

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Members of House of Commons: Qualifications

I—POSITION

1. The qualifications of a candidate for election to the House of Commons are set out in the *Canada Elections Act*.
2. The *Canada Elections Act*, the *House of Commons Act* and the *Senate and House of Commons Act* set out the factors which make a person ineligible for election and those which disqualify a member from continuing to sit and vote in the House of Commons or the Senate.
3. The election of any person who is ineligible or disqualified is null and void.
4. Financial penalties are stipulated to be exactable from any person who is ineligible or disqualified who sits or votes in the House or in the Senate.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Members of House of Commons: Qualifications

II—BACKGROUND

1. The *Canada Elections Act* stipulates that a candidate for election to the House of Commons must be a Canadian citizen or other British subject, a qualified elector under the Act and of the full age of 21 years.
2. A candidate need not reside in the constituency where he is seeking election.
3. British subjects with one year's residence in Canada preceding polling day are eligible as candidates.
4. There is no record that the financial penalties to which those who sit and vote in Parliament while they are ineligible or disqualified, have ever been exacted. An action taken to impose the penalty on a senator in 1935 was dismissed on a point of law.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Members of House of Commons: Term of Office

I—POSITION

1. The term of office of a member of Parliament is considered to begin when his writ of election has been returned and gazetted*.
2. He is then in office although he may not until later take the oath of allegiance* which is prescribed before he can properly take his seat in the House and vote.
3. A member remains in office until Parliament is dissolved or until his seat is vacated.
4. Remuneration is paid to members for the period from the date of election to the date of the next general election, if the seat is not vacated earlier.
5. Seniority amongst members of Parliament dates from first election for an uninterrupted period.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Members of House of Commons: Term of Office

II—BACKGROUND

1. Once the writ of election has been gazetted* a member is considered to be in office even if his election is contested.
2. The parliamentary oath* which is prescribed by section 128 of the *B.N.A. Act* affects only the entitlement to occupy his seat and to vote, not the member's general qualification as such. An affirmation of allegiance can be substituted.
3. When Parliament is dissolved the term of office of all members is terminated and they are no longer entitled to the designation "M.P.".

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Members of House of Commons: Term of Office

III—PROCEDURE

1. After a general election, elected members of Parliament take their oath of allegiance* individually in the office of the Clerk of the House or with others in the House of Commons Chamber shortly before the opening of Parliament. After a by-election the oath is taken in the Clerk's office. The Clerk of the House, the First Clerk Assistant and the Sergeant-at-Arms are empowered to administer the oath or the affirmation.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Members of House of Commons:
Term of Office

APPENDICES

Notice in *The Canada Gazette* regarding election of member of Parliament

Oath of allegiance taken by member of Parliament

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Vacation of Seats in House of Commons

I—POSITION

1. A vacancy is created in the House of Commons by the death of a member, by the acceptance of an office of profit under the Crown, by resignation, by expulsion and by nullification of an election.
2. The vacancy created by death is acknowledged when the fact of death is brought to the notice* of the Speaker or the Chief Electoral Officer as prescribed by the *House of Commons Act*.
3. The same procedure applies for recognition of a vacancy caused by the acceptance of an office of profit under the Crown. The member accepting such an office may however resign his seat in the House before formally accepting the office.
4. The Government has no statutory responsibility to bring about recognition of a vacancy created by death or by the acceptance of office, although particularly in the latter case, the Government usually takes the initiative*.
5. A member may resign by announcing* his intention from the floor of the House, by sending a written notice* to the Speaker, or in certain circumstances by a written notice to two members.
6. The procedure for expelling a member is covered in the chapter on "Expulsion of Members from House of Commons" in this section.
7. The court which hears a petition regarding the election of a member of the House of Commons can confirm or alter the original election return or determine that a new election be held. This is examined in the chapter on "Election Offences" in the section on *Elections*.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Vacation of Seats in House of Commons

II—BACKGROUND

1. There is no time limit within which the death of a member must be acknowledged by the House. This, however, is normally done at an early sitting and on the initiative of the Government although neither statute nor convention require the Government to take action. Recently on some occasions a member of another party, to which the deceased member belonged, has drawn the attention of the House to his demise.
2. When a member is appointed to an office of emolument under the Crown, it is usual for him to resign his seat before the appointment becomes effective. If he does not do so a Government spokesman would normally inform the House of the creation of the vacancy at an early sitting after the appointment.
3. The usual practice in resignation is for a member to address a letter* of such intention signed by two witnesses to the Speaker, or to resign by giving notice* from his seat in the House.
4. There is some uncertainty however about the technique which a member could use to resign during an adjournment should the Speaker be absent from Canada. It is likely that in that situation a declaration of intention to resign addressed to two members who would then address a warrant to the Chief Electoral Officer in accordance with the *House of Commons Act* would be acceptable.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Vacation of Seats in House of Commons

APPENDICES

Written notice given to Speaker regarding death of member of Parliament

Statement of resignation made in House by member of Parliament

Written notice of resignation from resigning member of Parliament to Speaker

Written notice from two Government members of Parliament to Speaker regarding vacancy created by acceptance of office of emolument

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Expulsion of Members from House of Commons

I—POSITION

1. Expulsion is a disciplinary sanction which the House of Commons may impose on its members. Expulsion terminates the member's mandate and is followed by the issue of a new writ of election.
2. Expulsion is also used to describe the action of the House of Commons in declaring a seat vacant when, by reason of conviction of certain crimes, a member has, according to the terms of section 654* of the *Criminal Code*, ceased to be qualified to sit in the House.
3. Expulsion in either form, is considered when a member is found guilty by a proper tribunal, or by a committee of the House, of such offences as rebellion, forgery, perjury, corruption and contempts, libels, and other offences committed against the House itself.
4. The initiative in cases of expulsion rests in the House of Commons where the question may be raised by the Speaker, the Prime Minister, the Minister of Justice, the Leader of the House, or any member.
5. Section 654 of the *Criminal Code* provides that anyone convicted of treason or any indictable offence for which he is sentenced to death or imprisonment for a term exceeding five years is incapable of being elected or sitting or voting as a member of either House of Parliament.
6. If a member has been convicted of a crime outside the scope of section 654, expulsion is not automatic but results from the adoption of a motion, based on evidence of the conviction.
7. A member found guilty of an offence against the House is expelled by a motion based on the report of the committee which investigated the charge.
8. In all cases where expulsion takes place there is a subsequent resolution* calling for the issue of a new writ of election to fill the vacancy.
9. The Prime Minister has no legal authority by statute or by convention to discipline individual members of Parliament. Nevertheless in his position as leader of the party controlling a majority in the House he is expected to take the lead in disciplinary cases.
10. Except as provided by section 654 of the *Criminal Code* expulsion does not disqualify a member from standing for re-election. The disqualification imposed by the *Criminal Code* ceases when the sentence has been served, or a pardon has been granted.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Expulsion of Members from House of Commons

