

Legislative
Assembly
of Ontario



Assemblée
législative
de l'Ontario

43RD PARLIAMENT, 1ST SESSION

43E LÉGISLATURE, 1RE SESSION

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

PROCÈS-VERBAUX

No. 139

N° 139

Wednesday
March 27, 2024

Mercredi
27 mars 2024

Hon. Ted Arnott
Speaker

L'hon. Ted Arnott
le président

9:00 A.M.

Prayers

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Trevor Jones moved,

That the Standing Orders be amended as follows:

Standing Order 7(f) is deleted and the following substituted:

As soon as possible after New Year's Day, the Clerk of the House shall publish a calendar which shows the days on which the House shall meet according to the Standing Orders.

Standing Order 9(f) is deleted and the following substituted:

No later than 6:00 p.m. on any day that the House meets, the Government House Leader may indicate in the House that no business is to be called during Orders of the Day on the next sitting day's morning meeting, and in such case the House shall meet at 10:15 a.m. on that next sitting day.

Standing Order 36(b) is amended by deleting the words "to the Minister or to his or her Parliamentary Assistant" and substituting the words "to a Minister or to a Parliamentary Assistant".

For the duration of the 43rd Parliament Standing Order 40(e) is suspended and the following provisional Standing Order is substituted:

40(e) Following ministerial statements a representative or representatives of the Official Opposition and an independent Member or independent Members may comment for up to a total of 8 minutes, commencing with the Official Opposition.

Standing Order 42(b) is amended by adding the following at the end:

"but shall not read the text of the petition."

Standing Order 46(c) is deleted.

Standing Order 49(a) is amended by deleting "on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday".

Standing Order 50(b) is amended by deleting "If a recorded vote is requested by 5 Members, division bells shall be limited to 10 minutes".

Standing Order 61(d) is amended by deleting "If a recorded vote is requested by 5 Members, division bells shall be limited to 10 minutes".

Standing Order 62(b) is deleted and the following is substituted:

Upon tabling or upon the appointment of committees pursuant to Standing Order 110(a) and assignment of Ministries and Offices pursuant to Standing Order 113(b), the Estimates shall be deemed to be referred to the Standing Committees to which the respective Ministries and Offices were assigned.

Standing Order 63(b) is amended by adding the following sub-clause following subclause (ii):

The Estimates of the Office of the Premier and the Estimates of the Cabinet Office shall constitute one selection and represent a single turn taken under Standing Order 63(b)(ii).

Standing Order 63(d) is deleted and the following is substituted:

63(d) The time for the consideration of the Estimates of each Ministry or Office shall be determined by the respective committee.

9 H

Prières

ORDRES DU JOUR

Trevor Jones a proposé,

- i) The Estimates of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, if selected by a committee, shall have no time allotted to them, and when these Estimates are considered, the Chair shall put, without further amendment or debate, every question necessary to dispose of these Estimates.
- ii) The Estimates of the Office of the Premier and the Estimates of the Cabinet Office shall be allotted time jointly and shall be considered concurrently.

Standing Order 65(a) is deleted and the following is substituted:

Upon tabling or upon the appointment of committees pursuant to Standing Order 110(a) and assignment of Ministries and Offices pursuant to Standing Order 113(b), all Supplementary Estimates shall be deemed referred to the Standing Committee to which their Ministry or Office has been assigned.

Standing Order 70(b) is amended by deleting “If a recorded vote is requested by 5 Members, division bells shall be limited to 10 minutes”.

Standing Order 85(a)(ii) is amended by deleting “\$150” and substituting the words “a fee in an amount prescribed by the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs, which may be amended by that committee from time to time.”

Standing Order 85(c) is deleted and the following is substituted:

Where, at the request of the applicant, a Standing Order is suspended with reference to a Private Bill, a charge shall be levied in an amount which shall be prescribed by the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs, and which may be amended by that committee from time to time.

For the duration of this Parliament, the following provisional Standing Order is added:

85(h) Until the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs has set new fees pursuant to Standing Order 85(a)(ii) and 85(c), the fees shall remain at the amounts indicated in the Standing Orders as they were on the first day of the 43rd Parliament.

Standing Order 85(g)(ii) is amended by adding the words “given further consideration by the House or” after “not”.

Standing Order 99 is amended by deleting:

“The rules of procedure and the fees and costs related to applications for private bills are set out in the Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly. Copies of the Standing Orders, and the guide “Procedures for Applying for Private Legislation”, may be obtained from the Legislative Assembly’s Internet site at www.ola.org or from:”

and substituting

“The procedures related to applications for Private Bills are set out in the Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly and the costs of applications are set by the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs. Information is available at www.ola.org, or may be requested from:”

Standing Order 100(c) is amended by deleting “8” and replace with “9”.

