



HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

RULE AMENDMENT – EXPENSES RELATED TO CONSTITUENCY WORK (SECTION 46)

Effective Date: November 13, 2020	Commission Minute: CM 2018-023
Subject: Expenses Related to Constituency Work – Section 46	Reference: HoaMC Meeting – May 16, 2018
Issued To: All Members of the House of Assembly; Comptroller General; Directors of Government Accounting, Professional Services and Internal Audit, OMSP, 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: Wanda Lee Mercer Chief Financial Officer 729-2923

BACKGROUND

In 2018 the Department of Justice and Public Safety advised the Clerk of amendments required to legislation administered by the House of Assembly as a result of the legalization of cannabis for non-medical purposes.


In response to the change by the Government of Canada, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador proposed a policy approach that treats cannabis similarly to smoking and/or alcohol. As such, a search of all provincial legislation for the words smoke, drug, alcohol, liquor, and tobacco was undertaken by lawyers in the Department of Justice and Public Safety. In legislation administered by the House of Assembly, the search revealed two instances of the word “alcohol”. The references appear in the *Members’ Resources and Allowances Rules* in Section 46 respecting expenses related to constituency work that are not eligible for reimbursement.

The Commission considered the issue at its May 16, 2018 meeting, approving an amendment to Section 30 of the Rules. The timing of publication was directed to align with the coming into force of anticipated statutory changes required to effect to legalization. A delay occurred and the outstanding requirement for publication was recently identified. The approved amendment is as follows:

Subsection 46(4) of the *Members’ Resources and Allowances Rules* is amended by adding immediately after paragraph (c) the following:

(c.1) cannabis in any form;

This rule amendment was gazetted on November 13, 2020 and is effective (or in force) as of that date.


Sandra Barnes
Clerk of the House of Assembly