II—BACKGROUND

1. Expulsion is imposed by a motion* of the House. In cases under section 654* of the *Criminal Code* the seat becomes vacant when the House approves a motion accepting the evidence of conviction.
2. In all cases a resolution* is passed calling for the issue of a new writ of election to fill the vacancy.
3. The incapacity imposed by the *Criminal Code* dates from 1892 and finds its origin in a United Kingdom statute of 1870.
4. In the Rose case the Speaker laid before the House documents to establish conviction within the terms of the *Criminal Code*. The Prime Minister then moved, seconded by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, that Rose having become incapable of sitting or voting in the House, the Speaker issue his warrant for a new writ of election. The motion* was passed without debate.
5. On the occasion of Riel's second expulsion the Prime Minister tabled the record of Riel's conviction and moved that he had been "adjudged an outlaw for felony".¹ This was carried and was followed by a motion for the issue of a new writ of election. There was considerable debate because the opposition wished to force the House to pass judgement on Riel and expel him, whereas the Government wished the House simply to declare the seat vacant as a result of the judgement of the court. The Government's position carried.
6. In the case of Thomas McGreevy in 1891 there was no conviction before a criminal court but a motion by a private member to establish a select committee to enquire into allegations against McGreevy. The committee made seven reports in all and the Leader of the House took the lead in pressing the matter, the Prime Minister of the day being in the Senate. After acceptance of the report the Leader of the House moved McGreevy's expulsion on the basis of the committee's finding that he was guilty of the charges against him. The motion* was passed and followed by a motion for a new writ of election.
7. The first Riel expulsion was by a motion* accusing him of having failed to obey an order to appear in the House. The House had previously approved a motion requiring his attendance. The motion for a new writ of election was also passed.
8. In Riel's first expulsion the Prime Minister did not move or second the motions, but in the three subsequent cases the Prime Minister or his representative took the lead in bringing about the disciplinary action.

¹ *Can. H. of C. Debates*, February 24, 1875, p. 308.

9. Following Riel's first expulsion he contested the seat in the by-election and was re-elected. He was then expelled the second time following his conviction as an outlaw. McGreevy was subsequently re-elected and again took his seat in the House. Rose was disqualified until he had served his sentence and did not run again.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Expulsion of Members from House of Commons

III—PROCEDURE

1. If expulsion results from conviction under the *Criminal Code* the Speaker should lay before the House a true copy of the verdict and sentence. In the Rose case a copy of the certificate of the clerk of the court attesting to the said verdict and sentence was also tabled. The Prime Minister then moves a resolution* acknowledging the conviction and calling for a new writ of election to fill the vacancy. This is seconded by a senior minister.
2. In the case of a criminal conviction not covered by section 654* the documentary evidence of conviction would be tabled by the Prime Minister on moving a resolution for expulsion. When this resolution is passed the Prime Minister then moves that a new writ of election be issued.
3. When the cause of expulsion is an offence against the House, not a criminal conviction, there is an initial motion referring the allegations to a committee of the House. If the report of the committee supports the charges, the Prime Minister moves* expulsion on the basis of the report. The motion for issue of a new writ of election follows.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Expulsion of Members from House of Commons

APPENDICES

Motion for expulsion for failure to obey House order (1st Riel expulsion)

Motion for new writ of election to replace member unable to sit or vote because of criminal conviction (Rose expulsion)

Motion for expulsion on basis of House committee report (McGreevy expulsion)

Section 654 of *Criminal Code*

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Members of House of Commons: Indemnity

I—POSITION

1. A sessional allowance, authorized by statute, is paid to each member at the rate of \$12,000 per annum. It is calculated from polling day to polling day and is payable monthly once a member has been sworn in. The sessional allowance is taxable.
2. A non-taxable expense allowance is also paid to each member at the rate of \$6,000 per year, in quarterly payments.
3. Each of these allowances is subject to a deduction of \$60 for each unjustified day's absence per session in excess of 21.
4. Members are reimbursed for their return travel expenses to Ottawa once for each session and, in addition, during the session may claim travel expenses for one return trip a week to their constituencies. The cost of the commercial economy air fare is however the maximum which can be reimbursed in each of these cases.
5. Members of Parliament are entitled under the *Railway Act* to passes for free transportation. This privilege extends to dependents on application for each journey.
6. Certain long distance telephone facilities from Ottawa are available to members. Telegraph charges must be paid by the member.
7. Members of Parliament are granted a franking privilege for their mail.
8. There is a compulsory contributory pension plan applying to members. It makes provision for widows. The maximum pension for a member is \$9,000 per annum and for a widow \$5,400 per annum.
9. There is a compulsory \$2,000 death benefit plan for members.
10. Members may receive remuneration from other sources which do not contravene the provisions of the *Senate and House of Commons Act** which prohibits a member from being employed by the Government or doing business with the Government.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Members of House of Commons: Indemnity

II—BACKGROUND

1. The sessional allowance of a member is calculated from polling day for his election to the day of the next general election regardless of the length of sessions, or the dissolution of Parliament. The first payment retroactive to polling day for his election is made when a member has taken the parliamentary oath. If a member is re-elected the allowance continues to be paid without interruption.
2. The expense allowance is paid for the same period as the sessional allowance.
3. Each of these allowances is reduced by \$60 for each day of absence in excess of 21 in any session unless the absence was for illness or official business. The rules of the House determine what constitutes attendance.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Members of House of Commons: Indemnity

APPENDICES

Section 16 of the *Senate and House of Commons Act* regarding prohibition against members of Parliament being employed by or doing business with Government

Table showing remuneration of persons holding parliamentary office in House of Commons

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Speaker of House of Commons

I—POSITION

1. The Speaker is elected* by the House of Commons at the preliminary meeting which is the prelude to the opening of the first session of a new Parliament. If the speakership becomes vacant during a Parliament a new Speaker is elected forthwith for the remaining term of that Parliament.
2. The Speaker has always belonged to the party forming the Government* at the time he is nominated. The Prime Minister makes the nomination and the seconder is customarily a minister. It is usual for the Prime Minister to get Cabinet approval for his selection.
3. By tradition the Speaker is alternately French-speaking then English-speaking for succeeding Parliaments, but there have been instances when this pattern has been modified because of special circumstances.
4. A Speaker normally holds office throughout a Parliament and is not usually re-elected for a second Parliament.
5. On leaving the chair a Speaker may be authorized to retain the title "Honourable"* for life.
6. On completion of his term of office the Speaker has frequently been appointed to the Senate and either alternatively or additionally to the Privy Council.
7. The Speaker's term ends on the dissolution of Parliament, except that under the *House of Commons Act* he remains responsible for the internal economy of the House until a new Speaker is elected.
8. The Chairman of committees of the whole House who is also Deputy Speaker and the Deputy Chairman of committees of the whole House are elected* by the House of Commons when the House resumes its sitting after the Speech from the Throne opening the first session of a new Parliament has been read in the Senate.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Speaker of House of Commons

