



Yukon Legislative Assembly

Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges

35th Yukon Legislative Assembly

MINUTES

Meeting No. 10

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

Committee Meeting Room, Yukon Legislative Assembly, Whitehorse

The Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges met in camera this day at 10:00 a.m., the Chair, the Hon. Richard Mostyn, presiding.

Members present: Hon. Richard Mostyn, Chair,
Brad Cathers,
Patti McLeod,
Hon. John Streicker, and
Lane Tredger.

Also present: Allison Lloyd, Clerk to the Committee

Approval of Agenda

It was agreed, on motion of Brad Cathers, seconded by Lane Tredger, THAT the agenda for Meeting No. 10 of the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges be amended by adding the item "Ministerial Statement" and reordering the items between "Approval of Minutes of Meeting No. 9 (October 17, 2022)" and "Other Business" to:

- "4. Division Bells
5. Ministerial Statement
6. Standing Order 76 (Guillotine)
7. MLA Attendance and Participation While Sick"

It was agreed, on motion of Patti McLeod, THAT the agenda for Meeting No. 10 of the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges be adopted as amended.

Approval of Minutes of Meeting No. 9 (October 17, 2022)

It was agreed, on motion of Lane Tredger, seconded by Brad Cathers, THAT the minutes of Meeting No. 9 (October 17, 2022) of the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges be adopted as presented and made public.

Division Bells

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Legislative Assembly on May 17, 2021 (Motion No. 9), the committee discussed Standing Order 25 and the practices for ringing the bells for divisions.

The committee reviewed the briefing note prepared by the committee clerk.

It was agreed, on motion of Lane Tredger, seconded by Brad Cathers, THAT the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges recommend to the House:

THAT Standing Order 25(4) of the Standing Orders of the Yukon Legislative Assembly be replaced with "The Speaker shall stop the bells, state the question and order the taking of the division after the bells have rung for two minutes if all members are present in the Chamber or five minutes if not all members are present in the Chamber."; and

THAT the Standing Orders of the Yukon Legislative Assembly be amended by adding the following new Standing Order:

"25(4.1) The Speaker may stop the bells, state the question and order the taking of the division after two minutes and prior to the expiration of five minutes if the House Leaders and all independent members have indicated to the Speaker that they would not object to proceeding with the division even though all members are not present in the Chamber."

Ministerial Statements

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

It was proposed that the Standing Orders of the Yukon Legislative Assembly be amended by adding the following new standing order:

"11(3.3) Prior to recognizing a Minister or Cabinet Commissioner on the Ministerial Statement, the Speaker must be satisfied that the Government House Leader and at least one House Leader of a party in opposition to the government are in agreement that the Ministerial Statement should be delivered that day."

The committee discussed the current practices for ministerial statements and how the House Leaders notify the Speaker of projected House business on sitting days.

It was agreed that the proposed change to the Standing Orders be further discussed at a meeting on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

Standing Order 76 (Guillotine)

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

Committee members observed that the committee's previous recommendations for temporary changes to Standing Order 76, referred to as the "guillotine", had been

in place as sessional orders for the 2022 Spring Sitting, the 2022 Fall Sitting, and the current 2023 Spring Sitting.

It was agreed, on motion of the Hon. John Streicker, seconded by Brad Cathers, THAT the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges recommend to the House:

THAT Standing Order 76 of the Standing Orders of the Yukon Legislative Assembly be amended by deleting all instances of the words "Government Bill" and substituting in their place the words "appropriation bill".

It was agreed, on motion of Brad Cathers, seconded by Lane Tredger, THAT the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges approve by email a report with the committee's recommendations regarding Standing Order 76 and the ringing of division bells pursuant to Standing Order 25.

MLA Attendance and Participation While Sick

Pursuant to the order of reference adopted by the Legislative Assembly on May 17, 2021 (Motion No. 9), the committee discussed Members of the Legislative Assembly participating in debate and attending sittings in the Chamber while sick.

Committee members observed that sessional orders adopted to address the COVID-19 pandemic permitted Members of the Legislative Assembly to participate in sittings remotely, but only when the individual was unable to attend sittings of the House in person due to COVID-19 symptoms, illness, or protocols.

The committee discussed the possibility of expanding the use of member participating by video conference.

Further discussion was deferred to a future meeting.

Next Meeting

It was agreed that the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges next meet at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

At 11:08 a.m. the committee adjourned, on motion of Lane Tredger.



Allison Lloyd
Clerk to the Committee