



Newfoundland & Labrador

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

DIRECTIVE

Directive Number 2010-008

Effective Date: March 31, 2010	Commission Minute: CM 2010-034
Subject: Speaker Approval for Member's Absence from House of Assembly to Attend to Constituency Duties	Reference: HOAMC Meeting, March 24, 2010 Agenda Item Tab No. 6
Issued To: All Members of the House of Assembly; Comptroller General; Directors of Government Accounting, Professional Services and Internal Audit, Financial Systems Control, 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: Marlene Lambe Chief Financial Officer 729 – 2923

BACKGROUND

Under paragraph 13(3)(e) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, a Member may be absent from the House of Assembly when attending to constituency duties within the precincts of the House of Assembly and not be penalized by the deduction of \$200 per absence from his or her salary.

Under subsection 13(3.1), attendance at constituency duties outside the House precincts may be approved by the Speaker under paragraph 13 (3) (g) when the Speaker considers it necessary and in accordance with directives of the Management Commission.

This Directive provides direction to Members with respect to the manner in which they may seek the permission of the Speaker to be absent from the House of Assembly, without penalty, in order to carry out constituency duties outside the House of Assembly precincts.

DIRECTIVE

Pursuant to 13(3.1) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, the Commission approved the following Directive:

- 1) A Member who must be absent from the House of Assembly precincts in order to carry out constituency duties must request approval for that absence, in advance and in writing, from the Speaker.

- 2) Where circumstances do not allow a Member to make his or her request for an absence from the House of Assembly precincts in advance, that request must be made, in writing, as soon as is practicable after that absence.
- 3) Upon receipt of a request for an absence from the House of Assembly precincts the Speaker shall determine whether or not the absence is justified and, in writing, approve or not approve that request.

William MacKenzie
Clerk of the House of Assembly