



Legislative Assembly of Ontario

**MINUTES OF MEETING # 2/99
OF THE BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY HELD IN
ROOM 180, THE SPEAKER'S BOARDROOM
AT 4:30 PM ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1999**

Present

The Honourable Gary Carr, MPP, Chair
The Honourable Chris Hodgson, MPP
The Honourable Frank Klees, MPP
The Honourable Norm Sterling, MPP
Mr. Doug Galt, MPP
Mr. Domenic Agostino, MPP
Mr. David Christopherson, 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. Alex Roman, Executive 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
Ms Michelle Mason, Legislative Assistant to Honourable Chris Hodgson
Mr. Nick Viris, Manager, Financial Services

DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

ITEM 1: Approval of Minutes of Meeting #1/99

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Hodgson, and agreed, that the Minutes of Meeting #1/99 be approved and adopted as circulated.

ITEM 2: Pre-Approval Form [to be minuted only]

- **House Leaders' Agreement re Members' and Caucus Funding
[re Retroactivity]**

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Sterling, and agreed that, further to the House Leaders' agreement of October 22, 1999 concerning additional funding to House officers, the date of retroactivity be approved as June 3, 1999.

ITEM 3: Financial Services & Purchasing System/Report

Moved by Mr. Hodgson, seconded by Mr. Sterling, and agreed, that approval be given to Administrative Services to purchase a new integrated financial system at a total cost not to exceed \$392,000; with \$140,000 being incurred in fiscal 1999/2000 and the balance of \$252,000 to be incurred in fiscal 2000/2001.

The acquisition of the new system will be funded internally, through review and reprioritization of planned expenditures and identification of possible cost savings initiatives in 1999/2000 and 2000/2001. The expected implementation date is January 1, 2001.

ITEM 4: 1999/2000 Estimates of the Office of the Assembly [*Estimates Binder*]

No motion required – see Item #11.

ITEM 5: Guidelines for Members' Global Budget, Toronto Accommodation & Travel and Caucus Formula Funding

MOTION - PART I

The items listed below summarize the policy/budget changes relating to Members' Budgets and Caucus formula funding. The details supporting this motion are outlined in the report '*Guidelines for Members' Global Budget, Toronto Accommodation and Travel and Caucus Formula Funding*'. The contents of this report represent exactly what will be changed when the following motion is passed.

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Klees, and agreed, that the following items regarding Members' Budgets and Caucus Formula Funding resulting from the three party agreement dated October 22, 1999 be approved. All financial agreements summarized below, with respect to Members' Budgets and Caucus Formula Funding, shall be made retroactive to June 3, 1999 unless otherwise stated.

1. The annual Members' Global Budget is increased to \$236,000 from \$201,084.
2. A Northern Travel Budget Component be approved and added to the Global Budget for eight Northern Members.
3. Reimbursement of urban travel expenses [public transit and taxi costs] incurred by Members be adopted and charged to the Member's Global Budget.
4. Members will now be eligible to charge communication costs [i.e. telephone, faxes and internet], incurred for Assembly business, from their place[s] of residence to the Member's Global Budget.
5. Starting fiscal 2000/2001, the Toronto Accommodation budget for Members be increased annually by the rate increase [if any] approved by the Rent Control Review Board.
6. One time funding of \$1,500 be provided until December 31, 2000 to each re-elected Member who may wish to relocate their existing Constituency Office to cover the cost of moving office contents and phone installation.
7. A new formula for Caucus formula funding be approved to provide
 - \$19,000 for each Member for each of Administration and Research
 - Base funding of \$440,000 for each of the currently recognized parties for each of Administration and Research

- \$17,500 for each Member of the NDP and Liberal parties for the Leader's Office
- Base funding of \$255,000 each for the NDP and Liberal parties for the Leader's Office
- \$1,200 for each Member for Office Automation
- Base funding of \$100,000 for each of the currently recognized parties for Office Automation
- Funding for benefits [non-formula] consistent with the previous formula.

MOTION - PART II

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Klees, and agreed, that the following items regarding Members' Budgets and Caucus funding, verbally agreed to by the House Leaders on October 22, 1999 and now noted, be approved.

1. Unlimited travel for a Leader of a recognized party be approved retroactive to June 3, 1999;
2. NDP Caucus funding for 1999/2000 be used to reimburse the NDP Members' Global Budgets, provided as interim NDP funding, for a total amount of \$522,000.
3. The Office of the Legislative Assembly fund, outside of Caucus allocations, any expenditure due to the notice of termination period and severance payments, including vacation pay, paid to all Caucus staff terminated between June 3, 1999 and March 31, 2000 as a result of the 1999 general election which may be required beyond the 1999/2000 Caucus allocations.

MOTION - PART III

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Klees, and agreed, that the changes to the Estimates in Appendix D of this Report be approved, resulting in a net reduction of \$2,699,100 to the 1999/2000 Estimates in Members' Services.

ITEM 6: Constituency Offices

- **Policy for Members' Expenses relating to C.O. Relocation**

No motion required – contained in Item #5 above.

ITEM 7: OLA Election Impact – One-time Costs and Savings in 1999/2000

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that approval be given to fund one-time election costs [resulting from the 1999 election] in fiscal 1999/2000 in the amount of \$3,542,500.

