

Date : 4/11/2019 5:35:25 PM

From : "Dunphy, Debbie"

To : "President, President"

Cc : "Langor, Fiona" , "Ennis-Williams, Candice" , "Decker, Kent"

Subject : Guidelines on the Conduct of the Public Service during an Election

Attachment : Caretaker\_Convention\_2019.pdf;

Dr. Kachanoski;

Please find attached a copy of the Guidelines on the Conduct of the Public Service during an Election Period. Please distribute to all staff.

Please note that this was the message received by all GNL Employees from the Clerk of the Executive Council.

During an election in Newfoundland and Labrador, the current government retains full legal authority to govern and maintain the daily administration of the province, while exercising restraint in the scope of decision-making and actions taken. This practice, known as the caretaker convention, is detailed in the [Guidelines on the Conduct of the Public Service during an Election Period](#).

These guidelines include a broad range of topics and have been updated for 2019 to assist public service employees in clarifying the functions and activities of government during the caretaker period. The guidelines are based on nationally and internationally recognized practices for elections in jurisdictions with similar forms of government, as well as accepted past practices during elections in this province. The caretaker period begins on the day a general election is called and continues until after the election reveals a clear result which confirms an incumbent government is re-elected, or the day a newly elected government is sworn in.

I am pleased to present the updated guidelines and I encourage you to review them to ensure appropriate application to activities and decisions during the caretaker period. These guidelines will help all of us to maintain a neutral and non-partisan public service which focusses on achieving the best in public service to the people of our province.

Elizabeth Day  
Clerk of the Executive Council