

FIFTH REPORT
OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
RULES, ELECTIONS AND PRIVILEGES

3rd Session of the
24th Legislature

Clinton

FIFTH REPORT
OF THE
STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
RULES, ELECTIONS AND PRIVILEGES

3rd Session of the
24th Legislature

On November 15, 1979, the Yukon Legislative Assembly adopted the following resolution:

THAT the report of the Yukon Elections Board entitled "Recommended Amendments to the *Elections Ordinance, 1977*" be referred to the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges and that the Committee report to the House its recommendations for any amendments to the *Elections Ordinance, 1977*.

In accordance with the direction of the Assembly the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges has reviewed the *Elections Ordinance, 1977* and, in particular, the comments on that legislation of the Yukon Elections Board.

This report has been divided into two sections. Part I outlines the recommendations of the Committee which are, in principle, identical to those made by the Board in its report.

Part II deals with matters: (1) which the Board raised for consideration but upon which it did not offer recommendations, (2) which the Board did not touch upon and (3) which the Committee found itself in disagreement with the recommendations of the Board.

Part I

<u>Section</u>	<u>Recommendations</u>
X 2.(1)	For clarification, a definition of "candidate" should be added to this section.
✓ 3.(1)	Amend "Yukon Territorial Council" to read "Council." Similar amendments should be made at all applicable places throughout the ordinance.
X 8.(1) X	Amendment of this subsection should be considered to bring it into conformity with the wording of subsection 10.(4). The phrasing the Committee is particularly concerned about is "after consultation with the Board" in subsection 8.(1) and "on the advice of the Board" in subsection 10.(4).
✓ 11.(1)	This subsection requires the publishing of the name, address and occupation of the Administrator and all Returning Officers and Assistant Returning Officers. The Committee does not feel that the requirement for listing an occupation is needed but, instead, does recommend that the electoral district of the Returning Officers and Assistant Returning Officers should be listed.
✓ 12.	This section should be amended to include training of any person that the Board is considering for appointment as a Returning Officer or that a Returning Officer has recommended for future appointment as an Assistant Returning Officer. It would be a pity to have to appoint somebody

purely to train him and then have to terminate him for cause because he was not suitable. As well, in the case of A.R.O.s, training sessions are often held before they can actually be appointed. An amendment of this sort would also require a minor drafting addition in section 13.

Sh. X
15.(2) ✓

This subsection requires the Commissioner to specify the date that a Writ of Election is returned. Since the date of the official count is a matter of the Returning Officer's discretion it is not possible for the Commissioner to name such a date. Also, the Return to the Writ (presently Form 43) properly should be included on the back of the Writ of Election.

18.(2)(c) ✓

This paragraph requires some clarification in that it does not provide direction as to the position of a person who is serving a sentence at intermittent times. The Committee feels that the essential principle is that elections officials not be required to undertake their duties in prisons or lock-ups. If a person undergoing punishment has sufficient liberty to attend the proper polling station to cast his vote, he should be allowed to vote.

20.(3) ✓

During the 1978 General Election there was some difficulty in applying this subsection. The intention seems to have been to keep people from declaring a summer cottage as a permanent residence. There are Yukoners, however, who

have two actual permanent residences; one where they live in the winter and the other where they live in the summer. The Committee feels that the remainder of section 20 provides sufficiently stringent rules (as to establishing residence) to allow the removal of this problem by simply repealing subsection 20.(3).

21.(6) ✓

This subsection requires the Returning Officer to post, in every polling division, three copies of the preliminary list of electors for the entire electoral district. The Committee recommends that this requirement be reduced to one copy.

22.(1) &
(1.1) ✓

These two subsections require the authorization of the Board for the use of only one enumerator in a polling division. The Returning Officer should only be made to report such an action to the Board and there should be no requirement for prior approval.

22.(7)(a) ✓

This paragraph requires enumerators to ascertain the given names of electors. Other jurisdictions are finding this requirement has created a security problem for single women who live alone. The Committee, therefore, recommends that initials be substituted for given names on the list of electors. Consequential amendments to paragraph 22.(14)(b), subsection 22.(16), and subsection 22.(18) will also be required. For clarification, subsection 22.(18) should also be amended by using seniority rather than relationship

to distinguish electors who have the same surname, initials and address.

