



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

First Session of the Fifty-Third Parliament

SESSIONAL ORDERS (PROOF)

(1) Sitting days	2
(2) Precedence of business.....	2
(3) Questions—time for questions without notice	2
(4) Motion for the adjournment.....	3
(5) Debate on committee reports	3
(6) Debate on budget estimates	3
(7) Functions relating to parliamentary secretary	3
TEMPORARY SESSIONAL ORDERS (EXPIRED)	4
Sitting days and conduct of business.....	4
Private members' business—conduct of draw	5
EXPIRED SESSIONAL ORDERS.....	6
Cut-off date for government bills.....	6
TABLE OF AMENDMENTS.....	7

Adopted 1 June 2004, minutes no. 57, item 3.

(1) Sitting days

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered, this House meet for the despatch of business each week as follows:

Monday	11.00 am
Tuesday	2.30 pm
Wednesday	11.00 am
Thursday	11.00 am
Friday	11.00 am.

(2) Precedence of business

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered:

1. Government business is to take precedence of general business on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and after 5.00 pm on Thursday each week.
2. General business is to take precedence until 5.00 pm on Thursday each week.

(3) Questions—time for questions without notice

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered:

1. Questions are to commence at 4.00 pm on Monday and Tuesday, and at 12.00 noon on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.
2. Whenever the House adjourns to a day and time later than the time appointed in paragraph 1, questions are to commence 30 minutes after the time appointed for the meeting of the House.
3. If, at the time for interruption:
 - (a) a division is in progress, the division is to be completed and the result announced,
 - (b) the House is in committee of the whole, the Chair is to leave the Chair and report progress,

and any business then under discussion, if not disposed of, is to be set down on the Notice Paper for a later hour of the sitting.

(4) Motion for the adjournment

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered, proceedings must be interrupted at 5.00 pm on Thursday and 3.45 pm on Friday to permit a motion for adjournment to be moved to terminate the sitting if a minister thinks fit.

(5) Debate on committee reports

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered, debate on committee reports is to take precedence after questions on Wednesdays.

Adopted 22 June 2004, minutes no. 60, item 6; amended 14 September 2005, minutes no. 115, item 4.

(6) Debate on budget estimates

That, during the present session and unless otherwise ordered:

1. Each speaker on the motion to take note of the budget estimates, except the mover and the Leader of the Opposition, is to be limited to 15 minutes.
2. Commencing on Wednesday 14 September 2005, debate on the motion to take note of the budget estimates for 2005-2006 is to take precedence after debate on committee reports on Wednesdays.
3. The debate on the budget estimates is to be interrupted after two hours. The interrupted debate is to stand adjourned and be set down on the business paper for the next day on which it has precedence.

Adopted 22 June 2005, minutes no. 111, item 3

(7) Functions relating to parliamentary secretary

That, during the present session or otherwise ordered, standing order 25 be amended by inserting after “notice” the words, “and speaking on a motion for the adjournment under standing order 31 (4) (a).”

[Standing order 25 as amended by sessional order]

25. **Parliamentary Secretary**

A parliamentary secretary may act as a Minister in the House in all respects, except in relation to answering questions with and without notice and speaking on a motion for the adjournment under standing order 31 (4) (a).

TEMPORARY SESSIONAL ORDERS (EXPIRED)

Adopted 6 May 2005, minutes no. 103, item 2

Sitting days and conduct of business

1. That from Tuesday 24 May 2005 and for the remainder of the present sittings until the adjournment of the House for the winter recess, and unless otherwise ordered, the following sessional orders will apply.
2. That these sessional orders have effect notwithstanding anything to the contrary in any existing standing or sessional orders.

[1] Sitting days

That this House meet for the despatch of business each sitting week as follows:

Monday	11.00 am
Tuesday	2.00 pm
Wednesday	10.00 am
Thursday	10.00 am
Friday	10.00 am.

[2] Precedence of business

1. That, except for matters having precedence of all other business under the standing orders:
 - (a) Government business take precedence on:
Monday and Friday
Tuesday after Questions until the dinner adjournment
Wednesday after general business (private members' business)
Thursday after Questions, and
 - (b) General business (private members' business) take precedence on:
Tuesday and Thursday until the time for Questions
Wednesday for 1 hour from the conclusion of formal business.
2. That debate on committee reports take precedence on Tuesday for 1 hour after the dinner adjournment.
3. That debate on the budget estimates take precedence on Tuesday for 1 hour after debate on committee reports concludes.

4. That, if there is no business or consideration of business is disposed of before the expiry of the time allocated under this sessional order, the House is to proceed to business determined by the Leader of the House.

[3] Motion for the adjournment

That, unless the House is sooner adjourned, proceedings be interrupted to permit a motion for the adjournment to be moved to terminate the sitting, if a minister thinks fit, at the following times:

Thursday at 6.30 pm

Friday at 4.00 pm.

Adopted 7 June 2005, Minutes no. 107, item 23

Private members' business—conduct of draw

That for the remainder of the present sittings until the adjournment of the House for the winter recess, standing order 185 be varied by omitting “12” wherever occurring and inserting instead “24”:

EXPIRED SESSIONAL ORDERS

Adopted 1 June 2004, Minutes No. 57, item 3.

Cut-off date for government bills

That, during the present session and notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders, and unless otherwise ordered, the following procedures apply to the passage of Government bills:

1. Where a bill, except the Appropriation Bill and cognate bills, is introduced by a minister, or is received from the Legislative Assembly:
 - (a) after Tuesday 22 June 2004 (Budget Session), debate on the motion for the second reading is to be adjourned at the conclusion of the speech of the minister moving the motion, and the resumption of the debate is to be made an order of the day for the first sitting day in September 2004,
 - (b) after Tuesday 7 December 2004 (Spring Session) debate on the motion for the second reading is to be adjourned at the conclusion of the speech of the minister moving the motion, and the resumption of the debate is to be made an order of the day for the first sitting day in 2005.
2. However, if after the first reading, a minister declares a bill to be an urgent bill and copies have been circulated to members, the question “That the bill be considered an urgent bill” is to be decided without amendment or debate, except a statement not exceeding 10 minutes each by a minister and the Leader of the Opposition, or a member nominated by the Leader of the Opposition and two crossbench members. If that question is agreed to, the second reading debate and subsequent stages may proceed forthwith or at any time during any sitting of the House.

TABLE OF AMENDMENTS

Sessional orders relating to: sitting days; precedence of business; questions – time for questions without notice; motion for the adjournment; cut-off date for government bills; debate on committee reports	All previous sessional orders rescinded and new sessional orders adopted 1 June 2004, minutes no. 57, item 3
Sessional order relating to debate on budget estimates	Adopted 22 June 2004, minutes no. 60, item 6
Temporary sessional order relating to sitting days and conduct of business	Adopted 6 May 2005, minutes no. 103, item 2
Temporary sessional order relating to private members' business – conduct of the draw	Adopted 7 June, minutes no. 107, item 23
Sessional order relating to functions relating to Parliamentary Secretaries	Adopted 22 June 2005—Min. No. 111, item 3
Sessional order relating to debate on budget estimates	Amended 14 September 2005, minutes no. 115, item 4