

Yukon Legislative Assembly

Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges

35th Yukon Legislative Assembly

MINUTES

Meeting No. 7 Thursday, February 24, 2022 Committee Meeting Room, Yukon Legislative Assembly, Whitehorse

The Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges met in camera this day at 10:02 a.m., the Chair, the Hon. Richard Mostyn, presiding.

Members present: Hon. Richard Mostyn, Chair,

Brad Cathers (by videoconference), Patti McLeod (by teleconference),

Hon. John Streicker, and

Emily Tredger (substituting for Annie Blake).

Also present: Dan Cable, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, and

Allison Lloyd, Clerk to the Committee

Approval of Agenda

It was agreed, on motion of Brad Cathers, seconded by Emily Tredger, THAT the agenda for Meeting No. 7 of the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges be adopted as presented.

Approval of Minutes of Meeting No. 6 (February 17, 2022)

Amendments to the draft minutes of Meeting No. 6 were discussed.

It was agreed, on motion of Emily Tredger, THAT the minutes of Meeting No. 6 (February 17, 2022) of the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges be adopted as amended.

Meetings In Camera

Members discussed the committee's current practice of holding meetings in camera and the committee's discussions being confidential.

Options to make the committee's proceedings more transparent were considered.

It was agreed, on motion of the Hon. John Streicker, seconded by Brad Cathers, THAT the minutes of Meeting No. 7 (February 24, 2022) and future meetings of the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges be made public and posted on the committee's webpage after the minutes are adopted by the committee.

Time Allocation

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Legislative Assembly on May 17, 2021 (Motion No. 9), the committee discussed Standing Order 76 and the allocation of time in the Legislative Assembly.

The committee discussed potentially removing the "guillotine", the provision in Standing Order 76 for potentially putting to a vote on the final day of a Sitting all government bills having received second reading debate. Members noted that several Sittings may be required to develop new rules and practices for managing the Assembly's time.

It was agreed, on motion of the Hon. John Streicker, seconded by Brad Cathers, THAT Standing Order 76 of the Standing Orders of the Yukon Legislative Assembly be amended for the duration of the 2022 Spring Sitting by deleting all instances of the words "Government Bill" and substituting in their place the words "appropriation bill", and

THAT following the 2022 Spring Sitting, the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges meet to review this provision prior to the 2022 Fall Sitting.

The committee continued discussion on the draft time management matrix prepared by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. It was proposed that a subcommittee of 3 members could be created to examine time allocation, possibly following the 2022 Spring Sitting.

The committee considered a proposal distributed by Brad Cathers regarding referring certain bills to the Standing Committee on Statutory Instruments following second reading. Members discussed bills being referred to select committees and witnesses appearing during the committee stage of proceedings on bills. The resources required for the consideration of bills by committees other than Committee of the Whole were discussed. The committee also briefly reviewed the history of the Standing Committee on Statutory Instruments.

Length of Oral Question Period

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Legislative Assembly on May 17, 2021 (Motion No. 9), the committee considered the standing orders regarding the rubric Oral Question Period in the Daily Routine.

The clerks were tasked with providing the committee with briefing material on the topic of Oral Question Period practices in other legislative assemblies.

Further discussion on Oral Question Period was deferred to a future meeting.

Other Business

The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly advised the members that the drafting of several draft reports for the committee will be completed before the end of March 2022.

The committee discussed how certain practices of the Assembly can change prior to amendments being made to the standing orders, if Members of the Legislative Assembly voluntarily follow new practices.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be to the call of the Chair.

At 11:10 a.m. the committee adjourned.

Alfison Lloyd

Clerk to the Committee