22.(17) ✓ The Committee recommends that this subsection be clarified by requiring the list prepared pursuant to subsection 22.(16) to be prepared to the extent practicable by street and number and, otherwise, in alphabetical order of surname. The Committee also recommends that section 22 be amended to require enumerators to ascertain and record the mailing address of eligible electors in cases where that address is different than the statement of geographical location.

Ok but ?
Johnston
Pa.
22.(19) ✓ Women in various parts of Canada have objected to any provision requiring them to reveal their marital status in order to be entitled to a particular right when men are not so required. Subsection 22.(19) requires a woman to reveal that she is divorced or living apart from her husband in order to acquire the right to be enumerated in other than her legal name. The Committee recommends that a woman should be registered under her legal surname or whatever surname she commonly uses to identify herself in the locality.

23.(3) ✓ When a plebiscite or by-election is held in an electoral district within one year following a general election the official list of electors used at the general election is used as the preliminary list of electors for the plebiscite

or by-election. It is unnecessary to appoint enumerators in these circumstances and subsection 23.(3) should be amended accordingly.

24.(1) ✓ The wording in this subsection should be re-drafted since the reference to "every electoral district" is incorrect.

24.(3) +
ok. During the 1978 General Election it was necessary to obtain an Affidavit of Objection (Form 53) when objection to a name on the preliminary list of electors was made by a person other than the elector concerned. This requirement should be embodied in legislation.

24.(5) ✓ The Committee recommends that the Returning Officer or Revising Officer should be able to change both the name and the address of an elector where the same are incorrectly stated on the list of electors.

24.(6) +
Done. The Committee recommends that this subsection be expanded by making it an offence to corruptly make a false statement for the purpose of inducing a Revising Officer or Returning Officer to delete the name of any person entitled to have his name entered on the list of electors.

27.(2) + To conform to actual practice the Committee recommends amendment of this subsection to include the Returning Officer's office as a place where the nomination of candidates may take place.

- 27.(6) ~~x~~ *Dme.* This subsection requires the Returning Officer to immediately give a copy of the proclamation of election to each person who is a candidate in that election and to each person who was a candidate in the last election. There is no need to so inform past candidates and, at the time of the issue of the proclamation, there are no official candidates for a current election. This subsection should, therefore, be deleted.
- 29.(5) ~~x~~ The Committee feels that this subsection could be better stated by deleting the word "knowing" and substituting "where he knows, or ought reasonably to have known."
- 31.(3) ✓ There is a typographical error in this subsection. The word "by" should be added immediately after the words "for that electoral district."
- 31.(6)(a) ✓ This paragraph should be amended to bring it into conformity with the provisions of subsection 31.(5). The statement referred to is signed by a witness and not an "official." It is, instead, sworn by the witness before an official as set out in subsection 31.(5).
- 31.(6)(b) ✓ There is no value in requiring a candidate to list his occupation and the Committee recommends deletion of that provision. Consequential amendments are also required to subsection 36.(1) and subsection 43.(3). ✓

31.(15) ✓ During the 1978 General Election the Board required Returning Officers to make the draw for position on the ballot paper in the presence of at least two duly qualified electors who then signed a form swearing or solemnly affirming that they had witnessed the draw and that the Returning Officer had correctly recorded the results of the draw. The Committee recommends that this requirement be embodied in legislation.

31.(19) &
39.(1) ✓
(But 39.01 didn't really include those subsections)
If the Assistant Returning Officer is required to substitute for the Returning Officer there is little sense in denying him the powers outlined in subsection 31.(15) and 31.(17). The Committee recommends the appropriate amendments to delete these restrictions.

37.(1) ✓ A candidate must have an "official agent" and he may have several "agents." The Committee recommends that the reference to "agent" in this subsection be amended to be a reference to his "official agent." The Committee also recommends that this subsection should be amended to require the Returning Officer to provide three copies of the polling division map to each candidate or his official agent.

