



ALBERTA YOUTH PARLIAMENT

UofA CHAPTER

**INFORMATION
PACKAGE**

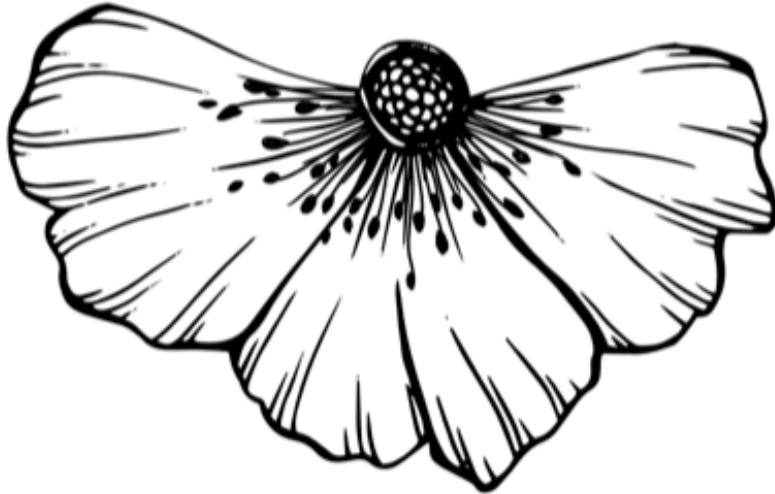


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SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION TO WINTER SESSION



Preface

An Introduction to the Handbook

We are extremely excited to welcome all members to the first Winter Session of the Alberta Youth Parliament: UofA Chapter. This package contains critical information regarding the schedule, parliamentary terminology and procedures, activities, proceedings, and events. There is a lot of information within these pages, so please keep it on hand throughout session! We also encourage all new members to attend the training session, ask questions, and actively engage with the material presented in this handbook.

Schedule Overview

This session's schedule has been collaboratively agreed upon by the Front Four and Cabinet members. We will strictly adhere to the schedule, so keep it handy for a consistent source of information to make sure you are aware of the activities and when they take place. If you need any modifications made for personal reasons, please consult a member of the Front Four.

Letters of Greeting

The Front Four welcome all students to the second AYP Session held at the University of Alberta! The Front Four are some of the most experienced members of the Parliament, and it is their job to make sure that the Session runs smoothly and is an enjoyable experience for all. Don't be afraid to approach them throughout Session if you have questions. The Premier has written a greeting for this year's members!

Alberta Youth Parliament's Diversity and Political Neutrality

The Alberta Youth Parliament is a diverse and politically neutral organization, dedicated to being a welcoming environment for everyone. We welcome individuals of all political beliefs, religious beliefs, races, genders, sexualities, cultures, and minority groups. While debating, members will be separated into government and opposition for the purpose of the seating arrangement. However, members are welcome to debate any position they would like. We encourage members to debate their personal beliefs or challenge themselves by debating against their personal beliefs. Members are not permitted to judge or harass individuals based on their beliefs and stances in debates. The University of Alberta's student code of conduct must be followed at all times throughout session.

Land Acknowledgement

The Alberta Youth Parliament acknowledges that the land on which we gather in Treaty Six, the traditional gathering places for many Indigenous peoples. We honour and respect the history, languages, ceremonies, and culture of the First Nations, Metis, and Inuit who call these territories home.

What is the Winter Session?

What You Need to Know

Winter Session is an annual 3-day conference-like leadership event where University of Alberta students convene in the Alberta Legislative Building from February 10th to February 11th to debate and learn about the Government of Alberta. There is a mandatory pre-session event on February 9th in either the Alberta Legislature or ECHA 2-131 where students will learn how parliamentary proceedings occur. It is highly recommended that students go to the Alberta Legislature for their pre-session, as there will be a mock debate and students can have more opportunity to ask questions (please check the schedule on page 6 for more details). Students will then use this training on February 10th to 11th for the debate sessions. All attendees will be representatives of their ridings in the Legislative Chamber and participate in discussions about the function of the Parliament, debate on current topics, hear from guest speakers (MLAs, professors, community leaders, etc.), and learn vital professional skills through workshops.

Throughout the Session, members will participate in parliamentary procedures, as well as leisure time in order to get to know their fellow members. There will also be a tour of the Parliament included in our conference. The parliamentary proceedings take place in the Alberta Legislative Building in the House, while leisure activities will take place in caucus rooms.

Parliamentary Proceedings

Attendees will spend most of the day learning about Alberta's governmental systems and participating in parliamentary debates. Outside of the debate, members will have the opportunity to meet various speakers and participate in workshops that teach the parliamentary process (no experience necessary).

Leisure and Recreation

Throughout the rest of the Session, members will participate in a variety of team-building exercises, games and activities, and free time for socializing. This casual time will allow members to relax and have a break from parliamentary procedures, while also connecting with their fellow members. Many AYP alumni claim that their favorite parts of Session were the friendships they formed during leisure, ice breaker, and recreational time.

Session Logistics

We try our best to make Sessions a welcoming and enjoyable experience. Once you arrive at the Session, all your meals and supplies needed for debate will be provided. Additionally, no previous debate experience is needed, as we teach you everything you need to know.

Schedule

(subject to minor changes)

	FRIDAY February 9	SATURDAY February 10	SUNDAY February 11
8:00 AM		Caucus	Caucus
8:10 AM		First Sitting	Fourth Sitting
9:00 AM			
10:00 AM		Caucus	Caucus
10:10 AM			Fifth Sitting
11:00 AM		Second Sitting	Awards & Certifications
11:30 AM			Farewells
12:00 PM		Lunch	
12:30 PM		Guest Speaker	
1:00 PM		Icebreakers	
1:30 PM	Introduction to Parliamentary Debate	Caucus	
2:00 PM			
2:10 PM	Practice debate	Third Sitting	
3:00 PM			
4:00 PM			
5:00 PM	Icebreakers		
5:30 PM	Introduction to Parliamentary Debate		
6:00 PM			

Note: On February 9th, you can either go to the Group A (held at the Alberta Legislature) or the Group B (held at ECHA 2-131) session. A week prior to the session, you will be sent a google form that will ask which session you will be attending. It is mandatory to attend one of these sessions in order to attain your leadership and public speaking certificates. If you do not have experience with the Westminster debate system, we highly recommend you attend the Group A session from 1pm-5pm in the Legislature. Students in Group A will have more time to learn about Parliamentary procedures, and will get an opportunity for a mock debate, where you will be able to informally practice your debate skills prior to our formal Sitings.

Schedule Highlights

What We Will Be Doing

Arrival and Check-In

Members will arrive at the Alberta Legislative Building (from the west entrance) where they will be introduced to the Front Four, given their printed edition of the handbook, name tags, and complete a brief orientation.

Debate Education

During these times, our Minister of Education and their committee will teach members the basics of parliamentary debate and procedure. This workshop will be accommodating to all levels of debate experience and will prepare the members for debate in the Alberta Legislature throughout the week.

Opening Ceremony

To welcome our members into the Alberta Legislature, we will participate in the opening ceremony before our first official sitting. During this ceremony, we will follow the procedure explained in the printed edition of the handbook.

Parliamentary Sittings

During this time, Parliamentarians (members) will participate in parliamentary-style debates. Please note that no debate experience is needed to join AYP, as we will walk everyone through the policies and procedures of the debates. The resolutions (topics) that we will be debating will be provided closer to Session and will be printed for everyone at the conference.

Caucus

During this time, members will have the opportunity to spend time in the caucus rooms. The Front Four will provide members with any necessary information for the upcoming sitting and answer any debate-related questions that the parliamentarians may have.

Prorogation Ceremony

This is the closing ceremony for our time at the University of Alberta. At this time, the elected Premier and Leader of the Opposition will announce their Cabinet for the upcoming year. Additionally, the Lieutenant Governor will read the prorogation speech written by the Premier. The Session will then be declared as prorogued until next year.

Lieutenant Governor (LG)'s Reception and Guest Speakers

During the Lieutenant Governor's reception, members will have the opportunity to meet this year's LG, hear a speech from them, and ask them questions about their careers. Additionally, throughout the week, we will have various guest speakers joining us to meet our parliamentarians (members).

Letters of Greeting

A Welcome Message from Our Leaders

I extend the heartiest of welcomes to all our members from the University of Alberta. This will be our second Session at the University of Alberta, where we continue to uphold the spirit and traditions of the Parliament's past. This is an exciting opportunity that allows us to reach more youth than ever before! Through this new format, I am looking forward to seeing the true qualities of being a Parliamentarian shine in all of us!

Not only is youth parliament a great place to enhance your skills, but it is also an opportunity to become a part of a welcoming new community where you will have a platform to represent your communities and raise your voices to the important issues of our country. This Parliament has provided me an avenue to explore my interests, learn more about the parliamentary system, and aided my pursuit of higher academics, and professional and personal development, all while empowering me to find solutions to issues in our province and country for youth. As provincial representatives, you will find yourselves debating resolutions, working with fellow parliamentarians to discuss policy, and sharing the virtual space in fun and games. But always remember that you can find friends away from home if only you ask; your fellow parliamentarians are always here to help.

