulted with the Members of the four Districts and has proposed new allocations taking into considerations a number of factors, including the consultation information, historic usage and the Green Report. The attached Table provides further details respecting the proposed amounts.

Analysis:

Legal Consultation:

Not applicable.

Internal Consultation(s):

Members for Burgeo-LaPoile, Carwright-L'Anse au Clair, Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune and Torngat Mountains

External Consultation(s):

Not applicable.

Comparison to Government Policy:

Not applicable.

Financial Impact:

The proposed allocation for helicopter travel for the 4 Districts totals \$77,100. No new funding is required as the new allocation is less than the \$92,000 which was removed from the Intra-Constituency Allowance.

Legislative Impact:

An amendment will be required to the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* to reflect the new allocations for helicopter travel.

Options:

1. The Commission approves the proposed allocations for helicopter travel as follows:

| Burgeo-LaPoile = | \$21,000 |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair = | \$21,000 |
| Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune = | \$24,600 |
| Torngat Mountains = | \$10,500 |

The Commission directs that the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* be amended to reflect the new allocations for helicopter travel.

2. The Commission does not approve the proposed helicopter allocations.

Status:

• Current provisions of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* apply.

Action Required:

• The direction of the Commission is requested.

Prepared by:

Bobbi Russell

Approved by:

Sandra Barnes

Approved by:

Date:

March 19, 2013

Attachments:

1. Proposed Helicopter Allocations Table

| | Total Budget Allocation | Historic Usage | Total Utilization (Over 5 Years) | % Utilization (Each FY) | % Utilization (Over 5 years) | Proposed Allocation | Projected Utilization using Proposed Allocations with Historic Usage (Over 5 years) |
|---|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| Burgeo- LaPoile (B-LP) | \$0 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | Proposed allocation based on the following: • # of trips based on ratio of trips/year and # of isolated communities ¹ • hours per trip based on the Green Report assumptions • cost/hr based on the average of current standing offer agreements 2 trips * 8 hrs/trip * \$1,310/hr = \$20,960 (\$21,000 rounded) | N/A |
| Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune (FB-CLH) | \$48,000 | Expenditures per FY: 12-13 = \$9,105 11-12 = \$12,498 10-11 = \$8,775 09-10 = \$6,848 08-09 = \$9,283 # of trips (08-12) = 16 Average hrs/trip = 2 | \$46,508 | 12-13 = 19 % 11-12 = 26 % 10-11 = 18 % 09-10 = 14 % 08-09 = 19 % | 19 % | Proposed allocation based on the following: • # of trips based on ratio of trips/year and # of isolated communities¹ • hours per trip reflective of historic usage • cost/hr based on average of current standing offer agreements 3 trips * 3 hrs/trip * \$1,310/hr = \$23,576 (\$23,600 rounded) | 39 % |
| Cartwright- L'Anse au Clair (CLAC) | \$24,000 | Expenditures per FY: 12-13 = \$0 11-12 = \$10,538 10-11 = \$0 09-10 = \$15,830 08-09 = \$0 # of trips (08-12) = 2 Average hrs/trip = 8.2 | \$26,368 | 12-13 = 0 % 11-12 = 44 % 10-11 = 0 % 09-10 = 66 % 08-09 = 0 % | 22 % | Proposed allocation based on the following: • Green Report assumption for # of trips • hours per trip based on historic usage • cost/hr based on average of current standing offer agreements 2 trips * 8 hrs/trip * \$1,310/hr = \$20,960 (\$21,000 rounded) | 25 % |
| Torngat Mountains (TM) | \$20,000 | No usage to date over 5 year period. | \$ O | 0 % (each FY) | O % | Proposed allocation based on the following: Green Report assumption for # of trips Green Report assumption for hours per trip cost/hr based on the average of current standing offer agreements 1 trip * 8 hrs/trip * \$1,310/hr = \$10,480 (\$10,500 rounded) | 0 % |
| Total/FY (All Dist.) | \$92,000 | | | | | \$75,976 (\$76,000 rounded) 17% reduction over current budget allocation | |
| Total - 5 years (All Dist.) | \$460,000 | | \$72,876 | | 16 % (incl. TM in calc.) 20 % (not incl. TM in calc.) | \$379,880 (\$380,000 rounded) | 19 % (incl. B-LP in calc.) 26 % (not incl. B-LP in calc.) |

