



**MINUTES OF MEETING #7/2024
OF THE BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY
HELD IN ROOM 180, THE SPEAKER'S BOARDROOM
AT 3:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, MAY 27, 2024**

Present

Honourable Ted Arnott, MPP, Chair
Honourable Paul Calandra, MPP
John Vanthof, MPP

Secretariat

Trevor Day, Clerk of the House and BOIE Secretary
Mary Edwards, Assistant Secretary and Recording Secretary

Legislative Assembly Staff

Valerie Quioc Lim, Deputy Clerk and Executive Director, Legislative Services
Roberto Eberhardt, Chief Information and Technology Officer and Executive Director,
Information Technology Services Division
Tim McGough, Sergeant-at-Arms and Executive Director, Legislative Protective Service

Guests

Rachel Nauta, Executive Assistant to the Speaker
Grace Bento, Executive Assistant to the Clerk
Kevin Jagdat, Director, Financial Services
William Wong, Senior Parliamentary Counsel, Office of the Clerk
Inge Juneau, PC Caucus
Owen Macri, Chief of Staff, Ministry of Legislative Affairs
Patricia Kosseim, Information and Privacy Commissioner
Marc Foulon, Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner

DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

ITEM # 1: Approval of Minutes of Meeting #6/2024

Moved by Mr. Calandra, seconded by Mr. Vanthof, that the Minutes of Meeting #6/2024 be approved as circulated. **CARRIED.**

ITEM # 2: Standing Committee On Public Accounts – Annual Conference Of The Canadian Council Of Public Accounts Committee

Moved by Mr. Calandra, seconded by Mr. Vanthof, that, if approved by the House, the cost of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to attend the 2024 Annual Conference of the Canadian Council of Public Accounts Committees in Quebec City, Quebec be charged to the existing Global Committees Allowance in accordance with the budget estimate presented by the Committee of \$41,988.84. **CARRIED.**

ITEM # 3: Night Sitting fees – Accommodation Rate in Toronto

This item was tabled for discussion and deferred.

ITEM # 4: Revised Estimates: Office Of The Assembly

Moved by Mr. Calandra, seconded by Mr. Vanthof, that additional funding of \$7,109,100 be approved for the 2024-2025 fiscal year to cover Bill 124 salary adjustments and that the Office of the Assembly return to four (4) days a week onsite by July 1st and five (5) days a week by a date to be determined by the Board. **CARRIED.**

ITEM # 5: Revised Estimates: Commissioners

a) Integrity Commissioner (Vote # 0202-03)

Moved by Mr. Vanthof, seconded by Mr. Calandra, that additional funding of \$612,650 be approved for the 2024-2025 fiscal year to cover Bill 124 salary adjustments. **CARRIED.**

b) Financial Accountability Officer (Vote #0202-06)

Moved by Mr. Vanthof, seconded by Mr. Calandra, that the revised estimate of \$4,646,400 be approved for the 2024-2025 fiscal year which includes funds to cover Bill 124 salary adjustments. **CARRIED.**

c) Information and Privacy Commissioner (Vote #0202-02)

Business Case A: Labour Relations

Moved by Mr. Calandra, seconded by Mr. Vanthof, that four (4) new classified complements (Communications Advisor, Senior Labour Relations Advisor, HR Coordinator and Labour Relations Legal Counsel) be approved for the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner. Funding to cover salaries and benefits has been included in the 2024/2025 Estimates. **CARRIED.**

Business Case B: Modernize the IPC's Technical Infrastructure to Provide Ontarians with Access to Digital Services

Moved by Mr. Vanthof, seconded by Mr. Calandra, that two (2) new classified complements (Senior I&IT Architect and Software Developer) be approved for the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner. Funding to cover salaries and benefits has been included in the 2024/2025 Estimates. **CARRIED.**

Business Case C: Protecting Ontarian's Privacy in the Age of AI

Moved by Mr. Calandra, seconded by Mr. Vanthof, that four (4) new classified complements (Senior Technology Advisors) be approved for the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner. Funding to cover salaries and benefits has been included in the 2024/2025 Estimates. **CARRIED.**

Moved by Mr. Calandra, seconded by Mr. Vanthof, that the revised estimate of \$31,213,600 be approved for the 2024-2025 fiscal year which includes funds to cover Bill 124 salary adjustments. **CARRIED.**

The Information and Privacy Commissioner was asked to advise by September 2024, how much additional office space would need to be acquired if their workforce was to return to five (5) days onsite.

d) **Elections Ontario**

Moved by Mr. Vanthof, seconded by Mr. Calandra, that additional funding of \$3,039,000 be approved for the 2024-2025 fiscal year to cover severance payouts, medical leaves, and Bill 124 salary adjustments. **CARRIED.**