Standing Order 110 is deleted and the following is substituted:

Within the first 10 sessional days following the commencement of a Parliament, the membership of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs shall be appointed, on motion with notice, for the duration of the Parliament, which committee is empowered:

a) at the beginning of a Parliament, and from time to time as may be required, to appoint or revise, for the duration of a Parliament, the membership of the Standing Committees referred to in Standing Order 110.1 and those Select Committees which the House has resolved should have their membership appointed under this standing order and shall make a report thereon to the House, which report shall be deemed to be adopted;

b) to review on its own initiative or at the request of the Speaker or the direction of the House and to report to the House its observations, opinions and recommendations on the Standing Orders of the House and the procedures in the House and its Committees;

c) to advise the Speaker and the Board of Internal Economy, and to report to the House its observations, opinions and recommendations on the administration of the House and the provision of services and facilities to Members;

d) to act as an advisory body to the Speaker and the House on the television broadcast system and to conduct reviews, at least on an annual basis, of the televising of the legislative proceedings and of the guidelines established by the House with respect to the television broadcast system;

e) to be the Committee which is empowered to review and consider from time to time the Reports of the Ombudsman as they become available; and, as the Committee deems necessary, pursuant to subsection 15(1) of the *Ombudsman Act*, to formulate general rules for the guidance of the Ombudsman in the exercise of his or her functions under the Act; and to report thereon to the Legislature and to make such recommendations as the Committee deems appropriate;

f) and to be the Committee provided for by section 33 of Part III (Regulations) of the *Legislation Act, 2006*, and having the terms of reference as set out in that section, namely: to be the Committee to which all regulations stand permanently referred; and to examine the regulations with particular reference to the scope and method of the exercise of delegated legislative power without reference to the merits of the policy or objectives to be effected by the regulations or enabling statutes, but in so doing regard shall be had to the following guidelines:

- i. Regulations should not contain provisions initiating new policy, but should be confined to details to give effect to the policy established by the statute;
- ii. Regulations should be in strict accord with the statute conferring of power, particularly concerning personal liberties;
- iii. Regulations should be expressed in precise and unambiguous language;
- iv. Regulations should not have retrospective effect unless clearly authorized by statute;
- v. Regulations should not exclude the jurisdiction of the courts;
- vi. Regulations should not impose a fine, imprisonment or other penalty;
- vii. Regulations should not shift the onus of proof of innocence to a person accused of an offence;
- viii. Regulations should not impose anything in the way of a tax (as distinct from fixing the amount of a licence fee, or the like); and
- ix. General powers should not be used to establish a judicial tribunal or an administrative tribunal,

and the Committee shall from time to time report to the House its observations, opinions and recommendations as required by section 33 of Part III (Regulations) of the *Legislation Act, 2006*, but before drawing the attention of the House to a regulation or other statutory instrument, the Committee shall afford the ministry or agency concerned an opportunity to furnish orally or in writing to the Committee such explanation as the ministry or agency thinks fit;

g) to be the committee provided for in subsection 7(1) and section 12 of the *Queen's Park Restoration Secretariat Act, 2023* and subsection 108.3(1) and section 108.5 of the *Legislative Assembly Act* and, without limitation, to have the general mandate to inquire into and make recommendations respecting any project to restore the legislative building at Queen's Park including any relocation of legislative operations to a temporary location throughout the project.

The following Standing Order is added:

110.1 The Standing Committees shall be:

- a) Standing Committee on Justice Policy;
- b) Standing Committee on Social Policy;
- c) Standing Committee on Heritage, Infrastructure and Cultural Policy;
- d) Standing Committee on the Interior;
- e) Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs which is empowered to consider and report to the House its observations, opinions and recommendations on the fiscal and economic policies of the Province and to which all related documents shall be deemed to have been referred immediately when the said documents are tabled;
- f) Standing Committee on Government Agencies which is empowered to review and report to the House its observations, opinions and recommendations on the operation of all agencies, boards and commissions to which the Lieutenant Governor in Council makes some or all of the appointments, and all corporations to which the Crown in right of Ontario is a majority shareholder, such reviews to be made with a view to reducing possible redundancy and overlapping, improving the accountability of agencies, rationalizing the functions of the agencies, identifying those agencies or parts of agencies which could be subject to sunset provisions, and revising the mandates and roles of agencies, and to review the intended appointments of persons to agencies, boards and commissions and of directors to corporations in which the Crown in right of Ontario is a majority shareholder, excluding reappointments and appointments for a term of 1 year or less, according to the following procedures:
 1. A Minister of the Crown shall lay on the Table a certificate stating that the Lieutenant Governor in Council intends to appoint a person to an agency, board or commission or to the board of directors of a corporation, together with a copy of the position description and a summary of the person's qualifications, which documents shall be deemed to be referred to the Committee.
 2. Upon receipt of a certificate as referred to in paragraph 1, the Clerk of the Committee shall distribute to each member of the Sub-committee on Committee Business a list of intended appointees in respect of whom a certificate has been received.
 3. The Sub-committee shall meet at its own initiative, at the request of the Committee, or at the request of any member of the Sub-committee, to select from among the intended appointees referred to in paragraph 1 those intended appointees the Committee will review. Each member of the Sub-committee, other than the Chair, may choose one or more of the intended appointees for review from the certificates provided by the Clerk of the Committee.