40.(2)(a) ✓ The Committee recommends that this paragraph be made more flexible by allowing the establishment of a polling place for a polling division in a nearby place in the same or a different electoral district.

- 40.(2)(c) Amend to conform with amended subsection 22.(17).
- 40.(4) The Committee recommends that this subsection be amended to allow a Returning Officer to take and use as a polling place any school building where it can be made available for that purpose without unreasonable inconvenience.
- 41.(3) This subsection prohibits a Returning Officer or an Assistant Returning Officer from acting as a Deputy Returning Officer. The Board states that this restriction created a significant problem in one of the electoral districts during the 1978 General Election. The Committee, therefore, recommends that a Returning Officer or Assistant Returning Officer be empowered to act as a Deputy Returning Officer if the Board has given prior permission for such action.
- 41.(9) For clarification, the Committee recommends that the "name" of the poll clerk be written in the poll book.
- 41.(13) The Committee recommends that this subsection be amended to remove the onus from the Returning Officer for recruiting poll clerks.
- 42.(1) The Committee recommends amendment of this subsection to allow the Board to obtain ballot boxes by means other than having them manufactured.

- 43.(2)(a) ✓ The Committee recommends amendment of this paragraph to provide that the surname of candidates should follow their given names and nicknames on the ballot paper.
- 43.(4) ✓ This subsection was obviously based on the understanding that the Returning Officers would be responsible for getting the ballot papers printed. In fact, the Elections Board found it more satisfactory to assign this task to the Administrator and there was, therefore, no necessity to transmit the blank ballot paper to individual Returning Officers. The Committee recommends that this subsection be amended to require only that the ballot paper be printed upon paper of a prescribed dimension, colour, weight and quality. A consequential amendment to subsection 43.(6) is required since the Board causes stereotype blocks to be made but does not supply them to the Returning Officers.
- 43.(8) ✓ In light of actual past procedures this subsection should be amended to state that the printer delivers the ballots to the Administrator at the office of the Elections Board rather than to individual Returning Officers. A separate subsection should also be added specifying the method by which ballot papers are to be transmitted from the Administrator to each Returning Officer.
- 44.(1) ✓ The list of materials furnished to the Deputy Returning Officer by the Returning Officer is

incomplete and should be amended to include a copy of the Revising Officer's statement of revisions and certificate.

44.(2) ✓

The wording of this subsection is unduly restrictive in that the Deputy Returning Officer should be allowed to take an inventory of the material in the ballot box as soon as he receives it and since he must take these materials from the ballot box and be prepared prior to the opening of the poll. Subsections 44.(3) and 47.(1) also create a direct contradiction with subsection 44.(2) because, pursuant to those subsections, the Deputy Returning Officer is required to count the ballots immediately upon receiving them and candidates' agents may ask for a counting of the blank ballots before the opening of the poll. Agents may also inspect all other papers, forms and documents relating to the poll at this time. The Committee recommends that this subsection be amended to require the Deputy Returning Officer to take every precaution for the safekeeping of the documents listed in subsection 44.(1) and to prevent any person from having unlawful access to those documents.

44.(3) ✓

The Committee recommends amendment of this subsection to allow the Deputy Returning Officer to mail or deliver to the Returning Officer the receipt for the number of ballots.

- 48.(1) ✓ This subsection refers to posting printed directions to voters "outside the polling station." The location and structure does not always accommodate such a requirement and it is, therefore, recommended that this subsection be made more flexible by allowing such posting in or about the polling station. To ensure some identification of the polling station it is further recommended that a new subsection be added stating that a sign identifying the polling station must be placed outside the polling station.
- 54.(2) ✓ The words "and where" in the second line could create a very serious misimpression as to the proper duties of the Deputy Returning Officer and it is recommended that they be deleted.
- 54.(16) ✓ As further protection for the illiterate, blind or physically incapacitated voter it is recommended that a paragraph be added requiring the friend or relative to mark the ballot paper in accordance with the wish of the illiterate, blind or physically incapacitated voter.
- 54.(17) ✓ The reference to the Deputy Returning Officer is incorrect and should properly be to the Poll Clerk.
- 57.(8) ✗ The reference to "judicial district" is inaccurate and should be deleted. Also, consideration should be given to the use of the terms "constable" and "special constable."