ITEM #6 LPS Policies, Training And Bill 75

Moved by Mr. Calandra, seconded by Mr. Vanthof, that the Board has reviewed the Policies (General Orders) and Training Standards of the Legislative Protective Service as presented on May 27th, 2024, in comparison with Ontario Policing Standards and is satisfied that where applicable they are aligned with, meet, or exceed those standards; and the Board is satisfied that the Legislative Protective Service is prepared to continue effective and responsible operations, with appropriate civilian oversight, under its revised mandate when Sections 3, 4, and 5 of Schedule 2 of the Queen's Park Restoration Act, 2023 are proclaimed in force by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. **CARRIED.**

ITEM # 7 Group Insurance Benefits Provided To Members And Former Members Of Provincial Parliament

a) Active Members – Long Term Disability/Vision and Hearing

Moved by Mr. Vanthof, seconded by Mr. Calandra, that effective July 1, 2024, Vision and Hearing would be a **mandatory** benefit and it along with the costs for Long Term Disability would be paid by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. The cost would be \$3,751.42 per month and ongoing funding would be required. The funding requested for the 2024/25 fiscal year would be \$33,762.78 (pro-rated 9 months). **CARRIED.**

b) Active Members – Life Insurance

This was tabled for discussion and will be handled through a pre-approval.

c) Former Members (includes Surviving Spouses) Options to Change Eligibility For Former Member Group Insurance Benefits including Life Insurance

Moved by Mr. Calandra, seconded by Mr. Vanthof, that at the time of leaving office, the eligibility for Former Member Benefits (SH&H, Dental and Vision and Hearing) including \$50,000 life insurance upon death would be 5 years of service, age would not be a factor. The costs would be paid by the Legislative Assembly of Ontario effective date of July 1, 2024. **CARRIED.**

d) Health Spending Account (HSA)

Moved by Mr. Calandra, seconded by Mr. Vanthof, that in addition to the current offering of benefits, that effective July 1, 2024 a health spending account be added to the Member (policy 157856) and Former Member (policy 139467). Additional funding of \$342,400 would be required to cover this entitlement for Members (policy 157856) and those under the Former Member Plan (policy 139467). **CARRIED.**

ITEM # 8: Alcohol at Members' Events

This item was tabled for discussion and not considered.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Parliamentary Food Services Year 1 Financial Report** – The Board would like a more detailed breakdown of costs.
- **Catering to lobbies** to be charged to the Speaker's budget, effective April 1, 2024.

- **Former MPPs** to be issued a security pass, with picture, to allow them direct access when visiting the Legislature.
- **Review the Legislative Protective Officer salary structure** in relation to the LPS operations

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- Parliamentary Food Services Year 1 – Financial Report
- Ontario Ombudsman Labour Negotiations – distributed May 9, 2024

Pre-approvals

- **Transfer of Funds (approved May 10, 2024):** Agreed that, under the provisions of Section 91 of the *Legislative Assembly Act*, the Director, Financial Services is authorized to transfer monies from one item of the Estimates of the Office of the Assembly to another item, within the same vote, to facilitate the payment of the accounts each fiscal year. It is understood that itemized accounts of transfers within votes would continue to be provided to the Board. In this case transfers address \$270,000 in unanticipated legal fees in defence of parliamentary privilege and a sum for unanticipated severance and benefits. **CARRIED.**
- **Night Sitzings (approved May 8, 2024):** Agreed, that the Board of Internal Economy approves Members who are ineligible for accommodations pursuant to s. 67(10) of the *Legislative Assembly Act*, to be reimbursed for their actual cost of accommodation during days that the Assembly is authorized to sit until midnight ("Night Sitting Period"), subject to the following conditions:
 - 1) The total cost of the accommodation during the Night Sitting Period for which a Member seeks reimbursement does not exceed the cost of nightly hotel accommodations in Toronto (as determined by the Board) for the number of night sitting days during the Night Sitting Period.
 - 2) The Member seeking reimbursement attests that:
 - a. the accommodation is necessary during the Night Sitting Period for the Member to attend to business as a Member of the Assembly, despite the fact that their principal residence, as well as part of their riding, is within 50 kilometers from the seat of Government;
 - b. the costs of the accommodation are reasonable; and
 - c. the accommodation will not be used for any purpose other than to enable the Member to attend night sittings. **CARRIED.**

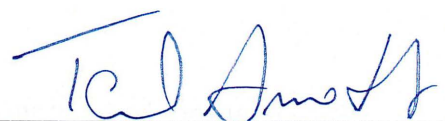
IN-CAMERA

ITEM # 9:

The Board met In-camera to discuss an Office of the Assembly matter from 4:45 p.m. to 5:20 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.



Speaker