

Tabled by the  
Minister of Finance  
2020-09-14

*B. Curran*



**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY  
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**

**REPORT OF THE  
STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE**

*September 14, 2020*

Your Committee has continued its consideration of the Standing Orders and agreed at its meetings of March 3, 2020, July 30, 2020 and September 9, 2020 respectively to recommend to the House the following:

- (1) That the Standing Orders be amended by adding immediately after Standing Order 1 the following:**

**SO 1.1-Interpretation**

1.1 Notwithstanding a requirement in these Standing Orders for a Member to rise in his or her place, the Speaker may nevertheless recognize a Member who, in a manner acceptable to the Speaker, otherwise indicates a desire to be recognized.

- (2) That Standing Order 7(5) be repealed and the following substituted:**

(5) Every member shall make an obeisance to the Chair in passing to or from his or her seat.

- (3) That the Standing Orders be amended by adding immediately after SO 9 the following:**

**SO 9.1- Manner of meeting**

9.1 The House may meet in a hybrid of virtual and in-person proceedings and the Speaker, following consultation with appropriate officials and the House leaders, may determine if those proceedings are required.

- (4) That Standing Order 22 be renumbered as Standing Order 22(1), and that the following be added immediately after that:**

“(2) For the purpose of these Standing Orders generally and in particular Standing Order 22(1), and Standing Orders 23, 105 and 120, a stranger does not include an infant being cared for by a Member who is that infant’s parent.”

- (5) That Standing Order 25(2) be deleted and the following substituted:**

(2) Each statement shall be no more than 200 words in length.

- (6) That Chapter 11 of the Standing Orders be amended by adding immediately before Standing Order 44 the following:**

**SO 43.1-Debatable Motions**

43.1 (1) Motions that are debatable include every motion

- (a) standing on the Order Paper;
- (b) for concurrence in a report from a Standing or Select Committee;
- (c) for the previous question;
- (d) for the second reading of a Bill;
- (e) for the third reading of a Bill;
- (f) for the adjournment of the ordinary business of the Assembly when made for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent public importance;
- (g) for the adoption in Committee of the Whole or Committee of Supply of the resolution, clause, section, preamble or title under consideration;
- (h) for the appointment of a committee;
- (i) to refer, except the referral of Heads of Expenditure to a Committee under Standing Order 74(1);

- (j) for the suspension or amendment of any Standing Order;
- (k) with regard to an alleged breach of privilege;
- (l) for production of documents;
- (m) for a written question or motion for a return that has not been accepted or to which amendments have been proposed;
- (n) made on routine proceedings that may be required for
  - (i) the observance of the proprieties of the Assembly and maintenance of its authority;
  - (ii) the appointment or conduct of its officers;
  - (iii) the management of its business;
  - (iv) the correctness of its records.

(2) Except as noted in these Standing Orders, all other motions, including adjournment motions, shall be decided without debate or amendment.

(3) In this Standing Order, "adjournment motion" includes daily adjournment motions and any motion to adjourn the proceedings of the Assembly for a specified or unspecified period.

**(7) That Standing Order 44 be deleted and the following substituted:**

**SO 44- Members Speaking**

44. Every Member desiring to speak must do so from their place and address himself or herself to the Speaker.

**(8) That Standing Order 46 be amended by deleting the word "Premier" wherever it appears and by substituting the words "Leader of the Government in the House";**

**(9) That the Standing Orders be amended by adding immediately after SO 67 the following:**

**67.1- Manner of Meeting of Committees**

67.1 (1) A Committee may meet in a virtual manner or a hybrid of virtual and in-person meetings, whether those meetings are public or *in camera*.

(2) The chair of the committee, in consultation with the clerk of the committee, may determine the manner of meeting.

**(10) That Standing Order 92(2) be deleted and the following substituted:**

(2) A Minister, in his or her discretion, may reply to a petition and the Minister shall occupy no more than 90 seconds in so doing.

On behalf of the Committee I recommend these amendments to the House and shall move their adoption at the appropriate time.

Respectfully submitted,



Hon. Siobhan Coady

Chair, Standing Orders Committee

**Committee members:**

Hon. Scott Reid, Speaker, Hon. Steve Crocker, Ches Crosbie, MHA, Jordan Brown, MHA, Derek Bennett, MHA