



Yukon Legislative Assembly Office

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MEMORANDUM

Date: February 23, 2023

To: Hon. Jeremy Harper, Speaker, and House Leaders (Hon. John Streicker, Scott Kent, Emily Tredger)

From: Dan Cable, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

Re: Information regarding the 2023 Spring Sitting of the First Session of the 35th Legislative Assembly

Note: The information in this memorandum is neither privileged nor confidential. Feel free to distribute it at your discretion.

You may find the following information useful in regard to the 2023 Spring Sitting.

Government Bills

Pursuant to Standing Order 74 all government bills to be dealt with during the 2023 Spring Sitting will have to be introduced and given first reading by the fifth sitting day - Thursday, March 9, 2023. The introduction of a government bill after that date will require the unanimous consent of the House. At each subsequent stage, the bill would require unanimous consent to proceed, if the government wishes to proceed with the bill during the 2023 Spring Sitting.

Length of the Sitting

Pursuant to Standing Order 75, once all government bills have been introduced the House Leaders shall meet for the purpose of achieving agreement upon the number of sitting days for the 2023 Spring Sitting. The Government House Leader will report to the House by the seventh sitting day - Tuesday March 14, 2023 - on the deliberations of the House Leaders regarding the length of the 2023 Spring Sitting. For your information:

- A 20-day Sitting, the shortest permitted under Standing Order 75(2), would see the House rise on Wednesday, April 5, 2023.
- A 30-day Sitting, either agreed upon by the House Leaders or pursuant to Standing Order 75(3) (where there is no agreement between the Government House Leader and at least one other House Leader), would see the House rise on Tuesday, April 25, 2023.
- A 40-day Sitting, the longest permitted under Standing Order 75(2) would see the House rise on Thursday, May 11, 2023.

Note: The Legislative Assembly will not sit on Easter Monday, April 10, 2023. Also, the House may, by adopting a motion, decide to not sit on a day when it would otherwise normally meet. Adopting such a motion would alter the date on which the 20th, 30th or 40th sitting day would fall.

Private Members' Business

Standing Order 14(1) says, "After the Daily Routine, on the first Wednesday of a Session that private members' business is to be considered, and every second Wednesday thereafter, the order of business shall be as follows:

Opposition private members' business:

- (a) Motions for the Production of Papers
- (b) Motions other than Government Motions
- (c) Bills other than Government Bills

Motions Respecting Committee Reports

Government Designated Business

Government private members' business:

- (a) Motions for the Production of Papers
- (b) Motions other than Government Motions
- (c) Bills other than Government Bills"

Pursuant to Standing Order 14(2), "After the Daily Routine, on the second Wednesday of a Session that private members' business is to be considered, and every second Wednesday thereafter, the order of business shall be as follows:

Government private members' business:

- (a) Motions for the Production of Papers
- (b) Motions other than Government Motions
- (c) Bills other than Government Bills

Government Designated Business

Motions Respecting Committee Reports

Opposition private members' business:

- (a) Motions for the Production of Papers
- (b) Motions other than Government Motions
- (c) Bills other than Government Bills"

There are currently no Government private members in the Legislative Assembly. If there are no Government private members then the Orders of the Day, pursuant to Standing Order 14(2), revert to the next item, which is Government Designated Business.

Therefore, during the 2023 Spring Sitting which commences on Thursday, March 2, 2023, the schedule of private members' business for the Sitting will be:

- March 8 Government Business
- March 15 Opposition Private Members
- March 22 Government Business
- March 29 Opposition Private Members
- April 5 Government Business
- April 12 Opposition Private Members
(Should the Sitting last 23 or more days)
- April 19 Government Business (Should the Sitting last 27 or more days)

- April 26 Opposition Private Members (Should the Sitting last 31 or more days)
May 3 Government Business (Should the Sitting last 35 or more days)
May 10 Opposition Private Members (Should the Sitting last 39 or more days)

Given that the House will not sit on Easter Monday (April 10, 2023), any motion to be debated on Wednesday, April 12, 2023 will have to be on the Notice Paper on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, which means that notice of the motion will have to be given to the House, either orally (during the Daily Routine) or in writing (to the Clerk's Table before 5:00 p.m.), by **Thursday, April 6, 2023**.

Opposition Private Members' Business

Standing Order 14.2(2) says, "At the beginning of each Session a roster shall be established for the purpose of determining the order of business on Wednesdays when Opposition private members' business has precedence. The roster shall be set in the following manner:

- (a) the Official Opposition shall have the first, second and fifth positions on the roster;
- (b) a party or group in opposition to the government, other than the Official Opposition, shall have the third, fourth and sixth positions on the roster..."

The last opposition private member's motion debated during the 2022 Fall Sitting was Motion No. 498 (standing in the name of Stacey Hassard, Member for Pelly-Nisutlin), on which the motion carried. Motion No. 498 was at Position 2 in the roster. As the motion carried, the roster now returns to position 3. Therefore, the roster for Opposition Private Members' Business for the 2023 Spring Sitting will be:

- Position 3: Third Party (NDP)
- Position 4: Third Party (NDP)
- Position 5: Official Opposition (Yukon Party)
- Position 6: Third Party (NDP)
- Position 1: Official Opposition (Yukon Party)
- Position 2: Official Opposition (Yukon Party)

Do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information about these, or other, matters.

COVID-19 Procedures

For the 2023 Spring Sitting, members may choose to opt out of the water service provided by pages and continue to bring their own bottles into the Chamber (for water only).

Dan Cable, Clerk
Yukon Legislative Assembly