II—BACKGROUND

1. The Prime Minister selects the person to be nominated* for Speaker from amongst the members of his own party in the House. If there has not been a change in Government, it is usual to choose the Deputy Speaker from the last Parliament. The Prime Minister's choice is normally submitted to the Cabinet for approval. It has become the tradition to avoid controversy in the selection of a Speaker and the Prime Minister may therefore consider it desirable to consult or inform the Leader of the Opposition about his nominee.
2. It is the custom for the Speakers of succeeding Parliaments to be alternately English-speaking then French-speaking and this has usually been respected by new Governments. In four cases Speakers were re-elected for succeeding Parliaments and in one case a new Government selected a Speaker of the same language as the Speaker of the last Parliament.
3. A Speaker holds office for a full Parliament unless he resigns. On two occasions the Speaker has resigned to be appointed to the Cabinet. One resigned on being appointed to the Senate; another for personal reasons. Another resigned between sessions when his election was contested; ran in a by-election, was re-elected to the House and then re-elected Speaker for the remaining session of that Parliament.
4. Speakers are not normally re-elected although there have been four exceptions. The first Speaker was re-elected for the 2nd Parliament. Two others were re-elected when their first period of office was cut short by dissolution. Rhodes was elected in January 1917 to fill a vacancy for the last nine months of the 12th Parliament. He was then re-elected for the 13th Parliament. Mr. Michener was elected to preside the 23rd Parliament in October 1957 and re-elected to preside the 24th Parliament in May 1958. One Speaker was re-elected twice. Lemieux served throughout the 14th Parliament from 1921-1925 and was re-elected to preside the 15th which ended within the year following the Byng-King incident. He was then elected a third time to preside the 16th Parliament.
5. If the Speaker is to be appointed to the Privy Council and/or to the Senate on leaving the chair, this is normally done at the time of the dissolution of the House. In one instance it was left to a successor Government to confer a Privy Councillorship on the former Speaker some years later.
6. While the House of Commons ceases to exist on dissolution of Parliament, the Speaker in office at the time remains responsible for the administration of Parliament until his successor is elected.

7. The motions* for the appointment of the Deputy Speaker and the Deputy Chairman of committees of the whole House are made by the Prime Minister. The name of the proposed Deputy Speaker is usually submitted to Cabinet. His appointment is for the life of the Parliament for which he is elected. If a vacancy occurs during that time a new Deputy Speaker must be elected forthwith for the remaining term of the Parliament.
8. The *Standing Orders of the House of Commons* require that the member elected as Deputy Speaker and Chairman of committees "possess the full and practical knowledge of the official language which is not that of Mr. Speaker for the time being".¹

¹ S.O. 52(2).

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Speaker of House of Commons

III—PROCEDURE

1. At the preliminary meeting of the House prior to the opening of the first session of a new Parliament the Prime Minister moves* for the election of a Speaker. The name of the nominee is usually submitted to Cabinet. The Prime Minister may find it desirable to consult or inform the Leader of the Opposition concerning the nomination.
2. If, upon his retirement, it is desired to appoint the Speaker to the Privy Council or to the Senate or to both, the necessary instrument for the recommendation of the appointment to the Governor General in each case is prepared for the Prime Minister's signature.
3. The Prime Minister moves* for the election of the Chairman of committees of the whole House (Deputy Speaker) and the Deputy Chairman of committees of the whole House when the House reconvenes following the reading of the Speech from the Throne opening the new Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Speaker of House of Commons

IV—CEREMONIAL

1. After the Clerk of the House has declared the Speaker elected it is usual for the Prime Minister and the seconder of the motion for appointment, to conduct the new Speaker from his seat in the House to the Speaker's chair.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Speaker of House of Commons

APPENDICES

Motion for election of Speaker

Extract from Table of Titles for Canada regarding "Honourable" title for Speaker

List of Speakers of House of Commons since 1867

Motion for election of Deputy Speaker

Motion for election of Deputy Chairman of committees of the whole House

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Commissioners of Internal Economy of House of Commons

I—POSITION

1. Under the authority of the *House of Commons Act** four ministers are appointed at the beginning of each session by order in council* to form with the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Committee of Internal Economy of the House.
2. The Prime Minister makes the recommendation to Council, usually before the opening of Parliament.
3. The appointments are, in accordance with the requirements of the statute, communicated to the House in a message* from the Governor General within the first week of each session of Parliament.
4. The Commissioners may continue to act after dissolution until their successors are appointed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Commissioners of Internal Economy of House of Commons

II—BACKGROUND

1. While the statute* specifies that the Governor in Council shall select four Privy Councillors who are members of the House of Commons, this is interpreted to mean members of the Cabinet of the day. When the original Act was passed in 1868 Privy Councillors had not yet been given life tenure so members of Parliament who were Privy Councillors were then invariably ministers. It has been usual to include the Minister of Finance or Revenue, the Leader of the Government in the House and a representative of both language groups. Often a lady has been named.
2. Commissioners are frequently reappointed for two or more sessions.
3. On at least one occasion Commissioners were replaced during a session. This was done by passing a new order in council which was transmitted to the House by the Governor General. No formal action on resignation by the former members was considered necessary.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Commissioners of Internal Economy of House of Commons

III—PROCEDURE

1. The Prime Minister proposes to Cabinet before the new session opens, who should be the Commissioners after having consulted with the nominees, and an order in council* is then passed.
2. The Governor General signs a message* to the House of Commons transmitting a certified copy of the order in council making the appointments.
3. The Prime Minister announces to the House, at its first meeting, that he has the message which is handed to the Speaker to read.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Commissioners of Internal Economy of House of Commons

APPENDICES

Section 16 of *House of Commons Act* regarding appointment of Commissioners of Internal Economy of House of Commons

Order in council for appointment of Commissioners of Internal Economy of House of Commons

Message from Governor General to House of Commons transmitting certified copy of order in council appointing Commissioners of Internal Economy of House of Commons

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Secret Sessions of House of Commons

I—POSITION

1. Secret sessions of the House of Commons have been held on four occasions, once in World War I and three times during World War II. These were actually secret sittings during a session in progress and did not extend beyond a full day.
2. The Government takes responsibility for organizing a secret session which is approved by the House.
3. Different techniques have been adopted to obtain the approval of the House; a special motion* after notice, a decision* not to open its doors, and a motion* to prohibit the reporting of debates. A motion for the withdrawal of strangers under S.O. 13 such as is used in England could also be moved.
4. The Prime Minister is the indicated person to propose a secret session to the House. He would probably wish to consult opposition leaders although this is not necessary.
5. Normally arrangements would permit senators to attend. The Senate itself has never held a secret session.
6. *Hansard* has not reported on secret sessions. The press gallery has been cleared and a public announcement* of the session has been made by the Speaker.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Secret Sessions of House of Commons

II—BACKGROUND

1. The four secret sessions have been held on Government initiative to discuss the military situation during wartime. On at least one occasion a secret session was suggested in peacetime (1950) but the proposal, put forward by the opposition, was rejected by a majority in the House.
2. The Government being in the position to provide the information sought at a secret session, and being in control of the majority of the House, takes responsibility for organizing a secret session. The House, however, must itself approve the proposal to meet in secret. The rejected proposal for a secret session in 1950, mentioned above, shows that while the opposition may take the initiative in this matter success depends on control of the House.
3. On the first two occasions (1918* and 1942) the secret session was approved by a vote on a special motion put forward by the Prime Minister after 48-hours notice. Both motions, as passed, fixed the time of the session. In July 1942 the Prime Minister announced that a secret session would be the first order of business the following day. The session came about by the passage of a motion* of the Prime Minister's that the secret session should not be reported in *Hansard*. In 1944 another technique was adopted by simply having the House decide* not to open its doors after prayers. This procedure had been discussed in the House the previous day.
4. The practice in regard to consultation with the opposition has varied. On the first occasion there was consultation with the Leader of the Opposition regarding the advisability of holding a secret session. On the second occasion the opposition was consulted regarding the timing of the session. On the third and fourth occasions there does not appear to have been any inter-party consultation outside the House although the question had come up in debate. In February 1942 the opposition informed the Prime Minister of the questions they would ask and in July 1942 the Prime Minister suggested in the House that a member should inform the Minister of National Defence of the matters he wished to have discussed.
5. Arrangements have been made for senators not to be excluded from the gallery when the House is in secret session. On one occasion the session was timed to coincide with the end of a senatorial adjournment. On another occasion, however, the secret session was held when the Senate stood adjourned.
6. The debate at a secret session is not reported but an announcement* of the session in the form of a report of proceedings is issued by the Speaker at its conclusion and carried in *Hansard*. This announcement is short and in very general terms.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Secret Sessions of House of Commons