Our province has shown great resilience in the face of adversity this year, and for this, we are all worthy of praise, especially our frontline workers. We are thankful that the COVID-19 pandemic has settled down, and that we are able to continue hosting in-person Sessions! We move forward inspired and motivated by the resiliency of our members and embark on a journey beyond just this week to foster critical thinking, and leadership skills, champion youth and create an informed next generation of leaders regardless of political ideology. This is your chance to make your mark, raise your voice, and reach new heights. I congratulate you on being a part of this Parliament and look forward to working with you to create the leaders of today.

Regards,



Ramesh Mahdaviyar
Premier
2024 Session of the Alberta Youth Parliament: UofA Chapter

Awards

Most Improved Debater

This award shall be presented annually to the member who shows the greatest progress in their first year at the Alberta Youth Parliament. Throughout debate, this member asked many questions and over time, learnt to embody great debate and public speaking skills. The recipient is selected by the Speaker of the House in consultation with the Four Elected Leaders, and the award is given on the last day of Session.

Phenomenal Leadership Award

This award is intended to be given annually, but only in the event that an appropriate recipient is available. This shall be awarded to an incumbent member, other than one of the retiring Elected Leaders, who has demonstrated leadership during the Session, either formally or informally. The recipient will have demonstrated a willingness to "pitch in" so that the Session runs smoothly and is an attractive and positive experience for others. The recipient will have contributed to most, if not all, aspects of the Session, including debate in the House, Social Action, recreational, and housekeeping activities.

Most Outstanding Debater

This award is given annually to the most outstanding debater in the parliament. This member has proven to be a strong believer in the importance of logical thought and persuasive argument. Throughout the Session, this member has demonstrated respect to fellow parliamentarians and provided compelling arguments upon resolutions. The recipient is selected by the Speaker of the House in consultation with the Four Elected Leaders, and the award is given on the last day of Session.

What Happens After the Winter Session?

After Session ends, the AYP hosts various student events across the University throughout the year. Our Front Four (Parliament Leaders), Cabinet Ministers (Executives), and Student Representatives continue to create initiatives and projects to empower students year-long. If you are new to the Parliament (a Student Representative), you have three options following the end of the Winter Session for the upcoming year:

Option 1: Remain a Student Representative

As a Student Representative, you will continue to work with the Parliament as an ambassador for University of Alberta students. By working closely with the parliament, you will have the opportunity to propose events you think we should host. Additionally, you will be invited to all of the in-person or online events that the parliament hosts throughout the year. This is a flexible position that requires a limited time commitment and lasts for the year. At the end of the year, Student Representatives will be invited to participate in the Annual Winter Session the following year.

Option 2: Apply for a Cabinet Position

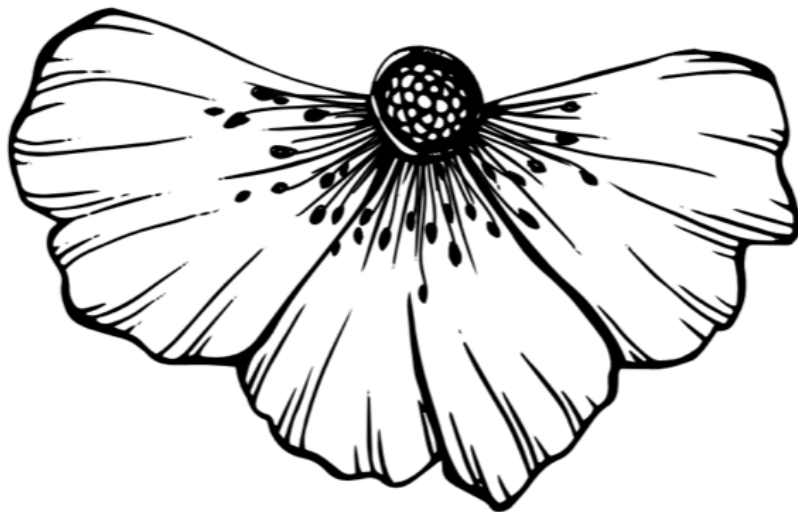
At the end of the Session, any member who would like to become a Cabinet Minister will have the opportunity to apply for one of the positions. The elected Front Four will decide who they feel would fit best in each Ministry and assign Cabinet Members accordingly. This position requires a limited commitment for the year and attending the following Session next year. In this role, Cabinet Ministers will support any events hosted by the parliament through their Cabinet's roles and portfolio.

Option 3: Exit the Parliament

If you choose to exit the Parliament, you will not be invited to our regular Cabinet meetings. However, you are still welcome to attend all programs and events hosted by the Parliament. Additionally, if you decide to exit the Parliament, you are welcome to still attend Sessions in the future and become a Student Representative or Cabinet Minister in the future.

SECTION 2

OVERVIEW OF PARLIAMMENTARY PROCEDURES



Important Terminology

Cabinet (Front Bench): This group fills the Government side of the House, made up of the Premier, Deputy Premier, Cabinet Ministers, and Government Whip.

Shadow Cabinet (Opposition): This group fills the Opposition side of the House, made up of the Leader of the Opposition, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Cabinet Ministers, and Opposition Whip.

Caucus: A meeting of a party or group in an assembly. In partisan parliaments, this is where strategy is formulated. Given our Parliament's non-partisan nature, it is used before each Sitting to brief members on what to expect during the upcoming sitting. The Government and Opposition each have their own caucus room, which is led by the Whips. Caucus is an ideal time to raise questions about anything House-related.

Chamber: The meeting room where the House of Commons or the Senate conducts business is known as the chamber.

Clerk: A person charged with keeping a record of the proceedings. These records are then published in the form of a journal.

Committee of the Whole (House): This committee involves all House members gathering in the chamber as a committee.

Cross the Floor: "Crossing the floor" is when members change political allegiance, symbolized in the House of Commons by sitting as an independent or with members of a new party.

Daily Order of Business: This is the routine set of activities for each day the House of Commons meets. It follows a predetermined sequence outlined in the House's Standing Orders.

Journal: The Journal is a record of the proceedings in the House. It will also include any correspondence received by the parliament, and documents that get tabled during the Session.

Lieutenant Governor: His Majesty The King's official representative to the province. The Student Parliament uses one of our representatives or a prominent member of the community to ceremonially fill the position for the week.

Mace: A big, ornate staff, known as the Mace, represents the authority of the House of Commons. When the Speaker begins the session, the Sergeant-at-Arms puts the mace on the Table to show that the House is in session.

Motion: A motion is a suggestion made by a member of the House or a committee to take action, give orders, or express an opinion on a matter. For the House or committee to consider it, a motion needs to be proposed and seconded. When approved, a motion becomes an order or a resolution. The following motions need seconders:

- (a) The motion for an address in reply to the Speech from the Throne,
- (b) The motion to elect a speaker.
- (c) Resolutions and amendments.

Mover: A member who introduces a motion in the House of Commons or its committees is known as a mover. When allowed, the member speaks right after putting the question to the House.

Oral Questions: Right after lunch, a 15-minute daily period in the House where members can ask questions directly to ministers and members. Ministers can only be questioned about their current responsibilities.

Order Papers: These papers are the official agenda of the House of Commons. At the beginning of each Sitting, the orders of the day will be read by the Provincial Secretary. This will then be put to a vote to adopt the projected business and use that as our “hourly calendar”. It is published with the Resolution Papers for each sitting day and lists all the items that might be discussed on that day.

Proposed Legislation: This is the legislation that will be debated at the Session. The Bills impact the function of the Parliament and attempt to change our set bylaws. The Resolutions are the proposed “laws” or political topics that will be debated. The resolutions are a much more light-hearted debate, whereas the bills are serious topics of change.

Put the Question: “Putting to question” brings the motion to a vote in the House. Once this happens, no more debate or changes can be made. The Speaker reads the main motion, along with any proposed amendments or sub-amendments in order to put the question to the House.

Seconders: A member in the House of Commons who formally backs a motion or amendment is known as a seconder. Speaking is not necessary; the member can simply show agreement.

Sergeant-at-Arms: This is an officer of the House whose key responsibility is to maintain order in the House and protect the Speaker. They escort the Speaker and Lieutenant Governor when they enter or exit the House. This is to ensure that there is no ‘coup de parliament’ while these people are in motion. They will also remove any persons ordered to leave by the Speaker.

Sessional Orders: These are technical rules that are understood by the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker.

Session: A session is a key time period in Parliament, made up of various separate sittings. It starts with a Speech from the Throne and ends with prorogation or the dissolution of Parliament.

Sitting: This is where the debate takes place, using a parliamentary format. It will be in the House and be governed by the Speaker according to the Rules of Order.

Speaker: This is the person who acts as a referee to the debates. Traditionally, the Speaker was the person who would report the proceedings of the House to the monarch (speaking on behalf of the House of Commons or House of Lords). The life expectancy of the Speaker was quite low since it was common for the King to execute the Speaker if he didn't like what he had to say, even though the Speaker was just communicating the will of the House. This is why the Speaker is reluctant to accept their nomination during the opening ceremonies.

Speech from the Throne: This is a speech written by the Premier that is read by the Lieutenant Governor during the Opening Ceremony. It is a general reflection on the past year, as well as a look ahead to the upcoming week.

Standing Orders: These are the rules that we follow during a debate. While the standing orders are instated, everyone must follow parliamentary behavior in the House.

The House: The venue for debate (the Alberta Legislature Chamber).