ITEM 8: Proposed Salary Increases

Moved by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Klees, and agreed, that the following recommendations be approved.

1. The OPS salary increase of 1% January 1, 1999, 1.35% effective January 1, 2000 and 1.95% effective 20001 be implemented for Legislative Assembly Office staff. Additional funding in 1999/2000 in the amount of \$286,500 to fund the cost of implementing the increase of 1% retroactive, starting January 1999 to March 31, 2000, for Legislative Assembly Office staff.
2. Additional funding in 1999/2000 in the amount of \$19,100 to fund the cost of implementing the negotiated increase in the OPS of 1% retroactive to January 1, 1999 and 1.35% for the period January 1 to March 31, 2000 for Commissions.
3. An extension of the new pension bridging arrangement and the Factor 80 Program [for redundant/surplus employees only] for the Legislative

Assembly as follows:

- The Factor 80 Program for surplus employees to be extended to March 31, 2002.
- The Pension Bridging Option for Factor 80, 90, 60/20 or age 65 for surplus employees to be extended to December 31, 2001.

ITEM 9: Guidelines & Funding Requirements for Upgrades/Maintenance of Members' Computer Systems/Report

Moved by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Klees, and agreed, that an amount of \$205,000 be approved in fiscal 1999/2000 and managed by LIS to replace printers in MPP offices.

The request for ongoing funding [to be managed by LIS] to allow necessary upgrades to members' computers, was not approved, and a decision on this matter was deferred.

ITEM 10: Constituency Office / Systems Upgrade – 2nd Computer and Network

This item was tabled for discussion and agreed that the matter would be discussed with the Caucus managers. If the need for a 2nd computer in the Constituency Office still exists, the item will be brought back to a future meeting of the Board.

ITEM 11: Update to the 1999/2000 Proposed Estimates

ASSEMBLY OFFICES

Office of the Speaker – Vote 0201-01

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for the Office of the Speaker be approved in the amount of \$494,500.

Office of the Clerk Vote 0201-02

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for the Office of the Clerk be approved in the amount of \$572,800.

Legislative Services Vote 0201-03

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for Legislative Services be approved in the amount of \$10,122,000.

Legislative Library and Information Systems Vote 0201-04

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for the Legislative Library and Information Systems be approved in the amount of \$7,750,500.

Administrative Services Vote 0201-05

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for Administrative Services be approved in the amount of \$3,451,800.

Sergeant-at-Arms and Building Management Vote 0201-06

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for the Sergeant-at-Arms and Building Management and Conservation be approved in the amount of \$15,636,600.

Restructuring Costs Vote 0201-11

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for *Restructuring Costs* be approved in the amount of \$425,000.

MEMBERS' SERVICES

Caucus Support Services Vote 0201-07

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for Caucus Support Services be approved in the amount of \$10,142,800.

Members' Compensation and Travel Vote 0201-08

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for Members' Compensation and Travel be approved in the amount of \$15,028,700.

Members' Office Support Services Vote 0201-09

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for Members' Office Support Services be approved in the amount of \$30,818,000.

Ontario Legislature Internship Programme Vote 0201-10

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme be approved in the amount of \$166,000.

COMMISSIONS

Environmental Commissioner – Vote 0202-01

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for the Environmental Commissioner be approved in the amount of \$1,859,900.

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner – Vote 0202-02

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 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 0202-03

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for the Office of the Integrity Commissioner be approved in the amount of \$641,500.

AGENCIES

Ombudsman Ontario – Vote 3101-01

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for the Ombudsman Ontario be approved in the amount of \$7,782,800.

Chief Election Officer – Vote 0501-01

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for the Chief Election Officer be approved in the amount of \$907,300.

Election Finances Act – Vote 0501-02

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for the Elections Finances Act be approved in the amount of \$7,079,800.

Provincial Auditor – Vote 3301-01

Moved by Mr. Galt, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that the 1999/2000 Estimates for the Provincial Auditor be approved in the amount of \$7,888,100.

ITEM 12: Office of the Assembly/Capital Plan: 2000 to 2007 Estimates

This item was tabled for discussion.

Moved by Mr. Sterling, seconded by Mr. Christopherson, and agreed, that a sub-committee would be formed, composed of one member from each Caucus, to review the Capital Plan and Restoration Program for the Legislative Building.

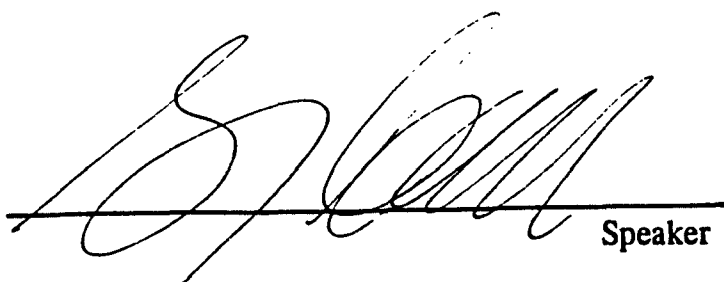
INFORMATION ONLY

Members' Staff / Sick Leave Replacement

The Board received the *1998/99 Annual Report for Sick Leave Replacement*

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 5:30p.m.



Speaker