III—PROCEDURE

1. If the Government wishes to hold a secret session of the House of Commons a motion* to this effect is made by the Prime Minister who, if he considers it desirable, will consult the opposition regarding the requirement for such a session and the time at which it could be held.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Secret Sessions of House of Commons

APPENDICES

Motion made by Prime Minister for secret session of House of Commons (1918)

Motion made by Prime Minister for ban on reporting of House debates (1942)

Extract from official report of House of Commons debates regarding decision that doors of House remain closed after prayers—1944

Speaker's report of proceedings following secret session of House

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Procedure in House of Commons

I—POSITION

1. The House of Commons is master of its own rules of procedure which are set out in Standing Orders.
2. The Prime Minister has a special interest in the efficient conduct of business by the House and it is the Government therefore that traditionally takes the initiative in promoting amendments to the rules. It would of course technically be open to any member to initiate the procedure to amend Standing Orders.
3. The Speaker's decisions on the interpretation of the rules become binding precedents. A Speaker's ruling can be challenged in the House which will then confirm or reject it.
4. Canadian authorities on parliamentary procedure are cited to support the interpretation of Standing Orders.
5. Procedure in the United Kingdom House may be cited as precedent when none is found in Canadian practice.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Procedure in House of Commons

II—BACKGROUND

1. Although the Government may have a special interest in the rules of the House and a special responsibility as the major party the decision is of concern to the entire House. Preliminary agreement to any proposed changes is desirable to prevent opposition parties from blocking their adoption.
2. Proposed changes in the rules of the House are examined by a committee set up by the House, usually on a Government motion*. Action is taken to amend the rules on the basis of the report of the committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Procedure in House of Commons

III—PROCEDURE

1. The Prime Minister or another minister moves in the House that a select committee be appointed to consider with the Speaker changes in the procedures of the House. The motion* is usually seconded by a member of the Government.
2. A minister or Government supporter subsequently moves* that certain designated members representing the parties in the House in accordance with their numerical standing be appointed to the above committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Procedure in House of Commons

APPENDICES

Motion for appointment of House committee to consider changes in procedures of House of Commons

Motion for appointment of members of House to above committee

Motion for acceptance of above committee's report regarding procedures of House of Commons

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Officers of House of Commons

I—POSITION

1. The Clerk is the senior officer of the House of Commons who, pursuant to the *Public Service Employment Act* is appointed by order in council* to hold office at pleasure at a salary fixed by order.
2. The duties of the Clerk are set out in Standing Orders. He is responsible to the Speaker, and gives advice on rules, usages and proceedings of Parliament.
3. The Clerk is responsible, under the *House of Commons Act*, for preparing for the Speaker the estimates for the expenses of Parliament. He thereby becomes responsible to the Speaker for the administration of Parliament.
4. The Clerk may be suspended by the Speaker for misconduct or unfitness.
5. The parliamentary staff also comprises four others officers with related duties, specified in the *House of Commons Act* and Standing Orders, the Clerk Assistant, the Law Clerk and the 2nd and 3rd Clerk Assistants. The Clerk Assistant is appointed by order in council* and that would also be the indicated procedure for the appointment of the Law Clerk. The 2nd and 3rd Clerk Assistants are appointed by the Speaker.
6. The Sergeant-at-Arms is the law enforcement officer of the House of Commons. He is appointed by order in council* and is under the jurisdiction of the Speaker by whom he can be suspended for misconduct. He also has certain responsibilities in regard to staff and services in Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Officers of House of Commons

II—BACKGROUND

1. There have been eight* Clerks of the House since Confederation, and they normally remain in office until retirement.
2. The last five Clerks have been either former members of Parliament or candidates in a federal election.
3. It has not been customary for the Prime Minister to consult opposition leaders about the appointment of a Clerk.
4. Upon the appointment of a new Clerk it is customary for the Prime Minister to move in the House that the retiring Clerk be appointed as an honorary officer of the House of Commons. The Leader of the Opposition usually seconds the motion* which gives the retiring Clerk an entrée to the chamber and a seat at the table on ceremonial occasions.
5. Certain duties of the Law Clerk in regard to the drafting and preparation of bills have been criticized as not appropriate or not in accordance with present parliamentary procedure. A revision of these duties, enumerated in Standing Orders, was studied in 1963 but was not carried out.
6. The Sergeant-at-Arms has usually been a distinguished war veteran.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Officers of House of Commons

III—PROCEDURE

1. The Prime Minister recommends the order in council* appointing the Clerk, Sergeant-at-Arms, Clerk Assistant and Law Clerk of the Commons. A commission* evidencing the appointment is issued to the Clerk and the Sergeant-at-Arms by the Registrar General.
2. The Prime Minister moves for the appointment of the retiring Clerk as an honorary officer of the House. The Leader of the Opposition is consulted regarding his agreement to second this motion*.
3. The Prime Minister would probably wish to issue a press release* announcing these appointments and the Speaker announces* the appointments to the House.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Officers of House of Commons

APPENDICES

Order in council for appointment of Clerk of House of Commons

Commission issued to Clerk of House of Commons

Motion by Prime Minister for appointment of retiring Clerk as honorary officer of House of Commons

Announcement made by Speaker regarding appointment of Clerk of House of Commons

Press release regarding appointment of Clerk of House of Commons

List of Clerks of House of Commons since 1867

Order in council for appointment of Clerk Assistant of House of Commons

Order in council for appointment of Sergeant-at-Arms

Press release regarding appointment of Sergeant-at-Arms



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Notice in *The Canada Gazette* regarding Election of Member of Parliament

CANADA ELECTIONS ACT

*Return of Member elected at the By-election
held on November 6, 1967*

NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of subsection (5) of section 56 of the Canada Elections Act, that a return has been received of the election of the following member to serve in the House of Commons of Canada for the undermentioned electoral district:

<i>Electoral District</i>	<i>Member</i>
Bonavista-Twillingate, Nfld.	Charles Ronald Granger

Issued at Ottawa, this twentieth day of November, 1967.

J.-M. HAMEL,
Chief Electoral Officer.

Oath of Allegiance taken by Member of Parliament

I do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Vacation of Seats in House of Commons

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**Written Notice given to Speaker regarding Death
of Member of Parliament**

To the Honourable the Speaker of the House of Commons:

We, the undersigned, hereby give notice, in pursuance of section ten of the House of Commons Act, that a vacancy hath occurred in the representation in the House of Commons for the electoral district of Gatineau, in the Province of Quebec, by reason of the death of Joseph-Célestin Nadon.

Given under our hands and seals, at Ottawa, this thirteenth day of January, 1954.