Whip (Government or Opposition): These people are responsible for briefing everyone during Caucus meetings about what will happen in the upcoming Sitting. They are also responsible for knowing where everyone is during Sittings and keeping their caucus in line.

The layout of the Legislative Chamber

Clerks' Desk: Directly in front of the Speaker is a desk for the Clerks. At the near end of this table is where the Mace rests.

Front Four: This is the group of elected leaders, made up of the Premier, Leader of the Opposition, Deputy Premier, and Deputy Leader of the Opposition.

Galleries: This is where the public may come and watch the proceedings.

Opposing Rows of Desks: As with every House modeled on the Westminster Parliamentary System, two sections of desk-rows face one another. The Government sits on the left and the Opposition sits on the right (or, from the Speaker's point-of-view, the Government sits on the right and the Opposition sits on the left). The front row of each side is for the Cabinet (or Parliament Executives/Front Bench). The other rows are for backbenchers (Student Representatives with no specific portfolio and are not Parliament Executives). The two sides are divided by approximately two- and one-half sword lengths. Back in the olden times, members of parliament carried swords, and it was not uncommon for a heated debate to turn into a physical skirmish between the two sides. The officers of the House later realized that if you divided the two sides by at least this length, it would be difficult to cross swords, and thus it promoted civility. Later, the swords were just confiscated, and it is now prohibited for members to bear arms in the House (except for Sikh Parliamentarians who wear *Kirpans*).

Pages: Flanking the Speaker are seats for the Pages, for those rare moments when they are not delivering notes from one Member to another.

Speaker's Throne: Between the two rows, at the far end of the chamber is a throne. This is where the Speaker sits. It is also from this position that the Lieutenant Governor will read the Speech From the Throne.

Forms and Formulae

Adjournment of Debate: delaying strategy used to “pause” a debate. When this motion is approved, the debate remains on the Order Paper and can be revisited at a later date.

Madame/Mr. Speaker, I move that this debate now adjourns for the purpose of ___[list reason]___ and return at ___[time]___.

Adjournment of the House: refers to the conclusion of a session, achieved through a motion. It spans the time between the end of one session and the start of the next.

Madame/Mr. Speaker, I move that this House now adjourns until ___[date and time]___.

Amendment: a suggested change to a motion. It aims to either enhance the current proposal or offer an alternative formulation.

Madame/Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by _____, that we ___[read amendment]___.

Friendly Amendment: if a member wants to change a spelling error, add something insignificant to the resolution (something that is not debatable), or alter a Whereas clause, they may motion for a friendly amendment that will not be debated and will be put to a vote immediately.

Madame/Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by _____, that we adopt the following friendly amendment: ___[read amendment]___.

Extension of a Sitting: if a Member wants to keep debating and miss out on lunch or the end of a sitting, they can put this to a vote.

Madame/Mr. Speaker, I move that the House extend this Sitting for _____ minutes/hours.

Notice of Motion: A Resolution must be introduced to the House through a Notice of Motion one sitting previous to the consideration of the Resolution.

Madame/Mr. Speaker, I beg to leave the House to give Notice of Motion on Resolution Re: _____.

Member to be Now Heard: If a Member feels as though a fellow Member has not had the opportunity to speak, they can motion for that particular Member to be heard. The House will then vote on this motion.

Madame/Mr. Speaker, I move that the Honorable Member for _____ be now heard.

Resolutions: This is what we are debating on. All resolutions must have a seconder.

Madame/Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by _____, that we adopt Resolution Re: _____.

The Previous Question: if a Member wants to cease debate on a topic and move on to the next amendment or the next resolution, they can ask the House to vote and stop all debate on the topic. This often happens when no one is changing their minds and the arguments seem to be circular.

Madame/Mr. Speaker, I move that this question be now put.

Parliamentary Points

Point of Order (PO): This is the most commonly used Point. It is used to draw to the attention of the House a breach of the rules of order. Activities such as debating whereas clauses, referring to another Member by name, or using language unbecoming of a Member will frequently be caught and called. The Speaker will make a ruling and explain the consequences, if there are any.

Point of Information (PoI): A question from one Member to another regarding a statement made during a speech. PoI's can be made after the speaking Member has concluded their speech, subject to the agreement of the speaking Member. The speaking Member may:

- A. **Right to Reply:** permits the opportunity for the Member who made the PoI to pose a follow-up question to the speaking Member, subject to approval by the Speaker.

MINISTER OF FINANCE: [finishes speech]

MINISTER OF EDUCATION: [asks PoI]

MINISTER OF FINANCE: [responds to PoI]

MINISTER OF EDUCATION: Right to reply?

SPEAKER: I will allow.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION: [asks second PoI]

MINISTER OF FINANCE: [responds to second PoI]

- B. **Deny to Reply:** The speaking Member is not obliged to respond to a Point of Information asked, as doing so may compromise their position.

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry (PoPI): A question directed to the clerk regarding the rules and procedures of the Westminster system in general, after other Members conclude their speeches.

Point of Privilege (PoP): This Point is very rarely used, except during certain special circumstances, such as the Front Four-elect rising to introduce each other and their appointed Front Bench for the upcoming year. This is largely a ceremonial point.

Point of Clarification (PoC): a Member may rise and call this Point to explain a material part of a speech in which that Member may have been misunderstood, or misquoted.

Point of Personal Privilege (PoPP): This is the most serious Point that can be raised; it indicates that a Member's personal privileges have been disregarded by another Member. It is assumed that every member of the House sits with honor, and it is thus un-parliamentary to imply that any Member has intentionally lied, cheated, or behaved in an inappropriate manner. Every PoPP must be concluded with a motion, and this will normally take the form of requiring an apology, naming the member, or ejecting them from the House. The House then votes on this motion without debate, and the appropriate action is taken. This is used very rarely – only in instances where a member has been seriously insulted.

Resolutions

What We Will Debate About!

Resolution Papers: This is where you can learn to interpret the resolutions which will be debated. There is an example on the next page that uses an actual resolution that received debate several years ago. Here are a few things to note:

- (a) The title concisely describes the nature of the resolution.
- (b) Whereas clauses state facts that generally support the resolution. They are not what will be debated, and it is even prohibited to try to debate whereas clauses.
- (c) THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED is a fancy way of saying “The Alberta Youth Parliament: UofA Chapter endorses the following.” These ‘therefore clauses’ are what gets debated.
- (d) This final clause indicates what action will be taken by the Youth Parliament if the resolution is carried out.

Amendments: Amendments are possibly the most crucial components of a debate. During the debate, the Speaker will encourage Members to propose amendments to the current resolution, typically through a paper submission that the Clerk will provide. Three types of amendments exist.

‘Addition’ amendments are employed to include words in the resolution. This could involve adding another word or phrase to an existing clause, introducing a new subclause, or creating an entirely new clause.

Clause: 1a

Amendment: Add “and donated”

‘Amendatory’ amendments are utilized to alter the wording of a specific clause. Essentially, they involve replacing one element with another.

Clause: 1a

Amendment: amend “agree by two-thirds majority” to “collectively agree”

‘Deletory’ amendments entail removing elements from the resolution, whether it be a phrase, subclause, or an entire clause.

Clause: 1a

Amendment: strike “or alternative security framework”

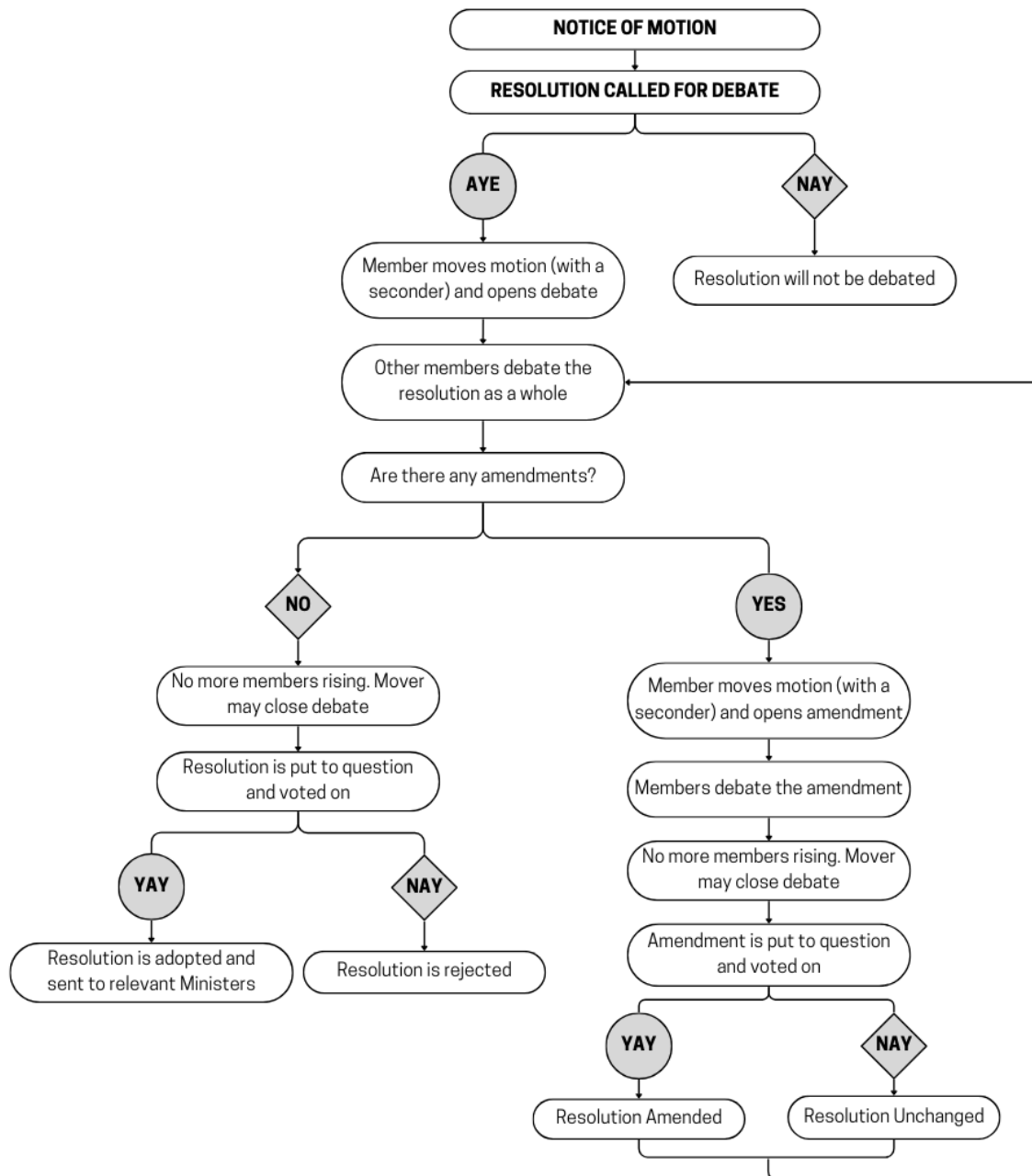
Parliamentary Cycle: As seen below, there are a number of steps when it comes to debating resolutions. Resolutions must first be put into the notice of motion in the previous House Sitting. This does not require a vote; putting into motion is simply notifying other Members that there might be a debate on a certain topic within the next Sitting.

