

Tabled by the
Speaker

2017-04-05

[Signature]



**House of Assembly
Newfoundland and Labrador**

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

Date: February 27, 2017

Location: House of Assembly Chamber

Time: 10:15 a.m.

Members Present:

Hon. Tom Osborne, MHA, Waterford Valley, Speaker

Ms. Sandra Barnes, Clerk of the House of Assembly

Hon. Andrew Parsons, Government House Leader

Mr. Paul Davis, MHA (PC) Topsail-Paradise

Mr. Keith Hutchings, MHA (PC), Ferryland

Ms. Lorraine Michael, MHA (NDP), St. John's East-Quidi Vidi

Hon. Siobhan Coady, MHA (Lib), St. John's West

Mr. Mark Browne, MHA (Lib) Placentia West - Bellevue

Other

Ms. Lisa Dempster, Deputy Speaker

Ms. Marie Keefe, Policy & Communications Officer

The Speaker tabled a letter dated February 24, 2017 from the Chair, Government Members' Caucus, requesting the Management Commission to explore moving to a defined contribution pension plan for Members elected in 2015 and beyond.

As required under the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, the Speaker reported that, at an *in camera* meeting, held prior to the televised meeting, the Commission approved the proposed budget for the Office of the Seniors' Advocate and waived the usual two day waiting period for Management Commission decisions to give immediate effect to the Decision.

The Speaker also advised that a report of non-compliance for a pre-commitment of funds was provided to the Commission by the Office of the Citizens Representative. The OCR had entered into a contract for a

conference venue and did not realize that a pre-commitment of funds was needed. As pre-commitments require prior approval, a report of non-compliance was required.

CM 2017-003 The Commission, at an *in camera* meeting, approved the proposed budget for the Office of the Seniors' Advocate and waived the usual two day waiting period for Management Commission decisions to give immediate effect to this Decision.

CM 2017-004 The Minutes of the House of Assembly Management Commission meeting held on November 30, 2016 were approved as read.

CM 2017-005 The Minutes of the House of Assembly Management Commission meeting held on December 7, 2016 were approved as read.

CM 2017-006 The Minutes of the House of Assembly Management Commission meeting held on February 1, 2017 were approved as read.

The Speaker gave an update on rulings on allowance use under section 24 of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act* for the period ending February 20, 2017. The amount of \$172.08 was approved for the Member for the District of Fogo Island-Cape Freels, Mr. Derrick Bragg, for expenses which were in compliance with the Rules, but were submitted past the 60-day deadline.

The MHA for Topsail received unanimous consent to table a motion to rescind **CM 2016-061** and **CM 2016-070** which were made at the December 7, 2016 meeting.

CM 2017-007 The Commission rescinded **CM 2016-061** and **CM 2016-070** of the December 7, 2016 meeting with respect to Recommendations 43 and 44 of the Members' Compensation Review Committee. Mr. Browne and Ms. Coady recused themselves from the vote.

The Member for Topsail-Paradise gave notice that at the next meeting of the Commission, he will bring forward a motion to accept recommendations 43 and 44 of the 2016 Members' Compensation Review Committee.

The Member for Burgeo-La Poile gave notice that at the next meeting of the Commission, he will bring forward a motion requesting the Management Commission to explore moving to a defined contribution pension plan for Members elected in 2015 and beyond.

CM 2017-008 The Commission approved the payment of expenses totaling \$91.86 for the Member for Waterford Valley.

CM 2017-009 The Commission approved payment of advertising expenses totaling \$250.00 and \$400.00 for the Member for Humber-Bay of Islands.

CM 2017-010 The Commission approved payment of expenses totaling \$53.18 for the Member for St. John's East-Quidi Vidi, with the expenses to be paid within the appropriate allocation for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

CM 2017-011 The Commission approved payment of expenses totaling \$120.00 for the Member for Bonavista, with the expenses to be paid within the appropriate allocation for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

CM 2017-012 The Commission approved the following transfer of funds:
From:
Subdivision 1.1.04.09 Members' Resources – Allowances and Assistance
\$ 500

To:
Subdivision 3.1.01.10 Office of the Chief Electoral Officer – Grants and
Subsidies \$500

CM 2017-013 Pursuant to subsections 15(5) and 20(7) of the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act*, the Commission approved the proposed amendments to the *House of Assembly Accountability, Integrity and Administration Act* and to the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*, subject to final wording by the Office of the Legislative Counsel.

CM 2017-014 The Commission directed that Members will continue to make individual temporary accommodations arrangements in the Capital Region in accordance with the provisions of the *Members' Resources and Allowances Rules*.

CM 2017-015

To give effect to **CM 2017-014**, the Commission rescinded **CM 2016-044** which adopted recommendations 19 & 20.

CM 2017-016

The Commission directed that, in the absence of an RFP as provided for in **CM2016-071**, the lump sum taxable benefit will be calculated using the average cost of MHA temporary accommodations during the previous calendar year.

The agenda item under Tab 8, Amendments to the Advertising Policy, was deferred to the next meeting of the Commission.

The sub-committee on the review of the I/E allowances provided an update to the Commission on its progress to date. The Commission agreed that MHA representation on the Committee is to include 2 representatives from the Government Members Caucus, 2 representatives from the Official Opposition Caucus and 1 representative from the Third Party Caucus.

Adjournment: 11:45 a.m.

Tom Osborne, MHA
Speaker and Chair of the Commission


Sandra Barnes
Clerk and Secretary to the Commission