



**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, 2009.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Whitham".

Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and
Chairperson of the Legislative Assembly
Management Commission

Composition of the Commission

Members as at March 31, 2009

Honourable George Hickes, MLA
Speaker and Chairperson

Honourable Dave Chomiak, MLA
Government House Leader

Mr. Gerald Hawranik, MLA
Official Opposition House Leader

Ms. Erna Braun, MLA

Mr. Peter George Dyck, MLA

Mr. Kelvin Goertzen, MLA

Ms. Jennifer Howard, MLA

Ms. Bonnie Korzeniowski, MLA

Secretary to the Commission

Ms. Patricia Chaychuk
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2009

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, 2009.

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 2008/2009 fiscal year the Commission held meetings on the following dates to consider various matters:

May 5, 2008
September 29, 2008
February 5, 2009
March 23, 2009

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 Chief Electoral Officer, the Children's Advocate and the Ombudsman and their 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.

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

2008/2009

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

DECISIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

2009/2010 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ESTIMATES

The Commission met on February 5 and March 23, 2009, to consider and approve the 2009/2010 estimates for the Legislative Assembly and for offices of the Independent Officers.

CAUCUS OFFICE STAFF RECLASSIFICATIONS

The Commission was advised of an imbalance in classifications for a number of staff positions working for the Caucus Offices. The classifications of these positions had not been reviewed for a number of years, and in the intervening period, technological changes and communication innovations have had an impact both on the duties performed and on the skill sets required in order to perform these duties. In addition, a number of the positions have also undergone changes with the inclusion of various administrative responsibilities and research duties. To ensure the classifications of the positions allocated in the Caucus Offices are reflective of the duties currently performed and are commensurate with the level of responsibilities exercised, classification reviews were conducted. Based on this review, where appropriate and warranted, classification levels were adjusted to better fit and reflect the duties performed.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION

It was brought to the attention of the Commission that several Members were experiencing aural difficulties thereby making it more challenging for these Members to perform MLA duties such as participating in debate and communicating with constituents. In order to provide reasonable accommodation to ensure that MLAs are able to perform legislative and constituency duties, the Commission agreed it would consider work related accommodation as necessary for MLAs and delegated to staff decisions regarding hearing aids for Members to the value of \$8,000.00.