Tabled by the Government House Leader
K Hawkins George
January 6, 2025

Extraordinary Sitting of the House of Assembly

January 2025

RULES OF DEBATE

1. The resolution respecting the Memorandum of Understanding for a New Long-Term Energy Purchase and Development Initiative between Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro and Hydro-Quebec (the "Resolution") will be debated for not more than four days: Monday, January 6; Tuesday, January 7; Wednesday, January 8, and Thursday, January 9, 2025.
2. On these four days, the House will sit from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm and from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, unless earlier adjourned.
3. Speaking times shall be allocated as follows:
    a. 2 hours each of total speaking time for the Premier, for the Leader of the Official Opposition and the Leader of the Third Party;
    b. 2 hours each of total speaking time for the Minister of Industry, Energy and Technology and the Official Opposition critic for the portfolio; and
    c. 40 minutes each of total speaking time for each remaining Member of the House of Assembly.
4. Debate will proceed in the same manner as committees of the House reviewing estimates. Time will be allocated in twenty-minute blocks. Members may speak in debate or ask as many questions as they wish during each twenty-minute allocation.
5. Notwithstanding 4, the time allocated for the non-affiliated Members and for the Member for Labrador West will be allocated in ten-minute blocks.
6. Notwithstanding 4, the Members referred to in 3(a) and 3(b) can choose to take a time allocation in a sixty-minute block.
7. Notwithstanding any Standing Order, a Member may defer speaking time to another Member.
8. Invited guests of the Legislature will be permitted to be present on the floor of the House to answer Members' questions as follows:
    a. January 6 & 7: up to three representatives from NL Hydro;
    b. January 8: up to two representatives from Power Advisory; and
    c. January 9: up to two representatives from JP Morgan.

    Guests referenced above may be accompanied by up to two support persons who may be present on the floor of the House but who may not speak in debate.

9. Members may pose questions to invited guests or to a Minister of the Crown during the course of debate, and any response to that question shall be recorded in the total time allocation of the Member posing the question.

10. Invited guests will answer Members' questions that are relevant respecting the Memorandum of Understanding, including its structure, operation, and purpose, but may decline to answer questions which are commercially sensitive, subject to Cabinet confidence or solicitor-client privilege, or otherwise information that may be excepted from disclosure in accordance with ATIPPA.
11. The notice requirement for Resolution will be waived.
12. Debate on the Resolution will begin immediately after the adoption of these rules of debate and introduction of the Resolution and will be the only business of the House during the 4-day period.
13. When the debate has concluded, but in any event no later than 9:00 pm on Thursday, January 9, the Speaker shall put the question on the Resolution.