The Board, in its report, states there is no actual difference between these two positions. The Committee feels the problem identified by the Board might be rectified by providing a definition for each of these terms which would be placed in section 2.

- 59.(21) ✓ There is a typographical error in this subsection. The word "action" should be "section."
- 60.(1) ✓ The Committee does not feel it is necessary to require a person's name on the badge. It is recommended that this subsection be amended to require only an identification of the office held.
- 64.(1) ✓ The reference to "subsection (3)" should be a reference to "subsection (2)."
- 64.(5) ✕
Impo The Committee recommends that this subsection be amended so that the envelopes containing the used and counted, unused, rejected and spoiled ballot papers and the original statements of the polls are not treated as mutually exclusive items. It is the opinion of the Committee that all of these documents are relevant to a judicial recount.
- 66.(1) ✓ The Committee agrees with the recommendations of the Board as to the proper timing of Board reports. This subsection should be amended to reflect the following: Where the Board has taken any action pursuant to subsection 77.(3) or where the Board has suspended a Returning Officer for

cause, the Board must report within ten days after the opening of the Assembly next following the election. Such report must include the Board's reasons for suspending a Returning Officer. (2) The Board must report, within one year, any amendments to the ordinance that, in its opinion, are desirable for better elections administration. (3) The Board may report at any time on any matter or event that has arisen or occurred in connection with the administration of the Board's duties in the interval since the date of its last preceding report and that it considers should be brought to the attention of the Assembly.

70.(1)(j) ✓

To provide conformity with the recommended amendments to section 43 this paragraph should be amended to reflect the fact that it is the Administrator who authorizes the printing of ballot papers.

70.(1)(dd) ✓

The Committee feels that it should be an offence to impede or obstruct any election officer and recommends that this paragraph be so amended.

73.(1)

to make it reads the way.

The Committee feels that obstruction of the transaction of business of a public meeting should constitute an offence and recommends that this subsection be so amended.

101 ✓

Section 101 refers only to an election held during 1978. It is now outdated and the Committee recommends that it be repealed.

Form 1

Delete the words "as soon as possible and not later than" which appear at the end of the main text.

Also, delete the word "Commissioner" following the words "By Order."

Also, add to Form 1 the following:

"RETURN TO THE WRIT AFTER POLL
(Secs. 34.(1), 65.(1))

I, returning officer for the electoral district of _____, do hereby certify that the member duly elected for the electoral district, in pursuance of the within writ, as having received the largest number of votes lawfully cast, is

Name

Certified at _____ this _____ day of _____, 19____.

Returning Officer"

Form 4

Amend this form to read as follows:

(Front)

---	---	Candidate's Name	<input type="radio"/>
---	---	Candidate's Political Affiliation	<input type="radio"/>
---	---	Candidate's Name	<input type="radio"/>
---	---	Candidate's Political Affiliation	<input type="radio"/>
---	---	Candidate's Name	<input type="radio"/>
---	---	Candidate's Political Affiliation	<input type="radio"/>

(Reverse)

No. 1002	---
(Line of Perforations)	---
No. 1002	---
(Line of Perforations)	---
Initials of DRO	
(Yukon Crest)	
Yukon, Canada	
Electoral District	
of	
Whitehorse Centre	
Election Date:	
October 10, 1978	
Returning Officer:	
Ross McLeod	
Printer: City	
Printers Ltd.	

Part II

✓ 1. Registration of Political Parties

Subsection 2.(1) of the *Elections Ordinance, 1977* states:

"'registered political party' means a political party incorporated as a society or registered as an extra-territorial society under the *Societies Ordinance*"

In its report the Elections Board states that this definition "has caused some problems because political parties are not usually established or run in a manner which would qualify them as societies." The Committee is in full agreement with that assessment and recommends that the Elections Board be made responsible for the registration of parties.