- (a) At the following Sitting, the Member who put the resolution into motion will stand and put the resolution for question to be debated (call for a vote). This vote does NOT mean that the resolution will be passed. If the majority vote “yes”, that means that the resolution will be debated.

(b) The mover then starts the debate and gives a speech as to why they agree with the resolution. After the speech, another Member (a Critique) can also offer a speech as to why they are against it.

(c) Members of the House will then debate the resolution as a whole, making amendments if necessary. Unlike resolutions, amendments do not need to be voted on to be debated. If there is an amendment, the Mover will have their speech and debate will commence immediately afterwards. There is no Critique for amendments. Closing arguments can be made by the Mover.

(d) If the amendment passes, the resolution is changed. Debate on resolution then continues, and once there are no more amendments or Members rising to debate, closing arguments by the Mover can be made, and the resolution will be voted on.



Resolution Re: Dissolution of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

WHEREAS: The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was founded on April 4th, 1949, to combat Communist expansion in Europe; AND

WHEREAS: NATO consists of the following countries: Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America; AND

WHEREAS: No nation has veto power in NATO; AND

WHEREAS: Communist expansion in Europe is no longer a threat.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 2nd Session of the Alberta Youth Parliament (UofA Chapter), that:

1. On January 1st, 2005, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization should be dissolved, provided that:
 - a. member states agree by two-thirds majority on a suitable successor organization or alternative security framework; and
 - b. a comprehensive plan for the redistribution of its responsibilities and assets is concurrently presented and agreed upon by member states.
2. Any and all property belonging to NATO be turned over to the United Nations Force (UNFOR).
3. Any countries currently affiliated with NATO are allowed to set up an organization for regional peacekeeping operations in Europe and North America.
4. The Provincial Secretary of the Alberta Youth Parliament (UofA Chapter) communicates this position to:
 - a. The Prime Minister of Canada; and
 - b. The President of the United States of America; and
 - c. The Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

SECTION 3

FORMS & PROCEEDINGS FOR SESSION



Opening of Session

Members Sworn In

- 1 At the hour appointed for the opening of the Session of Parliament, the Members proceed into the House in an organized fashion and remain standing.
- 2 A Representative of the Alberta Youth Parliament: UofA Chapter carries in the Mace, mounts the dais, and motions to the Members to be seated. The Representative remains by the throne, standing. The Parliament Representative then explains the history and symbols of the Alberta Youth Parliament to the Members and Gallery and welcomes invited guests.

REPRESENTATIVE: Esteemed Guests, I welcome you to this, the 2024 Session of the Alberta Youth Parliament: UofA Chapter. This Session of Parliament shall sit from this day until the prorogation on February 11th.

We would like to start off this Session with an acknowledgment of the land.

"We acknowledge that the land on which we gather in Treaty Six, which is the traditional gathering places for many Indigenous peoples. We honor and respect the history, languages, ceremonies, and culture of the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit who call these territories home."

Here, I hold the Mace of the Parliament. The Mace was used at the mother of Parliaments in Britain to protect the Speaker of the House when decorum was upset. Today, its use is ceremonial, but it represents, nonetheless, the process and traditions of Parliament. At this time, I ask all Honorable Members to rise in their places for the purpose of convening the 2024 Session of the Alberta Youth Parliament: UofA Chapter.

- 3 On a signal from the Parliament Representative, the Members shall rise in their places.
- 4 The following ensues:

REPRESENTATIVE: Are all persons present Members of this Parliament, or vouched for as delegates?

CLERK: They are.

REPRESENTATIVE: For what purpose has our Parliament assembled?

MEMBERS: To increase in wisdom and stature, and to grow intellectually, and develop relationships with people.

REPRESENTATIVE: What do we mean by the Second Mile?

MEMBERS: "Willingly and cheerfully doing more than that which is our duty to do."

REPRESENTATIVE: Let us pledge ourselves anew for an unselfish quest for the best in our homes, in our schools and work, and our community, remembering always that:

MEMBERS: "Life is not a goblet to be drained, but is a measure to be filled."

5 The members affirm allegiance to the His Majesty King Charles the Third:

MEMBERS: I do affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III.

6 The Clerk leads the Premier and the Government Whip out of the House to summon the Lieutenant Governor. Clerk returns and Members resume their seats.

7 The Sergeant-at-Arms knocks three times and announces the Lieutenant Governor.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Order! Order! His/Her/Their Honor, the Honorable, the Lieutenant Governor.

8 All members shall rise in their places.

9 The Lieutenant Governor is then paraded into the House, preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms and followed by the Premier, and the Government Whip.

10 The Premier and Parliament Representative stand to the right of the throne, the Government Whip and Sergeant-at-Arms to the left, and the Lieutenant Governor in the center.

11 The Parliament Representative welcomes the Lieutenant Governor and presents them with the Mace. Members shall take their seats following the Lieutenant Governor's permission.

12 The Lieutenant Governor receives the Mace and turns it over to the Sergeant-at-Arms.

13 The Lieutenant Governor reads a short message, prepared by the Front Four.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR: Good morning/afternoon to all of the Alberta Youth Parliament University of Alberta attendees. It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to this year's event. As Lieutenant Governor, I am honored to witness the energy and enthusiasm of the young leaders who have come together to engage in thoughtful discussion and debate on the issues that matter most to our students.

The Alberta Youth Parliament is a forum for the exchange of ideas and the exploration of new perspectives. I am confident that this year's program will provide each of you with a unique opportunity to learn from one another, to develop your leadership skills, and to inspire one another to make positive change in your communities.

The future of Alberta is in your hands, and I have no doubt that you will rise to the challenge of leading our province with integrity, compassion, and purpose. So let us begin this exciting journey together, with an open mind and a commitment to learning from one another.

Once again, welcome to the Alberta Youth Parliament. I wish you all the very best for a productive and memorable event.

- 14 The Lieutenant Governor departs from the Chamber, escorted by the Parliament Representative.
- 15 The Premier, Parliament Representative, and the Government Whip assume their seats.
- 16 The Mace is returned to the House by the Sergeant-at-Arms and placed under the Table.
- 17 Members may be seated.

Roll Call

- 18 The Clerk stands and then reads the Government Roll of the House.

As each name is called, the Member rises in place and states the name of their constituency. Members do not sit back down and remain standing until the roll of their side of the House has been completed.

At the completion of the roll call for the Government side of the House, the Clerk announces the completion:

CLERK: I present His Majesty's Government.

- 19 The Government Members take their seats.
- 20 The Clerk then proceeds to read the Opposition roll call. As each name is called, the Member rises in place and states the name of their constituency. Members do not sit back down and remain standing until the roll of their side of the House has been completed. At its completion, the Clerk announces:

CLERK: I present His Majesty's Loyal Opposition.

- 21 The Opposition Members are then seated.

Election of Speaker

- 22 The Provincial Secretary announces:

PROVINCIAL SECRETARY: Honorable Members of the Alberta Youth Parliament: I have it in command to let you know His/Her/Their Honor the honorable Lieutenant Governor does not see fit to declare the causes of the summoning of this House until a Speaker shall have been chosen according to Law.

CLERK: I am now prepared to receive nominations for the Speaker of the House.

PREMIER: I move that _____ take the Chair of this House as Speaker.

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I second the motion.

- 23 The Clerk puts the motion to question.