(Sgd.) LOUIS S. ST. LAURENT
*Member for the Electoral District
of Quebec East.*

(Sgd.) ALCIDE CÔTÉ
*Member for the Electoral District
of Saint-Jean-Iberville-
Napierville.*

**Statement of Resignation made in
House of Commons by Member of
Parliament (29 April, 1953)**

PRIVILEGE

MR. DEWAR—REFERENCE TO NEWSPAPER
ARTICLE—ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESIGNATION

Mr. A. E. Dewar (Qu'Appelle): Mr. Speaker, I rise on a question of personal privilege which arises from a series of articles published in the *Toronto Telegram* on Wednesday, April 22, and subsequent dates.

Regretfully, I tender my resignation as a member of the House of Commons.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. member for Qu'Appelle having given in his place in the house notice of his intention to resign, I shall immediately after such notice has been entered by the Clerk in the *Journals* of the house, forthwith address my warrant under my hand and seal to the chief electoral officer for the issue of a writ for the election of a new member in the place and stead of the hon. member who has resigned.

**Written Notice of Resignation from
Resigning Member of Parliament to
Speaker**

To the Honourable the Speaker of the House of Commons:

I, Arthur Laing, Member of the House of Commons of Canada, for the Electoral District of Vancouver South, do hereby resign my seat in the said House of Commons, for the constituency aforesaid.

Given under my hand and seal at Ottawa, this thirtieth day of April, 1953.

(Sgd.) ARTHUR LAING

Witnesses:

(Sgd.) W. A. BOUCHER, M.P.

(Sgd.) JOHN H. DICKEY, M.P.

**Written Notice from Two Government Members of Parliament to Speaker
regarding Vacancy created by Acceptance of Office of Emolument
(13 January, 1954)**

To the Honourable the Speaker of the House of Commons:

We, the undersigned, hereby give notice, in pursuance of section ten of the House of Commons Act, that a vacancy hath occurred in the representation in the House of Commons for the electoral district of Verdun, in the Province of Quebec, by reason of the acceptance of an office of emolument under the Crown by the Member therefor, Paul-Emile Côté.

Given under our hands and seals, at Ottawa, this thirteenth day of January, 1954.

(Sgd.) LOUIS S. ST. LAURENT
*Member for the Electoral District
of Quebec East.*

(Sgd.) ALCIDE CÔTÉ
*Member for the Electoral District
of Saint-Jean-Iberville-
Napierville.*

HOUSE OF COMMONS

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**Motion for Expulsion for Failure to obey House Order
(1st Riel Expulsion, 16 April, 1874)**

That Louis Riel, member of this House for the electoral district of Provencher, in the Province of Manitoba, having been charged with murder, and a bill of indictment for the said offence having been found against him, and warrants issued for his apprehension, and the said Louis Riel having fled from justice and having failed to obey an order of this House that he should attend in his place on Thursday, the 9th day of April, 1874, be expelled from this House.

**Motion for New Writ of Election to replace Member unable
to sit or vote because of Criminal Conviction
(Rose Expulsion, 30 January, 1947)**

That Fred Rose, member for Cartier, having been adjudged guilty of an indictable offence and sentenced to six years' imprisonment and not having served the punishment to which he was adjudged, has become and continues incapable of sitting or voting in this house, and it is ordered that Mr. Speaker do issue his warrant to the chief electoral officer to make out a new writ for the election of a new member to serve in the present parliament for the county of Cartier in the room of said Fred Rose adjudged and sentenced as aforesaid.

**Motion for Expulsion on Basis of House Committee Report
(McGreevy Expulsion, 29 September, 1891)**

That the Hon. Thomas McGreevy, member for the electoral district of Quebec West, having been guilty of a contempt of the authority of this House, by failing to obey its order to attend in his place therein, and having been adjudged by this House guilty of certain of the charges made against him on the 11th day of May last, be expelled from this House.

Section 654 of *Criminal Code*

Conviction of
person
holding
public office
vacates office.

654. (1) Where a person is convicted of treason or of an indictable offence for which he is sentenced to death or to imprisonment for a term exceeding five years and holds, at the time he is convicted, an office under the Crown or other public employment, the office or employment forthwith becomes vacant.

When
disability
ceases.

(2) A person to whom subsection (1) applies is, until he undergoes the punishment imposed upon him or the punishment substituted therefor by competent authority or receives a free pardon from Her Majesty, incapable of holding any office under the Crown or other public employment, or of being elected or sitting or voting as a member of the Parliament of Canada or of a legislature or of exercising any right of suffrage.

Disability to
contract.

(3) No person who is convicted of an offence under section 102, 105 or 361 has, after that conviction, capacity to contract with Her Majesty or to receive any benefit under a contract between Her Majesty and any other person or to hold office under Her Majesty.

Removal of
disability.

(4) Where a conviction is set aside by competent authority any disability imposed by this section is removed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Members of House of Commons: PAGE
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**Section 16 of the *Senate and House of Commons Act* regarding Prohibition
against Members of Parliament being employed by or doing
Business with Government**

s. 16: If any member of the House of Commons accepts any office or commission, or is concerned or interested in any contract, agreement, services or work which, by this Act, renders a person incapable of being elected to, or of sitting or voting in the House of Commons, or knowingly sells any goods, wares or merchandise to, or performs any service for the Government of Canada, or for any of the officers of the Government of Canada for which any public money of Canada is paid or to be paid, whether such contract, agreement or sale is expressed or implied, and whether the transaction is single or continuous, the seat of such member shall thereby be vacated and his election shall thenceforth be null and void.
R.S., c. 147, s. 16.

Office	Salary	Sessional Indemnity	Expense Allowance ¹	Motor Vehicle Allowance ¹	Residence Allowance	Special Allowance	Total Remuneration ²
Prime Minister	\$25,000	\$12,000	\$6,000	\$2,000			\$45,000 ³
Cabinet Ministers (with Portfolio)	\$15,000	\$12,000	\$6,000	\$2,000			\$35,000
Ministers without Portfolio	\$ 7,500	\$12,000	\$6,000	\$2,000			\$27,500
Speaker	\$ 9,000	\$12,000	\$6,000	\$1,000	\$3,000		\$31,000
Deputy Speaker	\$ 6,000	\$12,000	\$6,000		\$1,500		\$25,500
Deputy Chairman of Committees		\$12,000	\$6,000			\$ 4,000	\$22,000
Asst. Deputy Chairman of Committees		\$12,000	\$6,000			\$ 4,000	\$22,000
Leader of the Opposition		\$12,000	\$6,000	\$2,000		\$15,000	\$35,000
Leaders of other Parties of 12 or more members		\$12,000	\$6,000			\$ 4,000	\$22,000
Parliamentary Secretaries	\$ 4,000	\$12,000	\$6,000				\$22,000
Chief Government Whip		\$12,000	\$6,000			\$ 4,000	\$22,000
Chief Opposition Whip		\$12,000	\$6,000			\$ 4,000	\$22,000
Members of Parliament		\$12,000	\$6,000				\$18,000

Source: *Salaries Act* (R.S. 1952, c. 243); *Senate and House of Commons Act* (R.S. 1952, c. 249); *Parliamentary Secretaries Act* (1959, c. 15) – except for the salary of Ministers without Portfolio, the Residence Allowance of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker and the Special Allowance of the Deputy Chairman of Committees and the Assistant Deputy Chairman of Committees, all of which are provided through votes in the estimates.

