



**MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

To All Members of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba

I have the privilege of presenting for your information, the Annual Report of the Legislative Assembly Management Commission for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Myrna Driedger', is positioned below the text 'Respectfully Submitted,'.

Honourable Myrna Driedger  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and  
Chairperson of the Legislative Assembly  
Management Commission

# Composition of the Commission

## Members as at March 31, 2021

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Honourable Myrna Driedger, MLA  
Speaker and Chairperson

Honourable Kelvin Goertzen  
Government House Leader

Ms. Nahanni Fontaine  
Official Opposition House Leader

Mr. Alan Lagimodiere, MLA

Mr. Tom Lindsey, MLA

Ms. Janice-Morley Lecomte, MLA

Mr. Greg Nesbitt, MLA

Ms. Bernadette Smith, MLA

## Secretary to the Commission

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Ms. Patricia Chaychuk  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

# **REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021**

## **COMMISSION PROCESS**

This is the annual report to the Legislative Assembly of the Legislative Assembly Management Commission (the Commission) for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021.

The Commission is comprised of the Speaker as Chairperson, four MLAs appointed by the Government Caucus and three from the Official Opposition Caucus. The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly is the Secretary.

During the 2020/2021 fiscal year the Commission held meetings on the following dates to consider various matters:

June 17, 2020  
December 8, 2020

*The Legislative Assembly Management Commission Act* assigns the following duties and responsibilities to the Commission:

- carrying out those Rules of the Assembly and those provisions of *The Legislative Assembly Act* which relate to the financial management of the Assembly;
- reviewing the estimates of expenditure and the establishment of positions for staff required for the proper conduct of the business operation of the Assembly and for the Assembly offices and for the Auditor General, the Registrar appointed under *The Lobbyists Registration Act*, the Chief Electoral Officer, the Information and Privacy Adjudicator appointed under *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the Advocate for Children and Youth, the Conflict of Interest Commissioner appointed under *The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Conflict of Interest Act*, and the Ombudsman and respective offices;
- in cooperation with the Government, providing facilities and services required by the Members of the Assembly, by the Caucuses of the various parties to the Assembly and by the Leaders of the parties in Opposition;
- formulating administrative policies in respect of the Clerk and the offices required for the administration of the Assembly, *The Legislative Assembly Act* and *The Legislative Assembly Management Commission Act*;

- maintaining a proper system of security for the Chamber and the Assembly Offices, subject to the administrative authority of the department of the executive government of the province charged with the responsibility for such security; and
- advising and giving directions respecting the efficient and effective operations and management of the Assembly.

Meetings are held in camera, however Officers of the Assembly and staff required to be present may attend. Members of the Assembly who are not Commission members may attend Commission meetings if so invited by the Commission.

Decisions about the following matters are not included in the minutes of the Commission and by statute must not be disclosed or made available for inspection:

- (a) a personal matter relating to one or more employees of the Assembly or to one or more assembly offices;
- (b) a legal matter involving existing or anticipated legal proceedings;
- (c) a matter relating to the preparation of annual estimates of expenditure of the Assembly and the assembly offices.

The Speaker must also ensure that the minutes circulated or posted do not contain information that identifies an individual.

As of November 2009, the minutes of Commission meetings, and the Annual Report of the Commission are posted on the Legislative Assembly website.

Initiatives undertaken by the Commission with respect to accessibility issues are to be reported in accordance with s.37 of *The Accessibility for Manitobans Act*.

This report provides an overview of the decisions and recommendations made by the Commission.

**2020/2021**

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**

**DECISIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

## ***2021/2022 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ESTIMATES***

The Commission met on December 8, 2020 to consider and approve the 2021/2022 Estimates for the Legislative Assembly and for the offices of the Independent Officers of the Assembly.

## ***ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES***

The Commission did not directly consider or approve any issues or proposals related to accessibility with regard to MLAs, the Assembly, caucus staff or the general public during the 2020/2021 fiscal year.

As a result of the world wide COVID 19 pandemic, the Legislative Building and the Assembly's Public Galleries were closed to the general public in March 2020. In response to this turn of events, the Assembly provided an adjustment by broadcasting and streaming the entirety of the Sitting Days as opposed to only broadcasting the video of House proceedings until the end of Oral Questions. Similarly, meetings of the Committee of Supply and of Standing Committees were also broadcast and streamed with video for the first time as well. One benefit of providing this level of enhanced broadcasting and streaming is that captioning is provided for all of the proceedings for the entire sitting day instead of only until the end of Oral Questions.

## ***ANNUAL REPORT ON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY CAPITAL PROPERTY INSURANCE PROGRAM***

The Commission was advised that for the period from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020, no claims were made under the Assembly's Capital Property Insurance Program.

## ***ANNUAL REPORT ON RESPECTFUL WORKPLACE COMPLAINTS***

The Commission was advised that during the April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020 period, no Respectful Workplace complaints were filed in the Legislative Assembly.

## ***INDEPENDENT OFFICE FRENCH LANGUAGE PLAN***

The Commission was provided with an update on the progress with development and implementation of the French Language Plan for the Independent Offices of the Assembly, fulfilling the requirements for a biennial update.

## ***MLA AND CONSTITUENCY ASSISTANT MOBILE PHONE SERVICE PROVIDER***

The Members' Allowances Regulation provides for:

### **Equipment and service plans for mobile communication devices**

12 (1.2) An expense claimed under clause (1)(d)

or (d.1) in respect of a cell phone or smart phone is not an authorized expense unless

It is incurred

(a) under the mobile communication services plan (commonly referred to as the Government plan) approved by the Legislative Assembly Management Commission for use by members.

Previously, MLAs had the option of having mobile phone service with either Rogers or MTS Mobility, as the Government had service plans with both communication companies. MLAs could piggyback onto either plan to receive the same preferential corporate rates as offered to the Provincial Government.

In 2020 the Provincial Government entered into an exclusive service contract with Bell Mobility that offered a number of areas of cost savings for the user.

In order for MLAs and Constituency Assistants (CA) to take advantage of the preferential cost savings offered by Bell Mobility, LAMC was asked to and did provide the authorization to migrate MLA and CA phones to the Bell Mobility Plan in order to receive the same negotiated rates, services and cost savings as the new plan offered to the Provincial Government. LAMC approval was required in accordance with the provisions of the Members' Allowances Regulations.

## ***REPORT ON LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR MEMBERS***

A report on liability insurance and the type of coverage available for Members was provided to the Commission. It was agreed that the information be provided to all MLAs to ensure awareness of the options and type of coverage available.