The Committee recommends that the definition of "registered political party" be amended to read: "means an organization registered with the Board pursuant to Section X." This Section X would be located at an appropriate place in the legislation and it is recommended that it be drafted as follows:

- "X.(1) Any political party that
- (a) has as its primary purpose the promotion and support of candidates for election to the Council and the advocacy of policies supported by such candidates,
 - (b) has a name that is not likely to mislead the public as to its aims nor cause confusion with any other party, and

- (c) supports or intends to support eight or more candidates at the next election, may apply to the Board in the prescribed form to be a registered political party.
- (2) The application shall be accompanied by such fee and such information as to officers and address for service as may be prescribed, and shall be subscribed by the signatures of at least one hundred members who are persons qualified as electors under this Ordinance.
- (3) The Board may cancel the registration of any registered political party that has committed an offence under this Ordinance or which has ceased to hold the qualifications required for registration pursuant to this Section."

The Committee also recommends that a section be added stating that, notwithstanding subsection 67.(2), each registered political party shall receive from the Board, following each general election, a complete set of the preliminary lists of electors for all polling divisions in all electoral districts. An organization which is accepted as a registered political party would receive, upon registration, the same set of lists.

2. Eligibility of M.L.A.s and Eligibility to Vote

- (a) In its discussion on Section 18 the Board raised the problem caused by the cross-reference between Section 18 and Section 10 of the *Yukon Council Ordinance*.

Section 18 states that a person is not qualified to vote if he has been deprived of his liberty by due process of law. Section 10 of the *Yukon Council Ordinance* states:

"No person is eligible to be a member of the Council or to sit or vote in the Council at any time that he would not be entitled to vote at an election of members of the Council pursuant to the *Elections Ordinance, 1977*."

The Committee agrees with the assessment of the Board that: "Given this wording it is possible that an M.L.A. could lose his seat merely because he was being held in custody while awaiting trial."

It is the opinion of the Committee that the *Elections Ordinance, 1977* should provide only for the qualifications of candidacy and that it should have no application to M.L.A.s and their right to sit in the Legislative Assembly. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Government introduce legislation which would have the effect of repealing Section 10 of the *Yukon Council Ordinance*.

Don't think
this was
done

- (b) Paragraph 18.(2)(e) states that a court may remove a qualified elector's right to vote if such elector has been convicted of an offence under the *Elections Ordinance, 1977*. The Committee has reviewed the penalty provisions of this legislation which are found in Section 80:

"(a) every person who is guilty of an offence under this Ordinance is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not more than two thousand dollars or to imprisonment for not more than three months, or to both fine and imprisonment, [and]

- (b) every person who is guilty of an offence under this Ordinance committed with intent to corrupt or intimidate a candidate, official agent, election officer or elector, to prevent a qualified elector from voting or to destroy, forge or falsify any document made pursuant to this Ordinance is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not more than five thousand dollars or to imprisonment for not more than one year, or to both fine and imprisonment."

The Committee does not believe it necessary to add the further penalty of loss of voting privileges to those of fine and imprisonment. A democratic society must view very seriously any law which vests the power, even in the courts, to deny a citizen the right to vote. It should be noted that the present provisions of paragraph 18.(2)(e) raise the possibility of an otherwise qualified elector being denied his vote for an indefinite period even though he may have committed a relatively minor offence. The Committee, therefore, recommends that paragraph 18.(2)(e) be repealed.

3. Proxy Voting

The procedure for obtaining a proxy certificate seems too complex and, in the opinion of the Committee, resulted in a significant number of electors losing their voting rights during the 1978 general election. Present provisions require an elector who wishes to appoint a proxy voter to fill out a proxy application. Either he or the proxy voter named then have to apply in person to the revising officer for a proxy certificate. The revising officer will grant the certificate when he is satisfied that both the elector appointing the proxy voter and the

proxy voter are on the list of electors for the same polling division and that no proxy certificate has previously been issued in the name of the elector or to the designated proxy voter. The proxy voter takes this certificate to the polling station on polling day and, upon presentation to the deputy returning officer, is given a ballot which he marks for the absentee elector.