¹ The Expense Allowance and the Motor Vehicle Allowance are non-taxable. All other remuneration is taxable.

² In addition to the specific sums payable to members, each member is allowed, for each session of Parliament, such actual moving or transportation and travelling expenses between his place of residence or his constituency and Ottawa, and such actual telecommunication expenses incurred while in Ottawa, as the House may by order prescribe for its members (*Senate and House of Commons Act*, section 44(1)).

³ The Prime Minister is also provided with an official residence. The terms governing its operation and maintenance are set out in the *Prime Minister's Residence Act* (R.S. 1952, c. 216).

NOVEMBER 1967

HOUSE OF COMMONS

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**Motion for Election of Speaker
(18 January, 1966)**

Mr. Pearson (Prime Minister):

. . .
Therefore I take great pleasure in moving, seconded by
the President of the Privy Council (Mr. Favreau):

That Lucien Lamoureux, member of the electoral
district of Stormont, do take the Chair of this house as
Speaker.

**Extract from Table of Titles for Canada
regarding "Honourable" Title for Speaker**

TABLE OF TITLES TO BE USED IN CANADA

1. The persons designated in Part I of the following Table shall be styled as set out in that Table.
2. The persons designated in Part II of the following Table are eligible to be granted permission by the Governor General on behalf of Her Majesty to retain the title of "Honourable" after they have ceased to hold office.

TABLE
PART I

. . .

5. The Speaker of the House of Commons to be styled "Honourable" during tenure of office.

. . .

PART II

1. Speakers of the House of Commons on retirement.

. . .

Speakers of the House of Commons 1867-1967

Name	Parliaments ¹	Political Affiliation ²	Ministries
J. Cockburn (1867-1874)	1st & 2nd	Liberal-Conservative	1st Liberal-Conservative (Macdonald) 2nd Liberal (Mackenzie)
T.W. Anglin (1874-1878)	3rd ³	Conservative ⁴	2nd Liberal (Mackenzie)
J-G. Blanchet (1879-1882)	4th	Liberal-Conservative	3rd Liberal-Conservative (Macdonald)
G.A. Kirkpatrick (1883-1887)	5th	Liberal-Conservative	3rd Liberal-Conservative (Macdonald)
J.A. Ouimet (1887-1891)	6th	Liberal-Conservative	3rd Liberal-Conservative (Macdonald)
P. White (1891-1896)	7th	Conservative	3rd Liberal-Conservative (Macdonald) 4th Liberal-Conservative (Abbott) 5th Liberal-Conservative (Thompson) 6th Liberal-Conservative (Bowell) 7th Liberal-Conservative (Tupper)
J.D. Edgar (1896-1899)	8th	Liberal	8th Liberal (Laurier)
T. Bain (1899-1900)	8th	Liberal	8th Liberal (Laurier)
L.P. Brodeur (1901-1904)	9th	Liberal	8th Liberal (Laurier)
N.A. Belcourt (1904)	9th	Liberal	8th Liberal (Laurier)
R.F. Sutherland (1905-1908)	10th	Liberal	8th Liberal (Laurier)
C. Marcil (1909-1911)	11th	Liberal	8th Liberal (Laurier)
T.S. Sproule (1911-1915)	12th	Conservative	9th Conservative (Borden)
A. Sévigny (1916-1917)	12th	Conservative	9th Conservative (Borden)
E.N. Rhodes (1917-1921)	12th & 13th	Conservative-Unionist	9th Conservative (Borden) 10th Unionist (Borden) 11th Unionist (Meighen)
R. Lemieux (1922-1930)	14th, 15th & 16th	Liberal	12th Liberal (King) 13th Conservative (Meighen) 14th Liberal (King)
G. Black (1930-1935)	17th	Liberal-Conservative	15th Conservative (Bennett)
J.L. Bowman (1935)	17th	Conservative	15th Conservative (Bennett)
P.F. Casgrain (1936-1940)	18th	Liberal	16th Liberal (King)
J.A. Glen (1940-1945)	19th	Liberal-Progressive	16th Liberal (King)
G. Fauteux (1945-1949)	20th	Liberal	16th Liberal (King) 17th Liberal (St. Laurent)
W.R. Macdonald (1949-1953)	21st	Liberal	17th Liberal (St. Laurent)
L.R. Beaudoin (1953-1957)	22nd	Liberal	17th Liberal (St. Laurent)
D.R. Michener (1957-1962)	23rd & 24th	Progressive-Conservative	18th Progressive-Conservative (Diefenbaker)

Name	Parliaments ¹	Political Affiliation ²	Ministries
M. Lambert (1962–1963)	25th	Progressive-Conservative	18th Progressive-Conservative (Diefenbaker)
A.A. Macnaughton (1963–1965)	26th	Liberal	19th Liberal (Pearson)
L. Lamoureux (1966 ---)	27th	Liberal	19th Liberal (Pearson)

¹All the Speakers of the House of Commons, with the exception of five, have served for the full term of the Parliament for which they were elected. The exceptions are (a) J.D. Edgar who died; (b) G. Black who resigned for reasons of ill-health; (c) T.S. Sproule who resigned and was appointed to the Senate; and (d) L.P. Brodeur and A. Sévigny who resigned and were appointed to the Cabinet.

²There are only two cases (1873, 1926) of a Speaker of the House serving in that office while not being a supporter of the Government. Both these cases were occasioned by the resignation of the Government which had nominated the Speaker and the immediate formation, without a general election, of a new Government by the Opposition. In each case the Speaker continued in office under the new Government until the end of the Parliament for which he was elected.

The first instance was in 1873 when the Liberal-Conservative Government of Sir John A. Macdonald resigned during the Second Parliament and was immediately succeeded by a Government formed from the Liberal Opposition and under the leadership of Alexander Mackenzie. J. Cockburn, who was a supporter of Macdonald and who had been chosen to be Speaker by him, continued in office for the remainder of the Second Parliament.

The second instance was in 1926 when the Liberal Government of Mackenzie King resigned during the Fifteenth Parliament and was immediately succeeded by a Government formed from the Conservative Opposition and under the leadership of Arthur Meighen. R. Lemieux, who was a supporter of King and who had been chosen to be Speaker by him, continued in office for the remainder of the Fifteenth Parliament. In the subsequent general election of 1926 the Liberal Party under King was returned to power and at the opening of the Sixteenth Parliament Mr. Lemieux, as a supporter of the Government, was re-elected as Speaker.

³T.W. Anglin was elected to the Speakership at the opening of the Third Parliament and was the only Speaker to serve during that Parliament. However, between May 31, 1877 and February 7, 1878 the position of Speaker was vacant. This vacancy occurred when Parliament stood prorogued, the fourth session of the Third Parliament having been prorogued on April 28, 1877 and the fifth session being opened on February 7, 1878. Mr. Anglin resigned from the House on May 31, 1877 for reason of an alleged violation by him of the *Independence of Parliament Act*. He was subsequently re-elected to the House in a by-election and was re-elected to the Speakership at the opening of the fifth session.

⁴In the first decades of Confederation a Member of Parliament's affiliation with a particular political party was often not as obvious as it has subsequently become. However, all Speakers have been supporters of the Government nominating them. Thus, T.W. Anglin, Speaker during the Third Parliament (1874–1878) and who described himself as a Conservative, was a supporter of the Liberal Government of Alexander Mackenzie which appointed him to be Speaker.