¹Green Report provided the District of FB-CLH with 4 trips per year, and at that time the District had 6 isolated communities, for a ratio of 0.67. Using that ratio and the number of isolated communities in each District, the following calculations can be made:

FB-CLH - 4 isolated comm.* 0.67 = 2.67 (rounded to 3 trips/yr)

B-LP - 3 isolated comm.* 0.67 = 2.01 (rounded to 2 trips/yr)

4 isolated comm.* 0.67 = 2.67 (rounded to 3 trips/yr) 3 isolated comm.* 0.67 = 2.01 (rounded to 2 trips/yr)

House of Assembly Management Commission Briefing Note

Title: Amendments to *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* (the Rules)

Issue: Proposed Amendments to the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*

Background:

- At its February 27, 2013 meeting, the Commission approved several recommendations of the 2012 Members' Compensation Review Committee (MCRC) which require amendments to the Rules.
- At its February 28, 2013 *in camera* budget meeting, the Commission made several budget decisions which require amendments to the Rules.
- These amendments must be approved in accordance with subsections 15(5) and 20(7) and section 64 of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration* Act.
- The attached document outlines proposed amendments to the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*, compiled by the Law Clerk. The final wording is subject to necessary changes by the Office of the Legislative Counsel.

Analysis:

Legal Consultation:

Not applicable.

Internal Consultation(s):

Law Clerk

External Consultation(s):

Not applicable.

Comparison to Government Policy:

Not applicable.

Financial Impact:

See attached table for details.

Legislative Impact:

Amendments to the Rules will be required as outlined at the attached table.

Options:

- 1. The Commission approves the following proposed amendments to the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*:
- 2. The Commission does not approve the proposed amendments to the *Members' Resources* and *Allowances Rules*

Status:

• Current provisions of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* apply.

Action Required:

Pursuant to subsections 20(7), 15(5) and section 20 of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act* (the Act) the Commission hereby gives first approval to the following proposed amendments to the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*, subject to final wording by the Office of the Legislative Counsel:

Prepared by:

Marie Keefe

Approved by:

Sandra Barnes

Approved by:

Date:

March 19, 2013

Attachments:

1. Proposed Amendments to the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*

| Existing Rule | Proposed Amendment | Comment | Financial Impact |
|---|--|---|--|
| 10(2) The clerk shall advise the speaker and a member whenever the amount spent by that member, expressed as a percentage of the total allowable allowance permitted for that year, is an amount that is in excess of more than 10% of the amount permitted for the portion of the fiscal year that has elapsed and the allowance amount permitted for the fiscal year shall be considered to be allocated in equal monthly amounts throughout that year. | Section 10 of the <i>Members' Resources</i> and <i>Allowances Rules</i> is amended by adding immediately after subsection (2) the following: "(2.1) Subsection (2) does not apply to an allowance claimed under subsection 19(4)." | This amendment does not relate to MCRC or Budget. The \$1000 start-up allowance is amortized over 4 years for newly elected MHAs whether after a General Election or a By-Election. The amount is payable over that time until depleted. | Not Applicable |
| 18(2)The maximum allowance available to a member for each category of office expenses is as follows: (a) constituency office accommodation allowance, \$7,000; and (b) office operations and supplies allowance, \$15,000. (3) Notwithstanding the limits imposed under paragraph (2)(a), the speaker may, on application in writing by a member, authorize that member to exceed his or her maximum constituency | Subsections 18(2), (3) and (4) of the Rules are repealed and the following is substituted: "(2) A member is entitled to the constituency office accommodation expenses described in subsection 19(1). (3) The maximum allowance available to a member for office operations and supplies is \$12,000." | CM 2013-026 refers (Decision related to budget) Subsection (2) would allow an MHA to have a constituency office at existing cost rather than under an allowance cap of \$7000. Subsection (3) would reduce the office operations and supplies allowance by 20%. Subsections (3) and (4) of the existing section 18 are no longer necessary as they related back to the \$7000 allowance cap. | As a result of removing the \$7,000 from Members who do not have constituency offices in rented space, the budget in 2013-14 is reduced by \$185,000. Additional funding will be required in subsequent years if additional constituency offices are opened and/or lease costs increase for Members who currently have leased space. |

