



PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

That, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the standing orders:

Appointment

1. A Public Works Committee be appointed.

Functions

2. The committee may inquire into and report on all public works to be executed (including works that are continuations, completions, repairs, reconstructions, extensions, or new works) where the estimated cost of completing such works exceeds \$10 million.
3. In examining such works the committee is to consider:
 - (a) the stated purpose of the work and the need to carry it out,
 - (b) the current and prospective public value of such work,
 - (c) the amount of revenue the work is expected to produce, where the purpose of the work is to increase revenue,
 - (d) the timeframe for carrying out the work, and
 - (e) any other related matter.

Referral of inquiries

4. The committee:
 - (a) is to inquire into and report on any matter relevant to the functions of the committee which is referred to the committee by resolution of the House, and
 - (b) may self-refer an inquiry into any matter relevant to the functions of the committee.
5. A committee meeting to consider a self-reference under paragraph 4(b) must be convened at the request of any three committee members in writing to the Committee Clerk.
6. The Committee Clerk must convene a meeting within seven days of the receipt of the request, providing that members are given at least 24 hours' notice.
7. A majority of committee members is required to adopt the self-reference.

8. Whenever a committee resolves to self-refer a matter, the terms of reference are to be reported to the House on the next sitting day.

Membership

9. The committee is to consist of seven members comprising:
- (a) three government members,
 - (b) two opposition members, and
 - (c) two crossbench members.

Chair and Deputy Chair

10. (1) The committee is to elect the Chair and Deputy Chair in accordance with the standing orders.
- (2) The Chair of the committee is to be a non-government member.

Conduct of committee proceedings

11. Unless the committee decides otherwise:
- (a) submissions to inquiries are to be published, subject to the Committee Clerk checking for confidentiality and adverse mention and, where those issues arise, bringing them to the attention of the committee for consideration,
 - (b) attachments to submissions are to remain confidential,
 - (c) the Chair's proposed witness list is to be circulated to provide members with an opportunity to amend the list, with the witness list agreed to by email, unless a member requests the Chair to convene a meeting to resolve any disagreement,
 - (d) the sequence of questions to be asked at hearings is to alternate between government, opposition and crossbench members, in order determined by the committee, with equal time allocated to each,
 - (e) transcripts of evidence taken at public hearings are to be published,
 - (f) supplementary questions are to be lodged with the Committee Clerk within two days, excluding Saturday and Sunday, following the receipt of the hearing transcript, with witnesses requested to return answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions within 21 calendar days of the date on which questions are forwarded to the witness, and
 - (g) answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions are to be published, subject to the Committee Clerk checking for confidentiality and adverse mention and, where those issues arise, bringing them to the attention of the committee for consideration.

[Resolved 8 May 2019, Minutes No. 2, Item 130 pp. 108-112]