APRIL 1968

**Motion for Election of Deputy Speaker
(Chairman of Committees of the Whole
House) made by Prime Minister on
18 January, 1966**

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, I should like to make a motion regarding the appointment of the Chairman of committees of the whole house, and for that purpose to submit to the house the name of the hon. member for Humber-St. George's, Mr. Herman Batten. Mr. Batten, as hon. members who have been in the twenty sixth Parliament know, has been Deputy Chairman of the committees of the whole house. In that capacity he has won their respect and the good will of all members. He has acted in the Chair in that capacity with impartiality and fairness, and I think we can be sure that he will do the same as Chairman. I believe that before Mr. Batten, the hon. member for Humber-St. George's, came to the House of Commons he was the principal of a school. As your Deputy, Mr. Speaker, he will be able to help you to keep the boys in order.

● (4:30 p.m.)

Therefore I move, seconded by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Martin), that Herman S. Batten, Esquire, Member for the electoral district of Humber-St. George's, be appointed Chairman of Committees of the Whole House.

Motion agreed to.

**Motion for Election of Deputy Chairman of
Committees of the Whole House made by
Prime Minister on 18 January, 1966**

Right Hon. L. B. Pearson (Prime Minister): Mr. Speaker, with a lawyer in the Chair and a school teacher as his Deputy, I should like to propose as the Deputy Chairman of committees of the whole house a businessman, a member from Montreal, the hon. member for Saint-Jacques, Mr. Maurice Rinfret. We who know him best know that Mr. Rinfret is energetic, fair-minded, impartial, and that he has a good sense of humour. All these things should stand him in good stead if the house chooses him for this important post, for which I now have the honour to recommend him.

Therefore I move, seconded by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Martin), that Maurice Rinfret, Esquire, Member for the electoral district of Saint-Jacques, be appointed Deputy Chairman of committees of the whole house.

Motion agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

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**Section 16 of *House of Commons Act* regarding Appointment of
Commissioners of Internal Economy of House of Commons**

Speaker and
four other
commis-
sioners to
act.

16. (1) The Governor in Council shall appoint four members of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada who are also members of the House of Commons, who, with the Speaker of the House of Commons, shall be commissioners for the purposes of this section and sections 17 and 18.

How
appointed.

(2) The names and offices of such commissioners shall be communicated by message from the Governor in Council to the House of Commons, in the first week of each session of Parliament.

Quorum.

(3) Three of the commissioners, whereof the Speaker of the House of Commons shall be one, may carry the said provisions into execution.

Case of
death or
absence of
Speaker.

(4) In the event of the death, disability, or absence from Canada of the Speaker during any dissolution or prorogation of Parliament, any three of the commissioners may carry the said provisions into execution. R.S., c. 145, s. 16.

Order in Council for Appointment of Commissioners of Internal Economy

CANADA
PRIVY COUNCIL

P.C. 1966-40

AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT OTTAWA

FRIDAY, the 7th day of JANUARY, 1966.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Right Honourable Lester Bowles Pearson, the Prime Minister, pursuant to section 16 of the House of Commons Act, is pleased hereby to appoint,

The Honourable George James McIlraith

The Honourable John Robert Nicholson

The Honourable Maurice Sauvé

and

The Honourable Edgar John Benson

to act with the Speaker of the House of Commons, as commissioners for the purposes of sections 16, 17 and 18 of the said Act.

Certified to be a true copy

(Sgd.) R.G. ROBERTSON
Clerk of the Privy Council

**Message from Governor General to House of Commons transmitting Order in
Council appointing Commissioners of Internal Economy**

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

OTTAWA

The Governor General transmits to the House of Commons a certified copy of an Order in Council appointing the Honourable Walter Lockhart Gordon, Minister of Finance, the Honourable George James McIlraith, President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, the Honourable Judy LaMarsh, Minister of National Health and Welfare, and the Honourable Guy Favreau, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, to act with the Speaker of the House of Commons as commissioners for the purposes and under the provisions of the one hundred and forty-third chapter of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1952, entitled: An Act respecting the House of Commons.

(Sgd.) } Approved
 } GEORGES P. VANIER
 } 14th February, 1964.



HOUSE OF COMMONS

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**Motion made by Prime Minister for
Secret Session of House of Commons
(15 April, 1918)**

Resolved that the sitting of Wednesday next, the seventeenth day of April, instant, shall be a secret session until the House shall then otherwise order, and that all strangers be ordered to withdraw during such secret session;

Provided however, that this Order shall not affect the privilege enjoyed by members of the Senate of being present at Debates in this House.

Resolved further that a message be sent to the Senate acquainting their Honours with the terms of this Resolution.

**Motion made by Prime Minister for Ban
on reporting of House Debates
(18 July, 1942)**

Right Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King (Prime Minister) moved:

That the secret session of the house to be held this day be not reported in the official report of the House of Commons Debates and that at the conclusion of the secret session a report of its proceedings be issued under the authority of Mr. Speaker.

Motion agreed to.

The house went into secret session.

**Extract from Official Report of Debates of House of Commons
for 27 November, 1944, regarding Decision
that Doors remain closed after Prayers**

SECRET SESSION

Mr. Mackenzie King: Mr. Speaker, this evening the house has heard the leader of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation (Mr. Coldwell) complain that he has not been able to get information which he thinks it is necessary he should have because that information can be given only in secret session. Many hon. members have made a similar representation to me. The other day, as the house will have heard, the hon. member for Prince (Mr. Ralston), ex-minister of defence, stated that he himself would have liked to have some information which could not be given out except in secret session. In these circumstances I am going to ask that to-morrow the house shall meet in secret session before the doors are open. I have taken care not to ask this until all the leaders of the various groups on the opposite side had had an opportunity to speak.

As to procedure, all that is required to have the house meet in secret session is for an hon. member to spy strangers in the gallery, and the galleries may then be cleared. It would be preferable, I think, that the doors should not be opened until after the session is over. I therefore would hope that to-morrow, Mr. Speaker, when the house assembles, you do not declare the doors open until hon. members have had a chance of meeting in secret session and obtaining information of vital importance in connection with the further discussion of the question which is before us at this time. I would hope that at the same time the minister of defence would be permitted the same courtesy which was accorded him the other day, of appearing on the floor of the house to give the very necessary information to which the house is entitled at the present time.

**Speaker's Report of Proceedings following Secret Session
of House of Commons held on 28 November, 1944**

Tuesday, November 28, 1944

The house met at three o'clock.

SECRET SESSION OF THE HOUSE

The house went into secret session.

At the conclusion of the secret session, the following report of its proceedings was issued under the authority of Mr. Speaker:

"The House of Commons held a secret sitting from 3 o'clock p.m. to-day. General the Honourable A. G. L. McNaughton, Minister of National Defence, was present and gave information respecting the Canadian forces.

J.Allison Glen,
Speaker."

**Extract from Official Report of Debates of House of Commons
for 27 November, 1944, regarding Decision
that Doors remain closed after Prayers**

SECRET SESSION

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HOUSE OF COMMONS

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**Motion for Appointment of House Committee to consider Changes in Procedures
of House of Commons, as moved by Prime Minister on 3 June, 1963**

That a select committee be appointed to consider with Mr. Speaker the procedures and organization of this house, for the purpose of suggesting any changes that would assure the more expeditious dispatch of public business and would strengthen parliament and make it more effective; that the committee have power to send for persons and papers; that it report from time to time its findings and recommendations to the house; and that it consist, in addition to Mr. Speaker, of 14 members to be designated at a later date.