| Existing Rule | Proposed Amendment | Comment | Financial Impact |
|--|--|--|---|
| office accommodation allowance where the speaker determines that suitable accommodation cannot be obtained at a cost equal to or less than the allowed maximum. (4) Where the speaker makes a decision under subsection (3) to authorize an increased allowance, he or she shall, in writing, report that decision to the next meeting of the commission together with the reasons for that decision and that information shall be recorded in the minutes of the commission meeting. | | | The reduction of the office operations and supplies allowance from \$15,000 to \$12,000 will result in a total savings of \$144,000. (\$125, 280 Net HST) |
| 19. (1) The constituency office accommodation allowance referred to in paragraph 18 (2)(a) includes accommodation expenses related to the rental of permanent or temporary offices such as | Subsection 19(1) of the Rules is amended by deleting the words and figures: "allowance referred to in paragraph 18(2)(a)"; and substituting the words and figures: "expenses referred to in subsection 18(2)". | CM 2013-026 refers (Decision related to budget) Subsection (1) is a consequential amendment relating to the citation of a paragraph which has been amended above. | Not Applicable |

| Existing Rule | Proposed Amendment | Comment | Financial Impact |
|---|---|--|---|
| office without any reference to a political party. | | | |
| 20(7) A member may rent short-term accommodation in one or more locations in the member's constituency from time to time, up to a maximum of \$750 annually to facilitate the travel of the member throughout the district to meet with residents on constituency issues. | Subsection 20(7) of the Rules is repealed. | CM 2013-026 refers This amendment arises from a budget decision to eliminate the \$750. Intra constituency meeting room allowance. | Eliminating the short-term rental accommodation cost of \$750 results in a total savings of \$36,000. (\$31, 320 Net HST) |
| | The Rules are amended by adding immediately after section 33 the following: "33.1 (1) Notwithstanding sections 31 and 33, a member whose permanent residence is outside the capital region at a distance greater than commuting distance may opt to travel between that residence and the capital region each day that the House of Assembly is in session and sitting and may claim the actual transportation cost of each daily return trip. (2) A member who opts to claim an actual transportation cost for a day under subsection (1) cannot claim for costs described in paragraphs | CM 2013-025 refers This is a proposed new section for the Rules arising from MCRC recommendation respecting travel to one's permanent residence when House is sitting rather than staying in a hotel. | The financial impact would be negligible because Members would otherwise have to stay in temporary accommodations if they did not drive to their permanent residence in the district. |

| Existing Rule | Proposed Amendment | Comment | Financial Impact |
|---|---|---|--|
| | 31(1)(b) and (c) and 33(1)(b) and (c). (3) This section shall apply only to members who represent the Districts of: a) Bellevue b) Carbonear-Harbour Grace c) Ferryland | | |
| | d) Harbour Main e) Placentia-St. Mary's f) Port de Grave; and g) Trinity-Bay de Verde. | | |
| 38(3) The maximum amount in respect of an electoral district for which a member who represents that district may claim in a fiscal year for intraconstituency travel is the amount set out in the Schedule. | 6. Subsection 38(3) is amended by adding immediately after the word "Schedule" the letter "A". | CM 2013-019 refers (Decision related to MCRC) This is a consequential amendment required to rename the Rules Schedule as Schedule "A" because a second Schedule ("B") is proposed. | |
| | The Rules are amended by adding immediately after section 38 the following: "Helicopter travel | CM 2013-019 This is a proposed new section for the Rules arising from the MCRC | \$92,000 allocation for helicopter travel was removed from the Intra- Constituency Allowance above. The new allocation |
| | 38.1 (1) Where less expensive travel is not available a member from a district listed in Schedule B may, with the | recommendation with respect to helicopter travel. | for helicopter travel totals \$77,100, a difference of \$14,900. |

