

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

ANNUAL REPORT
OF
THE COMMISSIONER OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS
2006-2007

December, 2007

December 31, 2007

Honourable Roger Fitzgerald
Speaker
House of Assembly
Main Floor, East Block
Confederation Building
St. John's, NL

Dear Speaker:

Pursuant to Section 35 of the House of Assembly Act - Part II Conflict of Interest, I am pleased to present the 2006-2007 Annual Report of the Commissioner of Members' Interests covering the period April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007 for tabling in the Legislature.

Copies of this Report, as well as those from previous years, in addition to being available at the Office of the Commissioner, are also available through our web site at www.gov.nl.ca/conflictcommissioner. The site also contains links to other jurisdictions.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Reynolds
Commissioner for Legislative Standards

Annual Filing Requirement

Section 36(1) of the Act requires all members to file an Annual Disclosure Statement before April 1 of each year. This Report, submitted in accordance with Section 35 of the Act, covers the period April 1, 2006 to March 31, 2007.

On February 28, 2006 my predecessor wrote all members asking each member to file their Annual Disclosure Statement by April 1, 2006. Several members failed to meet the required filing deadline of April 1 but have since fulfilled all filing requirements.

Member Consultations

During the year my predecessor received numerous calls from and met with several members/ministers who required clarification, interpretation or guidance to ensure they were in compliance with the provisions of the legislation.

Investigations

During the period covered by this Report there were no formal requests or applications from any member, the Honourable Premier or the House of Assembly to investigate any possible contravention of the Act.

Initial Disclosure Statements

There were six by elections held during the period of this report. As a result, all newly elected members had to file Initial Disclosure Statements within 60 days of being elected, as required by the Act.

Compliance

Based on the information contained in the Disclosure Statements it appears that all members were in compliance with the legislation and Public Disclosure Statements are on file in the Commissioner's office for public inspection for all 48 members for the period covered by this Report.

Conferences

Annual Conferences provide Commissioners with an opportunity to exchange information on issues of common interest and review legislative and regulatory differences and trends.

Commissioners also maintain contact through correspondence and emails regarding investigations, legislative interpretation and changes occurring in the various jurisdictions.

The Annual CCOIN Conference was held in Iqaluit in September, 2006. My predecessor was unable to attend this conference but did attend the Annual COGEL Conference (Conference on Governmental Ethics Laws), held in New Orleans in December, 2006.