CLERK: *It has been moved and seconded that _____ take the Chair of this House as Speaker. All those in favor, say aye. All those opposed, say nay.*

CLERK: *I declare _____ duly elected as Speaker.*

24 The Speaker is conducted to the dais by the Premier and Leader of the Opposition. The Premier and Leader of the Opposition remain standing on the right and left side of the dais, respectively.

25 The Speaker then addresses the House:

SPEAKER: I beg to tender to you, the Members of the 2024 Session of the Alberta Youth Parliament, my sincere and hearty thanks for the great honor you have bestowed upon me by electing me as your Speaker, a dignity which I greatly appreciate. It will be my pleasure as well as my duty to endeavor to deserve the honor by dealing with all questions that come before me in any official capacity with fairness and impartiality. I realize my unfitness for this position but rely confidently upon the cooperation of the Honorable Members in all parts of the House to assist me in maintaining our rules and privileges, and in preserving the integrity and freedom of debate to the ancient usage.

26 The Members rise in their places as the Sergeant-at-Arms takes the Mace from under the Table and carries it to the dais.

27 The Speaker then retires from the Chamber, preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

28 The Mover (Premier) and the Seconder (Leader of the Opposition) return to their seats.

Oath of Office

29 The Speaker returns, enrobed, preceded by the Sergeant-at-Arms with the Mace.

30 The Speaker calls upon the Premier, the Deputy Premier, the Leader of the Opposition, and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition to take their Oath of Office.

SPEAKER: I call upon the Premier, the Deputy Premier, the Leader of the Opposition, and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition to stand, raise your right hands, and take the Oath of Office.

31 The Elected Leaders rise and raise their right hands. They repeat after the Speaker:

SPEAKER: Repeat after me:

SPEAKER/ELECTED LEADERS: I do solemnly swear to uphold the dignity of the office conferred upon me by my fellow Members, and to do my part in the leadership of this, the 2024 Session of the Alberta Youth Parliament, to the best of my ability, and to keep before me at all times the highest ideals of the Alberta Youth Parliament.

SPEAKER: Therefore, I do bid each of you to carry your torch to its completion as duly sworn leaders of this Parliament.

32 The Leaders resume their seats.

Speech From the Throne

33 The Sergeant-at-Arms announces the Lieutenant Governor:

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Order! Order! His/Her/Their Honor, the Honorable, the Lieutenant Governor!

34 The Members rise as the Lieutenant Governor enters the House, accompanied by the Sergeant-at-Arms. The Lieutenant Governor assumes the Throne, while the Speaker remains on the right of the dais and the Sergeant-at-Arms on the left.

The Speaker introduces their person to the Lieutenant Governor:

SPEAKER: May it please Your Honor: The Parliament has elected me as their Speaker, though I am little able to fulfill the important duties thus assigned to me. If in the performance of these duties, I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me, and not to the House, whose servant I am, and who through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their King and Country, humbly claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, access to Your Honor's Person at all reasonable times, and that their proceedings may receive from Your Honor the most favorable construction.

35 On behalf of Their Honor, the Government Whip replies:

GOVERNMENT WHIP: Honorable Speaker, I am commanded by His/Her/Their Honor, the Honorable, the Lieutenant Governor to declare to you that they freely confide in the duty and attachment of the Parliament to His Majesty's Person and Government, and not doubting their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper, and prudence, they grant, and upon all occasions will recognize and allow, their constitutional privileges. I am also commanded to assure you the House shall have ready access to His/Her/Their Honor upon all reasonable occasions, and their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from His/Her/Their Honour the most favorable construction.

36 The Members remain standing until such time as the Lieutenant Governor motions for them to be seated.

37 The Parliament Representative places His/Her/Their Honor's Speech in front of the Lieutenant Governor, who then reads it.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR: Honorable Members of the Alberta Youth Parliament. As the representative of His Majesty the King Charles III, it is my great privilege to address you today and to welcome you to this historic gathering.

Student voices are the key to a bright future for our province, and your engagement in our democracy is a testament to your commitment to building a stronger, more inclusive Alberta. As we look to the future, we face many challenges that will require

the leadership and vision of young people like you. Challenges such as climate change, economic recovery, and social justice demand bold and innovative solutions. And I have no doubt that you are up to the task.

Through the debates, discussions, and decisions you will make during this Youth Parliament, you have the opportunity to shape the future of our province and our country. I encourage you to engage in respectful and productive dialogue, to listen to one another with open minds and hearts, and to seek common ground wherever possible.

Together, we can build a future that is inclusive, sustainable, and prosperous for all Albertans. And I am proud to stand with you as we work towards this goal. So let us begin this Youth Parliament with a shared commitment to learning, growth, and positive change. I wish you all the very best for a productive and inspiring event. Thank you.

- 38** After the Throne Speech is read, it is handed to the Speaker by the Parliament Representative.
- 39** Members rise as the Lieutenant Governor, Parliament Representative, and Sergeant-at-Arms leave the House.
- 40** The Sergeant-at-Arms returns and places the Mace on the Table, and then departs.
- 41** Members may be seated when the Speaker assumes the throne.

Introductions

- 42** The Deputy Premier rises on a Point of Personal Privilege and introduces the Premier. The Premier then rises on a Point of Personal Privilege and introduces the Cabinet.

DEPUTY PREMIER: I'd like to acknowledge my Point of Personal Privilege and introduce the Honourable Premier.

PREMIER: I'd like to acknowledge my Point of Personal Privilege and introduce the Government Cabinet Members.

- 43** The Deputy Leader of the Opposition, in a like manner, introduces the Leader of the Opposition, and the Shadow Cabinet.

DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I'd like to acknowledge my Point of Personal Privilege and introduce the Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION: I'd like to acknowledge my Point of Personal Privilege and introduce the Shadow Cabinet Members.

Notices of Motion

- 44** The mover of the first Resolution provides a Notice of Motion.

MOVER: I beg to leave the House to give Notice on Resolution Re: _____.

Tabling of Reports

- 45 The Speaker reports the receiving of a copy of the Speech from the Throne:

SPEAKER: I beg to inform the House that in order to prevent mistakes, I have obtained a copy of the Speech of His/Her/Their Honor, the Honorable, the Lieutenant Governor, which I now lay on the Table.

The Clerk takes the Speech from the Speaker and lays it on the Table.

Greetings

- 46 The Speaker reads any written greetings given to them by the Minister of Internal Affairs. Members may also introduce any guests seated in the galleries. Any visiting dignitaries or alumni may provide greetings from the bar.

Government Orders

- 47 The Premier moves the appointment of the Deputy Speaker:

PREMIER: I move that _____ be declared Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole House.

SPEAKER: I declare _____ duly elected as Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole House.

Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne

- 48 A Member sitting in support of the Government rises and introduces the Address in Reply to Their Honor's Speech.

- 49 At the end of the Member's speech, the Member says:

MOVER: I move the following humble Address to be presented to His/Her/Their Honor, the Honorable, the Lieutenant Governor.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOR: We, His Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects, the Alberta Youth Parliament, now assembled, beg leave to offer our humble thanks to Your Honor for the gracious Speech which Your Honor has pleased to address us at the opening of the Session.

- 50 Another Member sitting in support of the Government rises and seconds the motion. The Speaker then puts the Question to the House.

- 51 Debate on the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne begins. This is where the greetings race occurs. The Whips and the Leader of the Opposition must wait until the end to provide greetings.

- 52 The Speech from the Throne is generally a statement of the government's policies and the debate, broadly, is a debate on that policy.

- 53 Amendments to the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne are used by the Opposition for the purpose of challenging government policies or actions. A sub-amendment may be moved if it is relevant, but if it proposes to add to the main amendment words of commendation for the Government, then it is equivalent to an expanded negative and destroys the whole effect of the Opposition's amendment.
- 54 Debate on the Address in Reply is very wide-ranging. It is one of the few opportunities for Private Members to bring forward topics of their own choosing.
- 55 After a period of debate has passed in reply to the Speech from the Throne, a Member of the Opposition may rise to introduce a want-of-confidence motion as an amendment to the Address.
- 56 If the Address in Reply is carried without amendment, the Premier will move the following:
- PREMIER: I move that said Address be engrossed and presented to His/Her/Their Honor, the Honorable, the Lieutenant Governor by such Members of this House as are of the Cabinet.*
- 57 If an amendment to the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne is carried then the Government has lost the confidence of the House and the Parliament prorogued immediately and opens the Session with the Leader of the Opposition as Premier, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition as Deputy Premier, and the Opposition Caucus forming the Government.