| Existing Rule | Proposed Amendment | Comment | Financial Impact |
|--|--|--|------------------|
| | prior approval of the Speaker, be reimbursed for the cost of helicopter travel while acting on constituency business within his or her constituency. (2) The maximum amount which a member may claim in a fiscal year for intra-constituency travel under this section is the amount set out in Schedule B. | | |
| 46(3) The following expenses necessarily incurred by a member to carry out his or her constituency business may be reimbursed: (f) expenses associated with attending at meetings and hearings involving advocacy on behalf of a constituent; and | 8. Subsection 46(3) is amended by adding immediately before paragraph (f) the following: "(e.1) the expense of renting short term accommodation in one or more locations in the member's constituency to facilitate travel of the member throughout the district to meet with residents on constituency issues; | CM 2013-026 (Decision related to budget) This amendment adds the substance of the repealed subsection 20(7) to subsection 46(3). This would allow meeting space rentals formerly under subsection 20(7) to be paid from the \$3000 constituency expense allowance permitted under section 46. | Not Applicable |

| Existing Rule | Proposed Amendment | Comment | Financial Impact |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | CM 2013-019, CM 2013-023, & | As a result of amendments to |
| See existing Schedule below | See proposed Schedules A and B | CM 2013-026 refers. | Schedule A, the Intra- |
| | below | | Constituency Allowance is |
| | | Constituency allowances are | reduced from \$626,400 to |
| | | reduced by 20% (rounded to the | \$442,000. |
| | | nearest one hundred dollars) each | |
| | | with adjustments for the District of | |
| | | St. Barbe and for the 4 districts | |
| | | affected by the helicopter | |
| | | allowance. A new Schedule B | |
| | | contains the proposed helicopter | |
| | | travel allocations. | |

Existing Schedule:

Schedule

House Operations Estimates of Intra-Constituency Costs

| Riding No. | Riding Name | Total |
|------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | Baie Verte-Springdale | \$12,600 |
| 2 | Bay of Islands | 15,600 |
| 3 | Bellevue | 16,400 |
| 4 | Bonavista North | 12,600 |
| 5 | Bonavista South | 12,600 |
| 6 | Burgeo-LaPoile | 14,100 |
| 7 | Burin-Placentia West | 10,200 |
| 8 | Cape St. Francis | 9,000 |
| 9 | Carbonear-Harbour Grace | 9,600 |
| 10 | Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair | 49,200 |
| 11 | Conception Bay East-Bell Island | 9,600 |
| 12 | Conception Bay South | 9,000 |
| 13 | Exploits | 12,600 |
| 14 | Ferryland | 12,600 |
| 15 | Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune | 59,600 |
| 16 | Gander | 9,600 |
| 17 | Grand Bank | 15,000 |
| 18 | Grand Falls-Windsor-Buchans | 11,400 |
| 19 | Grand Falls-Windsor-Green Bay | 9,000 |
| | South | |
| 20 | Harbour Main | 8,600 |
| 21 | Humber East | 7,900 |
| 22 | Humber Valley | 15,000 |
| 23 | Humber West | 10,200 |
| 24 | Kilbride | 9,000 |
| 25 | Labrador West | 9,600 |
| 26 | Lake Melville | 10,000 |
| 27 | Lewisporte | 11,500 |
| 28 | Mount Pearl North | 7,500 |
| 29 | Mount Pearl South | 7,500 |
| 30 | Placentia-St. Mary's | 14,400 |