4. The Sub-committee shall report to the Committee on the intended appointees for review. Upon receiving the report, the Committee shall determine a date for the review of the intended appointees as selected by the members of the Sub-committee. The report shall specify the amount of time allocated for the consideration of each intended appointee and the date on which each will be reviewed. An equal amount of time shall be allocated for review of each member's selections, and where a member of the Sub-committee has selected more than one intended appointee the time available to review that member's selections shall be allocated among his or her selections.

5. Upon notice from the Clerk of the Committee that an intended appointee has been selected for review, the Minister shall ensure that the Committee receives a copy of the intended appointee's resume or biographical information and a description of the responsibilities of the position.

6. A Sub-committee member may choose to defer the consideration of one or more of the intended appointees that the member has chosen until a future meeting of the Committee at which intended appointees are to be reviewed so long as the consideration of the intended appointee has not previously been deferred.

7. In reviewing an intended appointee, the Committee shall not call as a witness any person other than the intended appointee.

8. At the conclusion of the meeting held to review an intended appointment, the Committee shall determine whether or not it concurs in the intended appointment. Any member may request that the Committee defer its determination to the next meeting of the Committee, but in any event no later than 7 calendar days. In its report, the Committee shall state whether or not it concurs in the intended appointments and may state its reasons.

9. Whether or not the House stands adjourned, the Committee shall release its report by depositing it the same day with the Clerk of the House and upon receipt of the report by the Clerk the report shall be deemed to be adopted by the House.

10. A report that the Committee will not review an intended appointee shall be deemed to have been made by the Committee and adopted by the House in any of the following cases:

- i. a report respecting the intended appointee has not been made by the Committee within 30 calendar days following the day on which the Minister tables the certificate referred to in paragraph 1,
- ii. the Sub-committee does not at its first meeting following the day on which the Minister tables the certificate select the intended appointee for review, or
- iii. the intended appointee has not been selected for review by the Sub-committee within 14 days following the day on which the Minister tabled the certificate.

11. The Committee by unanimous agreement may extend any of the deadlines in paragraph 10.

12. The Clerk of the Committee shall give the Minister who tabled the certificate written notification of any decision respecting the appointment made by the Committee or the Sub-committee on Committee Business.

13. During any adjournment of the House that exceeds 1 week, the Committee shall meet on such day or days as may be determined by the Sub-committee, but in any event not more than 3 times per month.

g) Standing Committee on Public Accounts which is empowered to review and report to the House its observations, opinions and recommendations on the Report of the Auditor General and the Public Accounts, which documents shall be deemed to have been permanently referred to the Committee as they become available.

Standing Order 113(a) is amended by deleting the words “Standing Orders 110(a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (g)” and replacing it with the words “Standing Orders 110(a) and 110.1 (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e)”.

Standing Order 113(b) is amended by adding the following at the end:

“The Office of the Premier and the Cabinet Office shall be assigned to the same Standing Committee.”

The following new Standing Order is added:

113(c) If the Estimates are tabled in the House prior to the appointment of committee membership pursuant to Standing Order 110(a) or prior to the assignment of Ministries and Offices to committees pursuant to Standing Order 113(b), all Ministries and Offices shall stand assigned to the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs until membership has been appointed and assignment has been completed.

Standing Order 115(b) is deleted and the following is substituted:

Notwithstanding clause (a), each independent Member may deposit, with the Clerk of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs, his or her request to be appointed to at least 1 Standing Committee. An independent Member may state his or her Committee preference but such statement of preference is not binding.

Standing Order 115(d) is deleted.

Standing Order 115(e) is deleted and the following is substituted:

At any time before or during a committee meeting, a temporary substitution in the membership of a Standing or Select Committee may be made provided a notification thereof, signed by the Member acting as the Whip of a recognized party, is filed with the Clerk of the Committee. If notice of a substitution is delivered while a committee meeting is in progress, the notification shall be delivered by hand to the Clerk of the Committee.

Standing Order 115(f) is deleted.

