



**House of Assembly  
Newfoundland and Labrador**

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

**Date:** February 22, 2023

**Location:** House of Assembly Chamber

**Time:** 9:30 a.m.

**Members Present:**

Hon. Derek Bennett, Speaker (Chair)

Hon. John Hogan, Government House Leader

Barry Petten, Opposition House Leader

Hon. Lisa Dempster, MHA (LIB), Cartwright - L'Anse au Clair

Lela Evans, MHA (NDP), Torngat Mountains

Craig Pardy, MHA (PC), Bonavista

Paul Pike, MHA (LIB), Burin - Grand Bank

Sandra Barnes, Clerk of the House of Assembly/Secretary to the Commission

**Other**

Kim Hawley George, Law Clerk/Clerk Assistant (A)

Bobbi Russell, Policy and Communications Officer

**Regrets**

Brian Warr, Deputy Speaker

**CM 2023-011** The Commission approved the Minutes of the meeting held on January 31, 2023.

**CM 2023-012** The Commission directed that the Guidelines for Reimbursement of Legal Fees for Members be amended to provide that legal fees relating to court actions resulting from a decision of the House of Assembly respecting MHA Code of Conduct matters will be reimbursed as follows:

- If the Member initiates the court action, no reimbursement;
- If the Member has court action brought against them, the request for reimbursement will be considered in accordance with the current policy provisions, on a case-by-case basis.

**CM 2023-013** The Commission directed that the Guidelines for Reimbursement of Legal Fees for Members be amended to provide that, where requested, legal fees incurred by Members in all other court actions, whether those actions were initiated by or against a Member, will be considered in accordance with the

current policy provisions, on a case-by-case basis.

- CM 2023-014** The Commission directed that the Guidelines for Reimbursement of Legal Fees for Members be amended to provide that legal fees incurred by a Member relating to participation in a review under the MHA Code of Conduct, whether the review was initiated by or against the Member, will not be reimbursed.
- CM 2023-015** The Commission directed that legal fees incurred by Members and employees of the Legislative branch relating to a complaint under the Harassment-Free Workplace Policy Applicable to Complaints Against MHAs will not be reimbursed.
- CM 2023-016** The Commission approved the proposed funding formula for the Intra & Extra constituency allocation, which allocates consistent funding for districts in the same category according to the density index, as calculated by the Economics and Statistics Branch, and uses historical usage data to assign estimates for funding components and calculation assumptions.

The Commission assigned the following categories, according to the density index, and the following numbers for each of the Intra and Extra constituency allocation funding components:

Category /Density index	Meals (# of days)	Accommodations (# of nights)	Mileage (Kilometers)	Other Travel (\$)
Category 1 - Density index < 10	15	6	5,800	\$1,000
Category 2 - Density index 10-30	25	10	8,800	\$1,000
Category 3 - Density index 31-70	40	20	14,000	\$1,000
Category 4 - Density index 71-118	50	25	16,000	\$1,000
<b>Category 5 – anomalies:</b>				
Cartwright - L'anse au Clair	50	40	18,000	\$11,100
Conception Bay East - Bell Island	40	28	5,800	\$1,000
Torngat Mountains	60	48	0	\$11,680

The Commission approved the following formula and assumptions to calculate Intra & Extra constituency allocations for each district category and anomaly districts:

- Meals [# of days x daily meal per diem rate as established by the Rules]; **PLUS**
- Accommodations [# of nights x average nightly rate in temporary accommodations based on analysis of I&E historical usage]; **PLUS**
- Mileage [# of kms x average of the designated Government of Newfoundland and Labrador mileage reimbursement rates in the preceding calendar year]; **PLUS**
- Other travel.

The Commission directed that reassessment of formula components and possible Intra and Extra constituency allocation adjustments be carried out under the following circumstances and brought back to the Commission for consideration:

- New census;
- Electoral boundary changes;
- Significant price increases;
- Changes to per diem rates; and
- Resettlement of remote communities.

The Commission directed that the process to amend Schedule A of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules* proceed at this time, pursuant to subsection 15(5) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, to reflect the new Intra and Extra constituency allocation amounts as calculated using the funding formula.

**CM 2023-017** The Commission issued the following directive, pursuant to subparagraph 20(6)(b)(i) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*:

That language training expenses support constituency business and are eligible for reimbursement for the purposes of training expenses charged under Section 24 and Section 46 of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*.

**Adjournment:** 11:10 a.m.

Hon. Derek Bennett  
Speaker (Chair)



Sandra Barnes  
Clerk of the House of Assembly/Secretary to the Commission

