

**MINUTES**  
**#5 MEETING OF THE COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE**  
**21 JUNE 2010**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**COMMISSIONS SECRETARIAT**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Karin M. Thompson	Chair
	Pastor Winston Rose	Member
	Nyda Mae Flatley	Member
	Hedley Robinson	Member
	Roy McTaggart	Member
	Deborah Bodden	Manager, Commissions Secretariat
	Laura Jackson	Analyst, Commissions Secretariat

**1. Meeting called to order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:50 pm following a picture taking/ media recording session with GIS for Constitution Week festivities.

The Chair welcomed all the Members of the Commission.

**2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes (May 24 2010 meeting)**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

**3. Outstanding Business**

a. Letter to the Governor requesting Indemnity for all Commission Members

- i. Given the time period that has lapsed following the CSPL's correspondence on May 25 2010, the Commission requested that the Secretariat following up with the Governor's office to procure his decision on indemnity.
- ii. The Commission agreed that the blanket protection of indemnity for its members is both vital and necessary. Lack of such protection will impede not only on the ability of the CSPL to function effectively to meet its remit but will also leave the members open to civil liability.

b. Letter of request to the Hon. Attorney General for a legal opinion

- i. The CSPL has not received any feedback regarding its request to the Attorney General for a legal response to three queries deriving from s. 117 and s. 121 of the Constitution which details the Commission's remit. Nor has the Commission had any comment from the Attorney General's office following its second attempt to expedite this request.
- ii. The Commission expressed the importance of the legal opinion in offering clarification of the cited inquiries before the completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter report. The CSPL wishes to

append the Attorney General's response to this report for tabling with the Legislative Assembly.

- iii. Therefore the Secretariat has been asked to make contact a final time regarding the legal opinion.

#### **4. New Business**

##### a. CSPL 1<sup>st</sup> quarter report to the Legislative Assembly

- i. Following a review of the minutes (meeting #1 through #3) in the last meeting, the Commission opened their discussion to any items on the minutes from meeting #5 and any additional topics the members wish to revisit.
- ii. The Commission agreed the report would reflect their work over the first five meetings and that all content would represent the position of the CSPL as a whole.

##### b. Constitutional Commission meeting with the CSPL as part of their key stakeholders meetings

- i. Members of the CSPL met with the Constitutional Commission on June 11 2010.
- ii. The CSPL discussed their remit per s. 117 and s. 121 of the Constitution, drawing attention to the issues and concerns that have arisen during their first five months.
- iii. Special attention was given to the CSPL's efforts to draft a register of interests per s. 121 and its need for enabling legislation to meet the full extent of its functions as a Commission.
- iv. The CC pledged its moral support for the CSPL in its endeavors to meet the mandate of s. 117 and s. 121 through the consideration of the draft register of interests and the procurement of standards in public life legislation.

#### **5. Any other business**

##### a. Constitution Week activities and the role of the CSPL

- i. The Chair discussed the scheduled activities for Constitution Week (July 1-11<sup>th</sup> 2010) proposed by the Secretariat.
- ii. The Chair confirmed participants for each event and expressed appreciation to all Commission members' for their agreed participation during this period.

##### b. Website

The Secretariat requested that all remaining biographies for Commission members be submitted for the website.

##### c. Freedom of Information Law 2007

The Commission briefly discussed the FOI Law and agreed that even though the CSPL is not a public authority and therefore not subject to the parameters of this legislation, the Commission will make every effort to comply with it in the name of greater transparency in government.

#### **6. Items to be discussed at next meeting**

To facilitate the compilation of the CSPL's 1<sup>st</sup> Report for the Legislative Assembly, the Commission will hold its final review and discussions and by general consensus, agree on the content of the report.

#### **7. Action List**

- i. The Commission has been tasked with supplying the Secretariat with member biographies for the website that are currently outstanding.
- ii. The Secretariat has been tasked with setting up a meeting with the Deputy Governor following the next scheduled meeting on July 19<sup>th</sup> 2010 to discuss the CSPL report for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter and request that it be presented through the his office for tabling at the Legislative Assembly.

#### **8. Next meeting**

- i. The next meeting of the CSPL will be held on July 19, 2010 at 2:30 pm in the Commissions Secretariat boardroom.

#### **9. Adjournment**

Pastor Winston Rose closed the meeting with a prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm.



**Mrs. Karin Thompson**  
**CHAIR**  
**COMMISSION FOR STANDARDS IN PUBLIC LIFE**