

**COMMITTEE RECORD OF PROCEEDING**

**MEETING 07-19-19 OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON PRIORITIES AND PLANNING**

**FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22, 2019 AT 9:00 A.M.**

**COMMITTEE ROOM A, LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

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Chair Norn called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Committee Members in attendance: Bonnetrouge, Cleveland, Green, Jacobson, Johnson, Lafferty, Martselos, O'Reilly, Semmler, Simpson.

1. Prayer delivered by MLA Bonnetrouge.
2. MLA Martselos moved the adoption of the Agenda as presented. Carried.
3. There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.
4. MLA Lafferty moved that Committee move in-Camera for the following items. Carried. Committee moved in camera at 9:07 a.m.
  - a. Internal Briefings – Department of Lands
  - b. External Briefing – Office of the Ombud
  - c. Internal Briefings – Committee Policies and Membership

MLA Jacobson moved that Committee move out of camera. Carried. Committee moved out of camera at 3:46 p.m.

Mr. Bonnetrouge moved that the Standing Committee on Priorities and Planning recommend to the Assembly, that the following Members be appointed to the following Standing Committees. Carried.

Standing Committee on Economic Development and Environment

Members:

Mr. Bonnetrouge  
Mr. Jacobson  
Mr. Johnson  
Mrs. Martselos  
Mr. O'Reilly

Alternates:

Ms. Cleveland  
Mr. Norn  
Mrs. Semmler

Standing Committee on Government Operations

Members:

Ms. Cleveland  
Ms. Green  
Mr. Johnson  
Mrs. Martselos  
Mrs. Semmler

Alternates:

Mr. Bonnetrouge  
Mr. Jacobson  
Mr. O'Reilly

Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures

Members:

Mr. Jacobson  
Mr. Norn  
Mr. O'Reilly  
Mr. Simpson

Alternates:

Mrs. Green  
Mr. Johnson

Standing Committee on Social Development

Members:

Mr. Bonnetrouge  
Ms. Cleveland  
Ms. Green  
Mrs. Semmler  
Mr. Simpson

Alternates:

Mr. Jacobson  
Mr. Johnson  
Ms. Martselos

MLA Bonnetrouge moved that the Standing Committee recommend to the Assembly, the appointment of Mrs. Semmler as Deputy Speaker, and Ms. Green and Mr. Rocky Simpson as Deputy Chairs of Committee of the Whole.

MLA Bonnetrouge moved that the Standing Committee on Priorities and Planning adopt the following Policy on Attendance and Participation by Video and Phone Conference. Carried.

- Attendance will be recorded by the Committee Clerk, at the direction of the Chair.
- Committee Members will be recorded as present if they attend the meeting for some substantive portion of the meeting.
- It is the responsibility of individual Members to advise Committee Chairs and Clerks when they will be absent and the reason for this absence.
  - The Board of Management has approved the following reasons for absences:
    - personal reasons (e.g. unavailable due to personal travel or conflicting personal commitments);
    - duty as a Member, Minister, Premier or Speaker (e.g. attending a funeral of an elder, attending a conference or meeting in this capacity);
    - illness, injury or bereavement; and
    - factors outside of the Member's control (e.g. weather or mechanical delay of a flight).
  - Members are not required to provide personal information to Chairs or staff.
- Members who are unable to attend a meeting in person are encouraged to participate by video or phone conferencing.
  - When possible participation by video conferencing is considered preferable to participation by phone conferencing.
  - Video or phone conferencing to participate in a highly public meeting (e.g. a public hearing) is discouraged; however, it may be permitted in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the Chair.
- Members who wish to participate in a meeting by video or phone conference, rather than traveling to attend are responsible to advise the Committee Chair and Clerk two days in advance of the meeting, when possible.
  - Members are permitted to attend by phone or video conference at the discretion of the Committee Chair.
  - When possible, video conferencing is considered preferable to phone conferencing.
- Members participating in a Committee meeting by video or phone conference are considered to be in attendance.
  - Members participating by video or phone conference are permitted to speak to and vote on matters equally to those who attend in person.

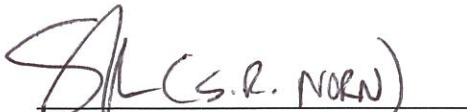
MLA Bonnetrouge moved that the Standing Committee on Priorities and Planning adopt the following Policy on Accessibility and Transparency of Committee Work and Meetings. Carried.

- Meetings of Standing Committees are public until a motion to go *in camera* is moved and carried.
- If members of the public are present when a motion to go *in camera* is carried the Committee Clerk will ask the public to leave. No Committee business shall take place until the public has left the room.
- When moving a motion to go *in camera* the mover may request that some or all staff leave the room.
- The decision to hold all or a portion of a meeting *in camera* rests with the Committee.
  - Committees understand that witnesses, including Ministers, may be limited in terms of what information can be provided in public.

- For the purposes of the [Process Convention on Communications between Cabinet Ministers, Standing Committees and Regular Members](#), confidential matters include:
  - the draft business plan or budget of a department or public agency prior to their introduction in the Legislative Assembly;
  - a proposed policy initiative, legislative proposal or bill prior to its formal introduction in the Legislative Assembly;
  - a personnel matter relating to an employee or statutory officer;
  - concerns with the performance of a specific Minister; and
  - any other matter, where a member of the committee or the Minister identifies the matter as on which is, or would likely be, protected by privacy and data protection laws.
- Items typically considered *in camera* include, but are not limited to:
  - Ministerial or technical briefings relating to confidential matters noted above;
  - House planning;
  - briefings from Committee Advisors;
  - strategic planning;
  - some briefings from outside groups/interests;
  - review of draft Committee materials (e.g., draft reports, draft amendments, etc.);
  - review of confidential correspondence;
    - confidential correspondence from Cabinet should be marked as such according to the [Process Convention on Communications between Cabinet Ministers, Standing Committees and Regular Members](#).
- Items typically considered in public include:
  - public hearings and clause-by-clause reviews on Bills before Committee;
  - public review of OAG or Statutory Officer reports; (may include *in camera* portions)
  - Ministerial or technical briefings not related to confidential matters;
  - some briefings from outside groups/interests;
  - review of correspondence that is not confidential;
- When possible and appropriate, advertising/notice and broadcasting will be arranged for items such as public hearings, clause-by-clause review of bills, and public briefings.
  - When possible these proceedings will be streamed live on social media and YouTube and will remain available on these platforms.
  - These proceedings may also be broadcast live and/or rebroadcast on the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly television network.
- Although not broadcast, *in camera* Committee meetings where a Minister is present as a witness will typically be recorded (audio).
- The following Committee documents and work will be considered public:
  - Committee agendas and records of proceedings - public and will be posted on Committee websites.
  - final reports - public and will be posted on Committee websites;
  - approved motions/amendments - public (moved during public meetings and included in Committee reports);
  - submissions on bills from groups or individuals - public and may be posted on website or included in Committee Reports at the direction of Committee
  - stakeholder engagement letters - public and may be posted on Committee websites;
  - news releases – public, distributed by the Assembly on behalf of Committees and may be posted on Committee websites at the direction of Committee; and
  - Other documents at the direction of Committee
- Committee Members will maintain the confidence of any matter considered during an *in camera* meeting.

5. Committee set its next meeting for Monday November 25, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

MLA Lafferty moved to adjourn the meeting. Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

  
Committee Chair

  
Committee Clerk