



**House of Assembly
Newfoundland and Labrador**

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

Date: May 26, 2010

Location: House of Assembly Chamber

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Hon. Roger Fitzgerald, Speaker

Mr. William MacKenzie, Clerk of the House of Assembly

Hon. Joan Burke, Government House Leader

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

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

Regrets:

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

Other:

Ms. Marlene Lambe, Chief Financial Officer

Ms. Marie Keefe, Policy and Communications Officer

CM 2010-039

The Commission, at an *in camera* session, approved the proposed organizational structure of the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate and confirmed as permanent the positions of Senior Advocacy Services Specialist and Senior Systemic Advocacy Consultant.

CM 2010-040

The Commission, at an *in camera* session, approved the abolition of the position of Research Assistant (PCN 13402).

CM 2010-041 The Commission, at an *in camera* session, approved payment in lieu of notice to the incumbent of the Research Assistant position in accordance with the Position Elimination Policy of the Executive Branch Human Resources Policies.

Note: Ms. Yvonne Jones, Mr. Kelvin Parsons, and Ms. Lorraine Michael expressed their opposition to the restructuring of the Office of the Child and Youth Advocate, as recorded in **CM 2010-039**, **CM 2010-040**, and **CM 2010-041**, which received approval at the *in camera* session and noted for the record that each had voted against the decision.

CM 2010-042 The Minutes of the House of Assembly Management Commission meeting held on March 24, 2010 were approved as read.

The Speaker reported approvals given under his delegated authority respecting urgent financial matters. (**CM 2008 – 095 refers**.) Three Members submitted expense claims past the 60 day deadline for eligible expenses related to the fiscal year ending March 31, 2010. As all claims for the previous year had to be processed by April 30, 2010, the Speaker, after consulting with the Opposition House Leader, the Government House Leader and the Leader of the Third Party, approved the payment of the claims.

The Speaker approved \$320.00 for Meals for Mr. Jerome Kennedy; \$129.52 for Constituency Allowance – Event for Mr. Marshall Dean; and, \$1224.70 for Constituency Allowance – Event and Communications (District Newsletter and Christmas Cards) for Mr. Tom Osborne.

The Clerk provided an update on the status of Members' repayments of double billings amounts. The double billing amounts for three former Members (Anderson, Byrne, Collins) form part of the debt amount included in the Statements of Claim which were filed by the Attorney General. These amounts are being recovered by the Office of the Comptroller General. Excluding the amounts owing from the three former Members, 92.29% of the monies owing has been collected to date.

CM 2010-043 Pursuant to subparagraph 20(6)(b)(ii) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, the Commission adopted the Policy for Hiring External Consultants, dated May 2010, for employees of the House of Assembly Service, Caucus Offices and Statutory Offices, with the following amendments to the proposed draft:

- i) **6.4 – Overruns** - is amended such that in cases of contracts awarded at set amounts, offices and divisions must receive Management Commission approval to authorize payments which are in excess of 100 percent, in the aggregate, of approved contractual amounts; such

approval to be received prior to the additional work being undertaken.

- ii) **7.2 – Consultant List** - is deleted and the following Section 7 subsections are renumbered.
- iii) **8.2 – Management Commission Referral for Selection** – the introductory words “A department” are replaced by the words “An office or division”.

CM 2010-044

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:

Subsection 16(5) of the *Members’ Resources and Allowances Rules* is amended by adding immediately after the word “explanation” the words “from the member”.

CM 2010-045

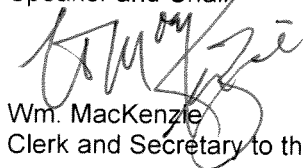
Pursuant to subparagraph 20 (6) (b) (i) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, the Commission approved the reimbursement of expenditures related to accommodations and the provision of meal allowances without associated travel expenditures in circumstances where the expenditures are related to constituency business and in compliance with the Rules.

CM 2010-046

Pursuant to subsection 25(1) of the *Members’ Resources and Allowances Rules*, the Commission directed that the standard office allocation be amended such that Office Furniture includes six visitor chairs and Equipment includes three computers, including accessories.

Adjournment: 6:45 p.m.

Hon. Roger Fitzgerald, MHA
Speaker and Chair



Wm. MacKenzie
Clerk and Secretary to the Commission