In place of this procedure the Committee recommends the following:

- (a) Repeal the necessity to obtain a proxy certificate,
- (b) Enable an absentee voter to fill out a proxy application naming his designated proxy voter, such application being witnessed by the judge of any court, the returning officer, the assistant returning officer, a notary public, a Justice of the Peace or a peace officer,
- (c) Allow a designated proxy voter to take this proxy application to the polling station where the deputy returning officer will grant a ballot paper: (1) if the name of the absentee elector is on the list of the electors and (2) after the designated proxy voter swears (i) that, to the best of his knowledge, the absentee voter is unable to attend the poll by reason of absence from the polling division or by reason of illness or physical incapacity, and (ii) that he has not already voted as proxy for an absentee voter.

There should also be a provision in law giving an absentee voter the right to reclaim a proxy application prior to polling day.

Although it is not necessary to amend the legislation for this purpose the Committee recommends that the Elections Board obtain, from the Department of Education, the names and addresses of Yukon citizens attending post-secondary institutions who receive grants from the Government of Yukon. A proxy application form and a pamphlet explaining its use should be sent to each of these citizens.

The following will have to be amended to give effect to these recommendations: subsection 22.(8); paragraph 22(22)(b); subsection 25.(1); paragraph 27.(1)(d); subsection 48.(10); subsection 48.(11); Section 55; subsection 56.(4); subsection 59.(16); paragraph 65(2)(h); paragraph 65.(2)(i); paragraph 70.(1)(p); and Form 2.

4. Swearing-in at the Poll

The provisions of the *Elections Ordinance, 1977* do not allow an elector whose name is not on the revised list of electors to be sworn in at the poll. It is the view of the Committee that a significant number of citizens were denied their right to vote in the last general election because they could not be sworn in.

The Committee recommends that a deputy returning officer issue a ballot to a citizen whose name is not on the revised list of electors if:

- (a) the deputy returning officer is satisfied that the elector is qualified in all other respects;
- (b) the elector has sworn on oath that he is a qualified elector, that he is resident in the polling division and that he has not already voted in the same or another polling division, and

- (c) an elector who is on the revised list of electors has sworn on oath as to the qualifications of the elector applying for the right to vote.

✓ 5. Transfer Certificates

Deputy returning officers, poll clerks, interpreters, constables, candidates or agents of candidates may currently apply to a revising officer for a transfer certificate allowing them to vote in a polling division other than the one in which their name appears on the list of electors. The Committee does not believe that there is any demonstrated need for the use of transfer certificates and recommends that their use be discontinued.

The following provisions will have to be amended to give effect to this recommendation: paragraph 22.(22)(c); subsection 25(1); Section 26; paragraph 27.(1)(d); subsection 49.(2); subsection 49.(3); subsection 59.(16), paragraph 65.(2)(h); and Form 2.

✓ 6. Revision of Lists of Electors

The revision of the preliminary list of electors now takes place from two o'clock p.m. to six o'clock p.m. on the twenty-ninth to the thirty-sixth days of the election excluding Sundays and public holidays. Since the Committee has recommended that electors may now be sworn in at the polls and that proxy and transfer certificates no longer be issued by revising officers, it is recommended that the period for revision of the lists be shortened. Revision should now take place from seven o'clock p.m. to nine o'clock p.m. on the thirty-third to the thirty-fifth

day inclusive and from one o'clock p.m. to five o'clock p.m. on the thirty-sixth day. Amendments will be required to subsection 22.(23); subsection 25.(3) and Form 2.

✓ 7. Statements of Election Expenses

Following the 1978 general election all candidates were required to submit to the Elections Board a statement of all election expenses incurred by or on behalf of the candidate. It appears that the purpose of this provision was to determine whether laws governing election expenses are required in Yukon. Members of the Committee have examined these statements and agree that the expenditures of all candidates and parties are at a modest level. In the opinion of the Committee no laws regulating election expenses are required in this jurisdiction and it is no longer necessary to have a disclosure provision in the *Elections Ordinance, 1977*. Accordingly, Section 98 should be repealed and the following provisions amended: subsection 2.(1); paragraph 31.(18)(b); and subsection 97.(6).

8. Secrecy of Voting

✓ The Committee recommends two minor amendments to Section 53. Subsection 53.(1) refers to "officer" and "clerk" in line 1 and line 4. There are no such positions defined in the *Elections Ordinance, 1977* and the proper term is "election officer."