Standing Order 119(a) is amended by deleting “110” and replacing it with “110 and 110.1”.

Standing Order 128(a) is amended by deleting the words “Standing Orders 110(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (g)” and replacing it with the words “Standing Orders 110(a) and 110.1 (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e)”.

Standing Order 143 is deleted; and

That the Clerk is authorized to re-number the Standing Orders and to make such other consequential, editorial or other minor changes as may be required to ensure a consistent form of expression throughout the Standing Orders.

Debate arose and after some time, the debate adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Il s'élève un débat et après quelque temps, à 10 h 15, le débat était ajourné.

10:15 A.M.

10 H 15

The House recessed at 11:39 a.m.

À 11 h 39, l'Assemblée a suspendu la séance.

3:00 P.M.**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

The following Bills were introduced and read the first time:

Bill 181, An Act to proclaim Family Caregiver Day. France Gélinas.

Bill 182, An Act to proclaim Waterpower Day. Michael Mantha.

PETITIONS

No./N°	Petition title/Titre de la pétition	Presented by/Présentée par
P-104	Amendment to Regional Official Plan	Catherine Fife
P-197	Agricultural Research Institute of Ontario	Dave Smith (Peterborough—Kawartha)

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Motion regarding amendments to the Standing Orders.

Debate resumed and after some time,

John Fraser moved,

That the motion be amended as follows:

By deleting everything from “Standing Order 115(b)” to “Standing Order 115(f) is deleted” inclusive; and

By inserting the following: “Standing Order 35(g) is amended by adding, “In addition to the Speaker’s allotment of questions to independent Members under this Standing Order, the Speaker may also allot to independent Members the slots for what would otherwise be the third and fifth questions allotted to Government Members.”

Debate arose and after some time,

John Fraser moved adjournment of the debate.

Lost on the following division – Ayes 4, Nays 58

Debate resumed and after some time,

Ted Hsu moved,

That the amendment be amended as follows:

By deleting everything after the word “following” and inserting: “In exercising his discretion under Standing Order 35(g), the Speaker shall recognize independent Members for 4 questions per day, each followed by one supplementary.”

Debate arose and after some time, the debate adjourned.

15 H**DÉPÔT DE PROJETS DE LOI**

Les projets de loi suivants sont présentés et lus une première fois :

Projet de loi 181, Loi proclamant le Jour des aidants naturels. France Gélinas.

Projet de loi 182, Loi proclamant la Journée de l’énergie hydraulique. Michael Mantha.

PÉTITIONS**ORDRES DU JOUR**

Motion concernant des amendements au Règlement.

Le débat a repris et après quelque temps,

John Fraser a proposé,

Il s’élève un débat et après quelque temps,

John Fraser a proposé l’ajournement du débat.

Rejetée par le vote suivant – pour 4, contre 58

Le débat a repris et après quelque temps,

Ted Hsu a proposé,

Il s’élève un débat et après quelque temps, le débat était ajourné.

6:00 P.M.**PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BUSINESS**

Steve Clark moved,

Private Members' Notice of Motion No. 82:

That, in the opinion of this House, the federal government should halt the carbon tax hike set for April 1, 2024, which will add 17.61 cents to the cost of a litre of gas and will therefore increase the cost of everything for the people of Ontario.

Debate arose and after some time,

The question was then put.

Vote deferred.

ADJOURNMENT DEBATE

At 6:46 p.m., the following matters were considered in an adjournment debate.

Member for Niagara Falls (Wayne Gates) to the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Long-Term Care – Long-Term Care.

Member for Ottawa South (John Fraser) to the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance (Stephen Crawford) – Budget.

The House adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

18 H**AFFAIRES D'INTÉRÊT PUBLIC ÉMANANT DES DÉPUTÉES ET DÉPUTÉS**

Steve Clark a proposé,

Avis de motion émanant des députées et députés n° 82 :

Il s'élève un débat et après quelque temps,

La question a ensuite été mise aux voix.

Le vote est différé.

DÉBAT SUR LA MOTION D'AJOURNEMENT

À 18 h 46, les questions suivantes ont été examinées dans un débat d'ajournement.

À 19 h 06, l'Assemblée a ajourné ses travaux.

RESPONSES TO PETITIONS**RÉPONSES AUX PÉTITIONS**

No./N°	Petition title/Titre de la pétition	Presented by/Présentée par	Date tabled/Date de dépôt
P-21	Health care privatization/Privatisation des soins de santé	France Gélinas	December 5, 2023
		Lisa Gretzky	November 30, 2023
		Terence Kernaghan	November 27, 2023
P-91	2SLGBTQI+ Community Safety Zones	Terence Kernaghan	November 27, 2023
		Jamie West	November 27, 2023