| 31 | Port au Port | 8,500 |
|----|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 32 | Port de Grave | 9,600 |
| 33 | Signal Hill-Quidi Vidi | 7,500 |
| 34 | St. Barbe | 12,600 |
| 35 | St. George's-Stephenville East | 9,600 |
| 36 | St. John's Centre | 7,500 |
| 37 | St. John's East | 7,500 |
| 38 | St. John's North | 7,500 |
| 39 | St. John's South | 7,500 |
| 40 | St. John's West | 7,500 |
| 41 | Terra Nova | 12,800 |
| 42 | The Isle of Notre Dame | 12,300 |
| 43 | The Straits-White Bay North | 12,600 |
| 44 | Topsail | 7,500 |
| 45 | Torngat Mountains | 45,900 |
| 46 | Trinity-Bay de Verde | 10,800 |
| 47 | Trinity North | 10,200 |
| 48 | Virginia Waters | <u>7,500</u> |
| | Total | <u>\$626,400</u> |

Proposed Schedule amendments:

The Schedule to the Act is repealed and the following is substituted:

Schedule A House Operations Estimates of Intra-Constituency Costs

| Riding No. | Riding Name | Total |
|------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | Baie Verte-Springdale | \$10,100 |
| 2 | Bay of Islands | 12,500 |
| 3 | Bellevue | 13,100 |
| 4 | Bonavista North | 10,100 |
| 5 | Bonavista South | 10,100 |
| 6 | Burgeo-LaPoile | 11,300 |
| 7 | Burin-Placentia West | 8,200 |
| 8 | Cape St. Francis | 7,200 |
| 9 | Carbonear-Harbour Grace | 7,700 |
| 10 | Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair | 25,600 |
| 11 | Conception Bay East-Bell Island | 7,700 |
| 12 | Conception Bay South | 7,200 |
| 13 | Exploits | 10,100 |
| 14 | Ferryland | 10,100 |
| 15 | Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune | 16,300 |
| 16 | Gander | 7,700 |
| 17 | Grand Bank | 12,000 |
| 18 | Grand Falls-Windsor-Buchans | 9,100 |
| 19 | Grand Falls-Windsor-Green Bay | 7,200 |
| | South | |
| 20 | Harbour Main | 6,900 |
| 21 | Humber East | 6,300 |
| 22 | Humber Valley | 12,000 |
| 23 | Humber West | 8,200 |
| 24 | Kilbride | 7,200 |
| 25 | Labrador West | 7,700 |
| 26 | Lake Melville | 8,000 |
| 27 | Lewisporte | 9,200 |
| 28 | Mount Pearl North | 6,000 |
| 29 | Mount Pearl South | 6,000 |
| 30 | Placentia-St. Mary's | 11,500 |

| 34 | Signal Hill-Quidi Vidi St. Barbe | 6,000 11,900 |
|----|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| 35 | St. George's-Stephenville East | 7,700 |
| 36 | St. John's Centre | 6,000 |
| 37 | St. John's East | 6,000 |
| 38 | St. John's North | 6,000 |
| 39 | St. John's South | 6,000 |
| 40 | St. John's West | 6,000 |
| 41 | Terra Nova | 10,200 |
| 42 | The Isle of Notre Dame | 9,800 |
| 43 | The Straits-White Bay North | 10,100 |
| 44 | Topsail | 6,000 |
| 45 | Torngat Mountains | 20,700 |
| 46 | Trinity-Bay de Verde | 8,600 |
| 47 | Trinity North | 8,200 |
| 48 | Virginia Waters | 6,000 |
| | Total | <u>\$442,000</u> |

Schedule B Helicopter Allocation

| Electoral District | Total |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Burgeo-LaPoile | \$21,000 |
| Cartwright-L'Anse au Clair | 21,000 |
| Fortune Bay-Cape La Hune | 24,600 |
| Torngat Mountains | 10,500 |