Subsection 53.(2) states:

"No elector shall, except when unable to vote in the manner prescribed by this Ordinance on

account of inability to read, blindness or other physical incapacity,

- (a) upon entering the polling station and before receiving a ballot paper, openly declare for whom he intends to vote,
- (b) show his ballot paper, when marked, so as to allow the name of the candidate for whom he has voted to be known, or
- (c) before leaving the polling station, openly declare for whom he has voted."

Although special provisions for voting exist for those who are unable to read, are blind or suffer some physical incapacity, there is no reason why they should not adhere to the general law that an elector must maintain the secrecy of his ballot while in the polling station. That is, the person falling into one of these categories should declare his voting preference only in front of the person assisting him in the marking of the ballot and those people who are qualified to witness the marking of the ballot.

The Committee, therefore, recommends that the following words be repealed: "except when unable to vote in the manner prescribed by this Ordinance on account of inability to read, blindness or other physical incapacity."

✓ 9. Time to Employees for Voting

Subsection 56.(1) requires employers to ensure employees have three consecutive hours for voting. The Committee recommends that Section 56 be amended to provide a requirement for four consecutive hours for voting.

10. Political Advertising

- x (a) Subsection 58.(3) of the Ordinance states that:

"No person shall engage actively in the issue or promotion of political propaganda within one kilometre of a polling station during the hours that the polls are open."

X During Committee meetings the question was raised as to who is responsible for enforcing this provision and, indeed, as to who is responsible for enforcing a good deal of elections law. The Committee recommends that this legislation be reviewed to determine those places in which specific reference should be made to enforcement by peace officers.

- x (b) The Board states in its report that: "It is sufficient to prohibit the wearing of flags, ribbons, labels or badges displaying a partisan interest only during the hours of voting." The Committee disagrees and recommends that this stricture continue to apply during all of polling day. Subsection 56.(4) should, however, be clarified by specifying that flags, ribbons, labels or badges are banned if they display a partisan interest. In other words, a badge which merely allowed candidates' agents to identify each other would be permitted as long as it did not advertise support for a particular candidate or party.

- ✓ (c) The committee recommends that Section 74 be amended to require identification of a candidate's official agent on all advertisements, posters or banners having reference to an election.

- (d) The Committee recommends that all campaigning including media advertising be banned on polling day and the day before polling day. This would not include efforts to encourage electors to vote or to assist electors in getting to polling stations.

11. Return to the Writ

Two minor amendments are required as a result of the Board's recommendation to place the Return to the Writ on the reverse side of the Writ of Election. Subsection 65.(1) should be amended by deleting the words "in the prescribed form" and substituting "which shall be in Form 1." Subsection 65.(4) should be amended by deleting the words "duplicate or" and substituting the word "certified."

12. Elections Board

The Committee has considered the method of Cabinet appointment of the members of the Elections Board and recommends that the Government give consideration, in preparing amendments to the *Elections Ordinance, 1977*, to expanding the membership of the Board to allow appointments to the Board by each of the registered political parties.


Doug Graham
Chairman

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry, no matter how small, should be recorded to ensure the integrity of the financial statements. This includes not only sales and purchases but also expenses and income. The text also mentions the need for regular audits to verify the accuracy of the records and to identify any discrepancies or errors.

In addition to maintaining accurate records, it is crucial to understand the underlying principles of accounting. This involves a thorough understanding of the accounting cycle, which consists of a series of steps that ensure the accuracy and completeness of the financial records. The text explains how each step of the cycle contributes to the overall financial picture and how they are interconnected.

Furthermore, the document highlights the significance of ethical considerations in accounting. Accountants have a responsibility to provide accurate and unbiased information to their stakeholders. This requires a high level of integrity and honesty in all dealings. The text discusses various ethical dilemmas that accountants may face and provides guidance on how to navigate them responsibly.

Finally, the document concludes by emphasizing the role of accounting in the success of a business. It states that accurate financial information is essential for making informed decisions, managing cash flow, and ensuring the long-term sustainability of the organization. By following the principles and practices outlined in the document, accountants can contribute significantly to the overall success and growth of their clients.