Royal Assent Ceremony

- 58 The Premier moves that “This House do now prorogue”. The Speaker puts the question to the House.
- 59 Members rise as the Lieutenant Governor enters accompanied by the Sergeant-at-Arms and assumes the Throne. Members are seated upon direction from the Lieutenant Governor.
- 60 The Speaker will say:
- SPEAKER: May it please Your Honor, the Alberta Youth Parliament UofA Chapter has, at its present sitting, passed certain Resolutions to which, on behalf of the House, I respectfully request Your Honor’s assent.*
- 61 The Clerk of the House will say:
- CLERK: Your Honor, the following are the titles of the Resolutions to which Your Honor’s assent is prayed:*
- The Clerk of the House reads the names of the Resolutions that have been passed.
- CLERK: These are the Resolutions to which Your Honor’s assent is prayed.*
- 62 His/Her/Their Honor the Honorable Lieutenant Governor will indicate assent by touching the folder presented to him.
- Government Whip: In His Majesty’s name, His/Her/Their Honor the Honorable the Lieutenant Governor doth assent to these Resolutions.*
- 63 The Lieutenant Governor then reads a closing speech, prepared by the Premier.
- 64 The Sergeant-at-Arms takes the Mace from the Table. Members rise and the Lieutenant Governor leaves the House, accompanied by the Sergeant-at-Arms with the Mace.
- 65 The Sergeant-at-Arms returns to the House and returns the Mace to the Table.
- 66 Members are seated and the Speaker recognizes the Premier.
- SPEAKER: It is the will and pleasure of His/Her/Their Honor, the Honorable, the Lieutenant Governor, this Parliament is prorogued until the 9th day of February 2025, and this Parliament is accordingly prorogued.*
- 67 Members rise as the Sergeant-at-Arms takes the Mace from the Table. The Speaker is then paraded out of the House by the Sergeant-at-Arms. It is a tradition that Members shower

Application

- 1** The proceedings in sittings of the House of the Alberta Youth Parliament UofA Chapter shall be conducted according to the following Standing Orders.

Procedure in Cases

- 2** In all cases not provided for hereinafter, or by Sessional or other Orders, the most recent and available version of House of Commons Procedure and Practice and, second, Beauchesne's Rules of Order (most recent and available) shall be used as authoritative guides to the procedures followed in the House. Procedural questions shall be decided by the Speaker, whose decisions shall be based upon the usages, forms, customs, and precedents of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, the House of Commons of Canada, and on parliamentary tradition in Canada and other jurisdictions, so far as they are practical and applicable to the Alberta Youth Parliament.

Chapter 1: Sittings of the House

Time of Sittings

- 3** The time of sittings of the House shall be determined by the Speaker in consultation with the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition.

Quorum

- 4** **(a)** The presence of at least twenty Members of the House, including the Speaker, shall be necessary to constitute a meeting of the House for an exercise of its powers.
(b) Whenever the Speaker adjourns the House for want of a quorum, the time of the adjournment and the names of the Members then present shall be inserted in the Journal and Record.

Order of Business

- 5** **(a)** The order of business for consideration of the House shall be determined by the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition, with the concurrence of the Speaker.
(b) A Resolution, once called, shall retain its place on the Order Paper until such time as the motion has been given 60 minutes of debate, not including the closing speech by the mover, at which time all questions which must be decided in order to conclude debate on the Resolution shall be decided forthwith unless the motion is voted upon sooner.
(c) Upon unanimous consent of the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition and with the concurrence of the Speaker, the time limit may be extended.

Precedence of Business

- 6** All items standing on the Order Paper shall be taken up according to the precedence assigned to each on the Order Paper.

Amendment of Order Paper

7 The Order Paper may be amended from time to time, as the House sees fit.

Member Attendance

8 Every Member is bound to attend the service of the House unless leave of absence has been given them by the House.

Chapter 2: The Role of the Speaker - Privilege

Election, Debate, and Voting

9 (a) At the opening of the first sitting of a Session, the House shall elect a Speaker.
(b) The Speaker shall not take part in any debate before the House.
(c) In case of an equality of voices, the Speaker gives a casting vote, and any reasons stated, therefore, are entered in the Journal and Record.

Absence of the Speaker

10 (a) If the Speaker is absent or unable to act, the Deputy Speaker shall take the Chair until the end of that sitting or until the Speaker returns, whichever first occurs.
(b) If the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker are absent or unable to act, the Clerk shall so advise the House, and any Member of the House, appointed jointly by the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition, shall take the Chair and preside over the proceedings of the House until the end of that sitting or until the Speaker or Deputy Speaker returns, whichever first occurs.
(c) If the Speaker finds it necessary to leave the Chair during a sitting of the House, they may call on the Deputy Speaker or, in their absence, on any Member of the House, to take the Chair and preside over the proceedings of the House for the remainder of that sitting or until the Speaker returns, whichever first occurs.

Order and Decorum

11 (a) The Speaker shall preserve order and decorum and shall decide questions of order.
(b) The Speaker shall explain the reasons for any decision upon the request of a Member.

Privilege

12 (a) A breach of the parliamentary rights of any Member or any disregard by any person to the dignity and rights of any Member constitutes a question of privilege.
(b) A Member may raise a question of privilege at their earliest practical opportunity, but not so as to interrupt a Member while speaking, and all Members' remarks must be strictly relevant to the question of privilege raised.

(c) Whenever any matter of privilege arises, it shall be taken into consideration immediately.

Chapter 3: Members

Members Wanting to Speak

13 Every Member desiring to speak shall rise in their place, uncovered, and wait silently to be recognized by the Speaker.

Decorum

14 (a) No member shall speak disrespectfully of His Majesty, nor any Member of the Royal Family, nor of the Governor General of Canada or the person administering the Government of Canada, nor of the Lieutenant Governor of any province or person administering the Government of any province.

(b) No Member shall use offensive words against any Member of this House.

(c) No Member shall reflect upon a vote of the House passed during the current Session, except for the purpose of moving that the vote be rescinded.

Point of Order

15 (a) A Member speaking shall, if called to order by the Speaker, sit down while the point is being stated, after which the Member may respond to the point raised.

(b) The Speaker may permit debate on the point of order or privilege before rendering a decision, but the debate must be strictly relevant to the point of order or privilege raised.

Member Called to Order

16 A Member will be called to order by the Speaker if, in the Speaker's opinion, that Member: (a) speaks twice to a question, except in the case of a mover concluding debate or a Member rising on a Point of Clarification to explain a material part of a speech in which that Member may have been misunderstood, in which case the Member may not introduce new matter.

(b) speaks to matters other than

(i) the question under discussion; or

(ii) a motion or amendment the member intends to move; or

(iii) a point of order or privilege.

(c) persists in needless repetition or raises matters which have been decided during the current Session.

(d) debates any previous vote of the House unless it is that Member's intention to move that it be rescinded.

(e) makes allegations against another Member.

(f) uses abusive or insulting language of a nature likely to create disorder.

Naming a Member

- 17 (a) If a Member, on being called to order for an offense, persists in the offense or refuses to follow the Speaker's directions in the matter, the Speaker shall name the Member to the House.
- (b) When a Member has been named by the Speaker and if the offense is a minor one, the Speaker may order such Member to withdraw for the remaining of the sitting, but if the matter appears to the Speaker to be of a more serious nature, the Speaker shall put the question on the motion being made, no amendment, adjournment, or debate being allowed, "That such Member be suspended from the service of the House", for any time stated in the motion.

Disorderly Conduct

- 18 The Speaker shall order Members whose conduct is grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the house for a period of time the Speaker may deem suitable.

Withdrawal of Member

- 19 If anything shall come in question touching the conduct, election, or right of any Member to hold a seat, the member may make a statement and shall withdraw during the time the matter is in debate.

Pecuniary Interest

- 20 (a) No Member is entitled to vote on any question in which the Member has a direct pecuniary interest, and the vote of any Member so interested will be disallowed.
- (b) If a Member has a direct pecuniary interest in a matter to be voted upon, the Member shall so declare to the House and shall leave the Chamber before the vote is taken

Chapter 4: Process of Debate

Time Limits on Debate

- 21 Time limits on speaking in a debate in the House shall be as follows:
- (a) In Special Debates, the Premier, and the Leader of the Opposition shall be limited to 60 minutes of speaking time.
- (b) The mover in the debate on a Resolution proposing to create one statute or to amend one statute shall be limited to 20 minutes of speaking time in the opening debate and 20 minutes in the closing debate.
- (c) except as provided in suborders (a) and (b), no Member shall speak for longer than 20 minutes in the debate on a motion.

Question not Printed

- 22 When the question under discussion does not appear on the Order Paper or has not been printed and distributed, any Member may require it to be read at any time during the debate, but not so as to interrupt a Member while speaking.

Closing Debate

- 23 (a) A reply is allowed to a Member who has moved a substantive motion.
(b) Except as otherwise provided in this Standing Order, no reply is allowed to the mover of an amendment or a superseding motion.

Voting in the House

- 24 Questions arising in the House shall be decided by a majority of votes cast.

Division

- 25 (a) A division may be called for by five Members rising.
(b) When Members have been called in preparatory to a division, no further debate is to be permitted.
(c) Every Member remaining in the Chamber must vote on the question being put.
(d) The Clerk shall record the ayes and the nays and shall announce to the Speaker the number of votes cast for and against the motion.
(e) The ayes and nays shall be entered into the Journal and recorded.

Business Interrupted

- 26 All orders not disposed of at the adjournment of the House shall be postponed until the next sitting without a motion to that effect.

