



Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**MINUTES OF MEETING # 3/98
OF THE BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY HELD IN
ROOM 180, THE SPEAKER'S BOARDROOM
AT 4:00 PM ON THURSDAY, MAY 28, 1998**

Present

The Honourable Chris Stockwell, MPP, Chair
The Honourable Chris Hodgson, MPP
The Honourable Norm Sterling, MPP
Mr. John Baird, MPP
Mr. John Gerretsen, MPP
Ms Marion Boyd, MPP

Absent

The Honourable Tony Clement, MPP

Secretariat

Mr. Claude DesRosiers, Clerk of the House, BOIE Secretary
Ms Barbara Bishop, Assistant Secretary and Recording Secretary

Legislative Assembly Staff

Mr. Dennis Clark, Sergeant-at-Arms
Ms Deborah Deller, Executive Director, Legislative Services
Ms Mary Dickerson, Executive Director, Legislative Library
Ms Sylvia Nemanic, Executive Director, Administrative Services

Guests

Ms Zina Decker, Administrative Coordinator and Executive Assistant to the Clerk
Mr. Peter Hardie, Special Assistant to the Speaker
Ms Barbara Cowieson, Deputy Executive Director / Government Members' Services
Mr. Peter Curtis, Chief-Financial Operations / Liberal Caucus Service Bureau
Ms Darlene Lawson, Caucus Administrator / NDP Caucus
Mr. Terry Mitchell, Manager, Financial Services
Ms Beverley Biggley, Financial Services
Ms Michelle Mason, Legislative Assistant to Chris Hodgson
Mr. Charles Vincent, Assistant to John Baird, MPP
Mr. Warren Bailie, Chief Election Officer
Ms Peng Tam, Office of the Chief Election Officer

DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

ITEM 1: Approval of Minutes of Meeting #2/98

Moved by Mr. Baird, seconded by Mr. Gerretsen, and agreed, that the Minutes of Meeting #2/98 be approved as circulated.

ITEM 2: 1998/99 Estimates - Office of the Assembly

MEMBERS' SERVICES

Report on Members' Travel and Toronto Accommodation Funding

Moved by Mr. Baird, seconded by Ms Boyd, and agreed, to receive the Report prepared by staff on Members' Travel and Toronto Accommodation Funding.

Caucus Support Services Vote 0201-07

Moved by Ms Boyd, seconded by Mr. Sterling, and agreed, that the 1998/99 Estimates for Caucus Support Services be approved in the amount of \$10,313,600.

Members' Compensation and Travel Vote 0201-08

Moved by Ms Boyd, seconded by Mr. Sterling, and agreed, that the 1998/99 Estimates for Members' Compensation and Travel be approved in the amount of \$14,951,000.

Members' Office Support Services Vote 0201-09

Moved by Ms Boyd, seconded by Mr. Sterling, and agreed, that the 1998/99 Estimates for Members' Office Support Services be approved in the amount of \$30,119,100.

Ontario Legislature Internship Programme Vote 0201-10

Moved by Ms Boyd, seconded by Mr. Sterling, and agreed, that the 1998/99 Estimates for the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme be approved in the amount of \$166,000.

COMMISSIONS

Moved by Ms Boyd, seconded by Mr. Baird, and agreed, that the Executive Director, Administrative Services, be authorized to meet with the Commissions and Agencies, on behalf of the Board, to ensure that they

- follow the same guidelines for their Estimates preparation as the Office of the Assembly to ensure consistency, and
- that their Estimates be submitted in the same format as the Office of the Assembly Estimates, for ease of review.

Environmental Commissioner – Vote 0202-01

Moved by Ms Boyd, seconded by Mr. Gerretsen, and agreed, that the 1998/99 Estimates for the Environmental Commissioner be approved in the amount of \$1,692,000.

Mr. Baird opposed the motion.

Mr. Sterling excluded himself from voting due to his position as Minister of the Environment.

The Board directed the Environmental Commissioner to report back on the request for a 5.5% increase in her Estimates.

Commission on Election Finances – Vote 0202-02

Moved by Mr. Gerretsen, seconded by Mr. Hodgson, and agreed, that the 1998/99 Estimates for the Commission on Election Finances be approved in the amount of \$1,253,500.

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner – Vote 0202-03

Moved by Ms Boyd, seconded by Mr. Baird, and agreed, that the 1998/99 Estimates for the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner be approved in the amount of \$6,510,200.

Office of the Integrity Commissioner – Vote 0202-04

This item was tabled for discussion and deferred to another meeting of the Board.

AGENCIES

Moved by Ms Boyd, seconded by Mr. Baird, and agreed, that the Executive Director, Administrative Services, be authorized to meet with the Commissions and Agencies, on behalf of the Board, to ensure that they

- follow the same guidelines for their Estimates preparation as the Office of the Assembly to ensure consistency, and
- that their Estimates be submitted in the same format as the Office of the Assembly Estimates, for ease of review.

Ombudsman Ontario – Vote 3101-01

The Board requested the Executive Director, Administrative Services to meet with the Ombudsman to redo her 1998/99 Estimates in a format consistent with the rest of the Office of the Assembly and re-submit to the Board for clarity of review.

Moved by Ms Boyd, seconded by Mr. Sterling, and agreed, that the 1998/99 Estimates for the Ombudsman Ontario be approved in the amount of \$7,993,000.

Messrs Baird and Hodgson opposed the motion.

Further, the Board also asked that the following three items be flagged for removal from next year's Estimates:

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|---|-----------|
| 1. Ongoing Restructuring Commitments | \$280,000 |
| 2. Salary and Benefits for Additional Staff | \$226,700 |
| 3. Computer systems upgrade and compliance 2000 | \$100,500 |

which will reduce the base by \$607,200 for the 1999/2000 Estimates.

Chief Election Officer – Vote 0501-01

Moved by Mr. Baird, seconded by Ms Boyd, and agreed, that the 1998/99 Estimates for the Chief Election Officer be approved in the amount of \$907,300.

Provincial Auditor – Vote 3301-01

Moved by Mr. Baird, seconded by Mr. Sterling, and agreed, that the 1998/99 Estimates for the Provincial Auditor be approved in the amount of \$7,713,300.

ITEM 3: Toronto Accommodation Overage [Rent Review]

Moved by Mr. Gerretsen, seconded by Ms Boyd, and agreed, that approval be given to Financial Services to advance funds to Dwight Duncan, in the amount of \$380.49, and to Pat Hoy, in the amount of \$442.29. The two members will exceed their Toronto accommodation allowance ceiling due to approvals of application to the Rent Review Board for retroactive increases.

INFORMATION ONLY

Authority to Transfer Funds

The Board received the itemized accounts of transfers within votes.

Members' Staff / Sick Leave Replacement

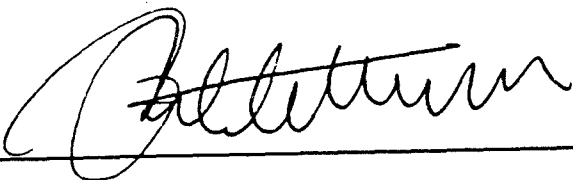
The Board received the *1997/98 Annual Report for Sick Leave Replacement*.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 17, 1998**.

The Board members remained to meet *In Camera*.



Speaker