**Motion made in House of Commons on 20 March, 1964 for Appointment
of Members of House to Committee on Procedures**

PROCEDURE

Composition of special committee

Mr. J.E. Walker (York Centre) moved:

That the special committee on procedures and organization of the House of Commons appointed March 9, 1964 be composed of Mr. Speaker, Miss Jewett, Messrs. Aiken, Balcer, Baldwin, Fairweather, Grégoire, Knowles, Lachance, Lambert, Lamoureux, MacEachen, Olson, Rouleau, and Walker.

Motion agreed to.

**Motion for Acceptance of House Committee's Report
regarding Procedures of House of Commons
(9 October, 1964)**

Mr. Stanley Knowles (Winnipeg North Centre) moved that the thirteenth report of the special committee on procedure, presented to the house on Wednesday, October 7, be now concurred in.

He said: Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege and honour to move concurrence in the thirteenth report of the special committee on procedure and organization, and to do so on behalf of the committee. I trust hon. members have read this report, which was made part of *Votes and Proceedings* for Wednesday, October 7, but I think it would be desirable that a brief summary of what we are now proposing be given to the house and thus placed on *Hansard* at this time.



HOUSE OF COMMONS

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**Order in Council for Appointment of Clerk
of House of Commons**

CANADA
PRIVY COUNCIL

P.C. 1967-1441

AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT OTTAWA

TUESDAY, the 18th day of JULY, 1967

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, pursuant to section 38 of the Public Service Employment Act, is pleased hereby to appoint Mr. Alistair Fraser to be Clerk of the House of Commons, effective 6th August, 1967, and to fix his remuneration at the rate of \$26,500 per annum.

Certified to be a true copy

(Sgd.) R.G. ROBERTSON
Clerk of the Privy Council

Commission issued to Clerk of House of Commons

Canada

(Sgd.) Roland Michener

Elizabeth the Second, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom, Canada and Her other Realms and Territories QUEEN, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith.

TO

ALISTAIR FRASER,

Esquire,

of the City of Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario,

GREETING:

KNOW YOU that reposing special trust and confidence in your loyalty, integrity and ability We, by and with the advice of Our Privy Council for Canada, did, on the eighteenth day of July in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven and in the sixteenth year of Our Reign, constitute and appoint you the said Alistair Fraser, to be

CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TO HAVE, hold, exercise and enjoy the said office of Clerk of the House of Commons unto you the said Alistair Fraser with all and every the powers, rights, authority, privileges, profits, emoluments and advantages unto the said office of right and by law appertaining during Our Pleasure from the sixth day of August in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of Canada to be hereunto affixed.

WITNESS: Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Counsellor, Roland Michener, Chancellor and Principal Companion of Our Order of Canada, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada.

AT OUR GOVERNMENT HOUSE, in Our City of Ottawa, this twenty-eighth day of August in the year of Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven and in the sixteenth year of Our Reign.

BY COMMAND,

(Sgd.) Donald S. Maxwell
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

(Sgd.) D.H.W. Henry
ACTING
DEPUTY REGISTRAR GENERAL OF CANADA

**Motion made by Acting Prime Minister for Appointment of Retiring Clerk
of House of Commons as Honorary Officer of the House (7 July, 1967)**

Hon. Paul Martin (Acting Prime Minister):

Mr. Speaker, the Clerk of the house is discharging his duties for the last time today as he is retiring.

...

It is now my privilege to move a resolution, to be seconded by the right hon. Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Diefenbaker), which I am sure will meet with acceptance by all the members of this house. I move, seconded by the right hon. Leader of the Opposition:

That the members of this house, desiring to record their deep appreciation of the long and distinguished services rendered by Mr. Léon-J. Raymond, Esquire, O.B.E., as Clerk of the House of Commons, and acknowledging the dignity and profound learning with which he graced his office, designate him as honorary officer of the House of Commons with an entrée to the chamber and a seat at the table on ceremonial occasions.

**Announcement made by Speaker regarding
Appointment of Clerk of House of Commons**

Mr. Speaker: It is my duty to inform the house that the governor general in council has appointed Alistair Fraser, Esquire, B.A., LL.B. as Clerk of the House in the place of Léon-J. Raymond, Esquire, O.B.E., LL.B., retired.

Press Release regarding Appointment of Clerk of House of Commons

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

CABINET DU PREMIER MINISTRE

PRESS RELEASE

COMMUNIQUÉ

Date: July 31, 1967

For Release: Immediate

Pour Publication:

The Prime Minister announces the appointment of MR. ALISTAIR FRASER, Clerk Assistant of the House of Commons, as Clerk of the House on the retirement of Mr. Léon Raymond on August 5th.

The Prime Minister said that Mr. Fraser's long association with Parliament and his comprehensive acquaintance with its rules and procedures have given him special qualifications for the important role as Clerk of the House of Commons.

[Attached biographical notes not included.]

**Clerks of the Canadian House of Commons
1867-1967**

<i>Name</i>	<i>Term of Office</i>
W.B. Lindsay	Nov. 2, 1867 to Sept. 2, 1872
Alfred Patrick	Jan. 21, 1873 to Nov. 30, 1880
Sir John Bourinot	Dec. 1, 1880 to Oct. 13, 1902
Thomas B. Flint	Nov. 11, 1902 to Sept. 20, 1917
W.B. Northrup	March 11, 1918 to 1924
Arthur Beauchesne	Jan. 7, 1925 to Aug. 5, 1949
Léon-J. Raymond	Aug. 5, 1949 to Aug. 5, 1967
Alistair Fraser	Appt. August 6, 1967

Order in Council for Appointment of Clerk Assistant of House of Commons

CANADA
PRIVY COUNCIL

P.C. 4042

Certified to be a true copy of a Minute of a Meeting of the Committee of the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General on August 10, 1949.

The Committee of the Privy Council, on the recommendation of the Right Honourable Louis S. St. Laurent, the Prime Minister, advise that Edward Russell Hopkins, Esquire, of the City of Ottawa, be appointed Clerk Assistant of the House of Commons, with salary at the rate of \$8,000 per annum.

(Sgd.) R.G. ROBERTSON
Clerk of the Privy Council

Order in Council for Appointment of Sergeant-at-Arms

CANADA
PRIVY COUNCIL

P.C. 1960-22

AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT OTTAWA

THURSDAY, the 7th day of JANUARY, 1960

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, is pleased hereby to appoint Lt. Col. David Vivian Currie, V.C., of the City of Lachine, Province of Quebec, to be Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Commons with salary of \$10,500 per annum vice Lt. Col. W. J. Franklin.

Certified to be a true copy

(Sgd.) R.G. ROBERTSON
Clerk of the Privy Council

Press Release regarding Appointment of Sergeant-at-Arms

OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

CABINET DU PREMIER MINISTRE

PRESS RELEASE

COMMUNIQUÉ

Date: January 7, 1959

For Release: Immediate

Pour Publication:

The Prime Minister, the Right Honourable John G. Diefenbaker, today announced the appointment of LT. COL. DAVID V. CURRIE, V.C., of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, and Montreal, to succeed LT. COL. W. J. FRANKLIN, M.C., as Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Commons.