Chapter 5: Special Debates

Throne Speech Debate

- 27 (a) The proceedings on the debate on the motion for an address in reply to the Speech from the Throne and on any amendments thereto shall not exceed four sittings.
(b) No Member, except the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition, shall speak for more than twenty minutes at a time in the said debate. Following the speech of each Member, a period not exceeding five minutes shall be made available, if required, to allow Members to ask questions and comment briefly on matters relevant to the speech and allow responses thereto.
(c) During any sitting appointed for the consideration of the said motion, it shall have precedence over all other business except the ordinary routine of business.
(d) During the second of the said sittings, if a sub-amendment is under consideration at fifteen minutes before the ordinary hour of adjournment, the Speaker shall interrupt the proceedings and forthwith put the question on the said sub-amendment.
(e) During the third of said sittings, if any amendment is under consideration thirty minutes before the ordinary hour of daily adjournment, the Speaker shall interrupt the proceedings and forthwith put the question on the said amendment.
(f) The motion for an Address in Reply shall not be subject to amendment during or after the third sitting of the said debate.
(g) During the fourth of the said sittings, at fifteen minutes before the ordinary hour of adjournment, unless the said debate is previously concluded, the Speaker shall interrupt the proceedings and forthwith put every question necessary to dispose of the main motion.
(h) Not more than one amendment to the original motion and not more than one amendment to the amendment may be introduced during the debate on the reply to the Speech from the Throne.

Chapter 6: Motions

Members Rising to Speak

- 28** When two or more Members rise to speak, the Speaker calls upon the Member who, in the Speaker's opinion, first rose in their place, but a motion may be made that any Member who has risen "be now heard" or "do now speak," which motion shall forthwith be put without debate.

Debate Motions

- 29** Motions that are debatable include every motion:
- (a)** standing on the Order Paper, except a motion for the House to go into Committee at a later date.
 - (b)** for the Previous Question.
 - (c)** for the adjournment of the ordinary business of the House when made for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent public importance.
 - (d)** for the adoption in the Committee of the Whole House of the resolution, clause, section, preamble, or title under consideration.
 - (e)** for the suspension or amendment of any Standing Order.
 - (f)** with regard to an alleged breach of privilege.
 - (g)** made upon routine proceedings that may be required for
 - (i)** the observance of the proprieties of the House and maintenance of its authority.
 - (ii)** the appointment or conduct of its officers.
 - (iii)** the management of its business.
 - (iv)** the correctness of its records.

Motions Needing Seconders

- 30** No motion shall require a Secunder except:
- (a)** the motion for an address in reply to the Speech from the Throne.
 - (b)** the motion to elect a speaker.
 - (c)** Resolutions and amendments.

Debate on Amendment

- 31** **(a)** In a debate on a motion, if a Member moves an amendment, that Member has the right to speak to both the main question and the amendment in one speech.
(b) A Member, other than the mover, speaking to the amendment must confine debate to the subject of the amendment.

Closure

- 32** **(a)** After the question has been proposed, a Member rising in their place may move "That the Question be now put", and unless it shall appear to the Chair that such a motion is an abuse of the rules of the House or an infringement of the rights of a minority and after the Speaker has instructed the Members as to their rights, the question shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate.
(b) If the motion to put the question is carried, the Speaker shall immediately put the question without further amendment or debate.

Orders of the Day

- 33** A motion for reading the Orders of the Day shall have precedence over any motion before the House.

Motion to Adjourn

- 34** A motion to adjourn, except when made for the purpose of discussing a matter of urgent importance, is always in order, but no second motion to the same effect shall be made until after some intermediate proceeding has taken place.

Motions Receivable During Debate

- 35** When a motion is under debate, no motion may be received except:
- (a)** to amend it.
 - (b)** to refer to it.
 - (c)** to postpone it to a certain day.
 - (d)** to read the Orders of the Day.
 - (e)** to proceed to another Order.
 - (f)** to adjourn the debate; or
 - (g)** to adjourn the House.

Same Motion Not to be Put Twice

- 36** A motion being once made, and rejected, cannot be put again in the same Session but must stand as a judgment of the House. However, a vote in the affirmative may be rescinded and an order of the House discharged on a motion to that effect.

Motions in Writing

- 37** A substantive motion or any amendment shall be in writing before being debated or put by the Chair.

Motions Allowed to Stand

- 38**
- (a)** A motion that is defeated shall be removed from the Order Paper.
 - (b)** A motion may, by order made without debate, be allowed to stand, and retain its place on the Order Paper.
 - (c)** A motion that is not dealt with or ordered to stand shall retain its place on the Order Paper.
 - (d)** A motion not proceeded with when called shall be dropped and placed on the Order Paper for the next sitting after those items at a similar stage, unless the House, by order made without debate, allows it to stand and retain its place on the Order Paper.

Withdrawal of Motion

- 39**
- (a)** By providing the Clerk with written notice, a Member may withdraw their motion at any time, prior to its being moved.
 - (b)** A Member who has made a motion may withdraw it only with the unanimous consent of the House.

Motion Out of Order

- 40** Whenever the Speaker is of the opinion that a motion offered to the House is contrary to the Standing Orders or privileges of the House, they shall apprise the Member or the House, as the case may be, at the earliest opportunity and shall cite the Standing Order or authority applicable to the case.

Previous Question

- 41** **(a)** The previous question, until it is decided, shall preclude all amendments to the main question. The previous question shall be in the following words: "That this question is now put."
(b) If the previous question is resolved in the affirmative, the original question shall be put forthwith without any amendment or debate

Chapter 7: Deputy Speaker and Committees

Chairperson and Deputy Speaker

- 42** **(a)** The Deputy Speaker shall serve as Chairperson of Committees and shall chair all Committees of the Whole House.
(b) In the absence of the Deputy Speaker and Chairperson of Committees, the Speaker may, before leaving the Chair, appoint any Member as Acting Chairperson of the Committee.
(c) While acting as Chairperson of any Committee of the Whole House, the Acting Chairperson of the Committee has the duties and powers of the Chairperson of Committees, and any reference in any Standing Order to the Chairperson shall apply to them.

Standing Orders Committees

- 43** **(a)** The Standing Orders of the House shall be observed in the Committees of the House so far as may be applicable, except that:
(i) a Member may speak more than once, and
(ii) in Committees of the Whole House no member may speak for more than 20 minutes at one time
(b) The Chairperson shall maintain order in the Committees of the Whole House and shall decide all questions of order subject to an appeal to the Speaker. No debate is permitted on any decision.
(c) When a question of privilege arises in a Committee or when disorder persists in a Committee,
(i) if the House is then sitting, the Chairperson shall adjourn forthwith and report to the House, or
(ii) if the House is not then sitting, the Chairperson shall adjourn the matter until the next sitting of the House and shall then report to the House.
(d) In case of an appeal to the House, the Chairperson shall leave the Chair immediately and report the point of order which they have decided.
(e) The Speaker shall then put the question without debate "That the decision of the Chairperson is confirmed."
(f) If the Speaker is absent, the Chairperson shall take the Chair of the House as Acting Speaker and another Member shall make the report of appeal to the House, and the Acting Speaker shall forthwith put the question to the House.

(g) Upon resolution of the question, the House shall forthwith resolve itself again into the Committee of the Whole House without question put.

(h) A motion that the Committee rise and report shall always be in order, shall always take precedence over any other motion, and shall not be debatable. Such motion, if rejected, cannot be renewed unless some intermediate proceeding has taken place.

Referral to Committee

44 A motion to refer a resolution or other matter to the Committee of the Whole House shall preclude all amendments to the main question.

Motion to Leave the Chair

45 (a) A motion that the Chairperson leave the Chair is always in order, always takes precedence over any other motion, and is not debatable.

(b) Such motion, if rejected, may not be renewed unless some intermediate proceeding has taken place.

Chapter 8: Resolutions

Notice of Motion

46 A Resolution must be introduced to the House through a Notice of Motion one sitting previous to the consideration of the Resolution. A Resolution must also have a seconder.

Form

47 (a) A Resolution shall:

(i) express an opinion of Parliament, and

(ii) be brief and general in nature.

(b) No Resolution shall be considered until it has been printed and distributed.

Reading of Resolutions

48 (a) Every Resolution shall be read only once, during which time the entire Resolution may be debated in principle and in detail.

(b) Amendments to Resolutions:

(i) may be moved by any Member of the House, and

(ii) must have a seconder.

Chapter 9: Officers of the House

Duties of Clerk of the House

49 (a) The Clerk of the House:

(i) is responsible for the safekeeping of all the papers and records of the House,

(ii) has the direction and control of the officers and staff of the House; and

(iii) shall hold the appointment of Clerk of Committees of the House, if necessary, subject to such orders as may be received from the Speaker.

(b) The Clerk shall also be responsible for the distribution of the Order Paper, Resolutions, Reports, or other Parliamentary Papers.

Duties of Sergeant-at-Arms

- 50** **(a)** The Sergeant-at-Arms shall:
- (i)** attend the Speaker, with the Mace, on entering the House at the commencement of a sitting day and at the conclusion of a sitting day.
 - (ii)** announce the Lieutenant Governor and all messengers from the Lieutenant Governor.
 - (iii)** preserve order in and ensure the security of the galleries and lobbies of the House.
 - (iv)** serve or cause to be served orders of the House and warrants of the Speaker.
 - (v)** be responsible for the safekeeping of the mace and of the furniture and fittings of the House, subject to orders received from the Speaker or the Clerk.
- (b)** In the absence of the Sergeant-at-Arms, their duties shall be performed by any other person appointed by the Speaker.

Chapter 10: Standing Orders

Suspending of Standing Orders

- 51** Any Standing Orders may be suspended from time to time by unanimous consent of the House. Such motion shall be put forthwith for extraordinary reasons only and shall remain in force only until the special matter has been dealt with, at which time the Standing Orders shall be immediately reinstated by motion.

Amending of Standing Orders

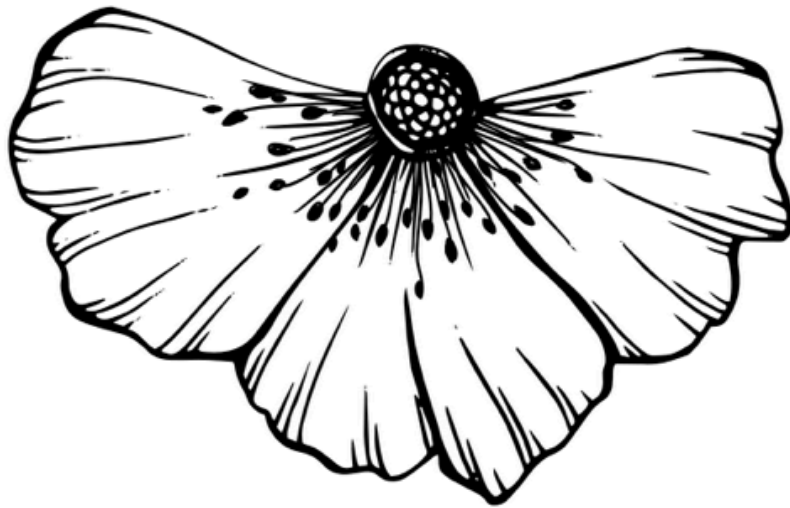
- 52** **(a)** These Standing Orders may be amended with the unanimous consent of the House.
- (b)** Amendments to these Standing Orders should be based upon, in order of precedence, the Standing Orders and procedure of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, the House of Commons of Canada, other parliaments in Canada, and other jurisdictions so far as such precedents are practical and applicable to the Alberta Youth Parliament.

Sources

- 53** These Standing Orders have been compiled in large part from the Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta (1994), the House of Commons (1989), the 7th Session of Western Canada Youth Parliament (1996); and the Saskatchewan Youth Parliament (1996).

SECTION 5

SESSIONAL ORDERS



ALBERTA
YOUTH
PARLIAMENT

Chapter 1: Sittings of the House

Daily Routine

- 1 The ordinary routine business of the House shall be as follows:
 - Opening of a Sitting
 - Roll Call
 - Projected Business
 - Greetings
 - Ministerial Statements
 - Members' Statements
 - Oral Question Period (1:45 p.m. only in the afternoons)
 - Notices of Motions
 - Tabling of Reports

Opening of a Sitting

- 2 The Members of Parliament gather in their respective Caucus Rooms, and at the appointed hour for the opening of the sitting, proceed into the House. The Speaker is ushered in by the Sergeant-at-Arms (for our purposes, the Clerk will be doing this).

SPEAKER: For what purpose has our parliament assembled?

MEMBERS: To increase in wisdom and stature, and to grow intellectually, and develop relationships with people.

SPEAKER: What do we mean by the Second Mile?

MEMBERS: "Willingly and cheerfully doing more than that which is our duty to do."

SPEAKER: Let us pledge ourselves anew for an unselfish quest for the best in our homes, in our schools and work, and our community, remembering always that:

MEMBERS: "Life is not a goblet to be drained, but a measure to be filled."

- 3 The Speaker then motions for members to have a seat. If it is the first Sitting of the day, the roll shall be called.

Roll Call

- 4 If it is the first Sitting of the day the roll shall be called. The Clerk stands and then reads the Government Roll of the House.

As each name is called, the Member rises in place and states the name of their constituency. Members do not sit back down and remain standing until the roll of their side of the House has been completed.

At the completion of the roll call for the Government side of the House, the Clerk announces the completion:

CLERK: *I present His Majesty's Government.*

- 5 The Government Members take their seats.
- 6 The Clerk then proceeds to read the Opposition roll call. As each name is called, the Member rises in place and states the name of their constituency. Members do not sit back down and remain standing until the roll of their side of the House has been completed. At its completion, the Clerk announces:

CLERK: *I present His Majesty's Loyal Opposition.*

- 7 The Opposition Members are then seated.

Projected Business

- 8 When "Projected Business" is called, the Provincial Secretary shall announce the items to be taken up under the Daily Routine, and the Orders of the Day.
- 9 After reading the Orders of the Day, the Provincial Secretary will resume their seat and the Speaker will put this into question:

SPEAKER: It has been moved that we adopt the Orders of the Day, as printed. All those in favour, say aye. All those opposed, say nay.

Greetings

- 10 When "Greetings" are called, brief introductions may be made, with the prior permission of the Speaker, of visiting parliamentarians, diplomats, Alumni, officials, visitors, guests, and others who are to be specially recognized.

Ministerial Statements

- 11 When "Ministerial Statements" is called, members of the Cabinet may make a statement, each statement to be no more than two minutes in duration. A Member from the Opposition may comment briefly thereon. The time for such proceedings shall be limited as the Speaker deems fit.

Members' Statements

- 12 When "Members' Statements" are called, up to five Members other than members of the Front Bench may make a statement, each statement to be no more than 2 minutes in duration.

Oral Question Period

- 13 At 1:45 p.m., the House shall proceed to the Oral Question Period, unless the House, upon a motion, made orally and without notice, decides it should happen at a different time. When the "Oral Question Period" is called, questions on matters of urgency may be addressed orally to Ministers or one of the Elected Leaders, subject to the following rules:

- (a) questions and answers shall be brief and precise and stated without argument or opinion.
- (b) no person is required to reply to questions.
- (c) a maximum of two supplementary questions may be permitted
- (d) at the discretion of the Speaker; and
- (e) points of order arising during the Question Period may, at the discretion of the Speaker, be deferred until the Question Period has been completed.

14 Oral Question Period shall last no more than thirty minutes after it has been called.

Notices of Motion

15 When "Notices of Motion" is called, any Member wishing to introduce a Resolution must stand and beg leave of the House to give notice. The mover of the first Resolution provides a Notice of Motion.

MOVER: I beg to leave the House to give Notice on Resolution Re: _____.

Tabling of Reports

16 Any report or other paper required to be laid before the House in accordance with an Act or with any resolution or Standing Order of the House shall be tabled in quadruplicate, by being deposited with the Clerk of the House on any sitting day, and such report or other paper shall be deemed for all purposes to have been presented to or laid before the House. One copy shall be placed in the Archives.

Documents presented voluntarily to the House for placement in the Archives may be tabled in quadruplicate by a Member.

Order of Business

17 The order of precedence of business in the House shall be as follows:
Adjourned Debate on previous Resolutions
Resolutions Re: _____

Adjournment

18 At 12:00 p.m. for morning sittings and 4:00 p.m. for afternoon sittings, the Speaker shall adjourn the House until the next sitting unless a motion to adjourn has been previously passed.

Chapter 2: Order and Decorum

Manner of Speaking

19 The Speaker holds the power to determine speaking order among members. No Member may speak until given permission or addressed by the Speaker.

20 To take part in the proceedings, members must:

- (a) Be in their assigned seat to be acknowledged and speak if attending in person.
- (b) Direct their comments to the Chair.
- (c) Dress in contemporary business attire (including a jacket and tie for members identifying as a man).
- (c) Refrain from using displays or props in the Chamber.

Rules of Decorum

- 21** When the Speaker is asking a question, no person shall enter, walk out of, or walk across the House, or make any noise or disturbance.
- (a) When a Member is speaking, no person shall:
 - (i) pass between the speaking Member and the Chair; or
 - (ii) interrupt that Member, except to raise a point of order.
 - (b) No person may pass between the Chair and the Table, nor between the Chair and the Mace.
 - (c) When the House convenes or adjourns, the Members shall rise in their places until the Speaker has been seated in the Chair or has left the Chamber
- 22** When the Speaker rises to bring the House to order, to make a ruling, or to fulfill any other official duty, every Member shall be seated even if the Member has been called upon to speak.
- 23** In the Chamber, members:
- (a) Must refrain from consuming food or beverages, except water.
 - (b) Should acknowledge the Speaker with a bow when leaving the Chamber or crossing the floor.
 - (c) Must avoid making noise or disturbances using cellular phones.

Referring to Members

- 24** No Member shall speak directly to another Member when addressing the House but shall address all speeches and questions through the Chair.
- 25** No Member shall refer to another Member by given name but may use the form “the Honorable Member from (Constituency Name)”, “the Honorable Minister of (Portfolio)”, or other similar forms of address.

Dresscode

- 26** (a) Members shall at all times be dressed in a dignified and proper manner befitting a Member of Parliament.
- (b) No Member may wear a hat in the House.
 - (c) Men shall wear a tie at all times and shall wear either a suit jacket or dress sweater when addressing the House. They are not permitted to wear turtlenecks.

Prohibited Substances

- 27** Members shall not bring any tobacco, recreational drugs, foodstuffs, or liquids into the House.

Written Messages

- 28** Written messages sent between Members shall be signed with the author's name and constituency. Failure to do so or the affixing of a name other than that of the author is a breach of rules.

Guests

- 29** The Speaker may invite the Lieutenant Governor, Alumni, or other guests to the floor of the House, or into the Gallery.

Called to the Bar

- 30** The House may, upon motion, call any person or persons to the Bar for the purpose of giving a report and answering questions.