



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

INSTITUTIONAL REPORT OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS ADMINISTRATION



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Institutional Report of the House of Commons Administration

This Institutional Report of the House of Commons Administration is provided at the request of and in response to the questions raised by the Public Inquiry Into Foreign Interference in Federal Electoral Processes and Democratic Institutions. The House Administration supports the parliamentary activities carried out by the Members of Parliament individually and collectively in their various roles in the House of Commons, its committees, in international and interparliamentary affairs, as well as in their role as representatives of their constituencies and constituents.

General structure

- **In general terms, describe :**
 - **The role and work of a Member of Parliament in the House of Commons and the general organisation of their parliamentary office.**

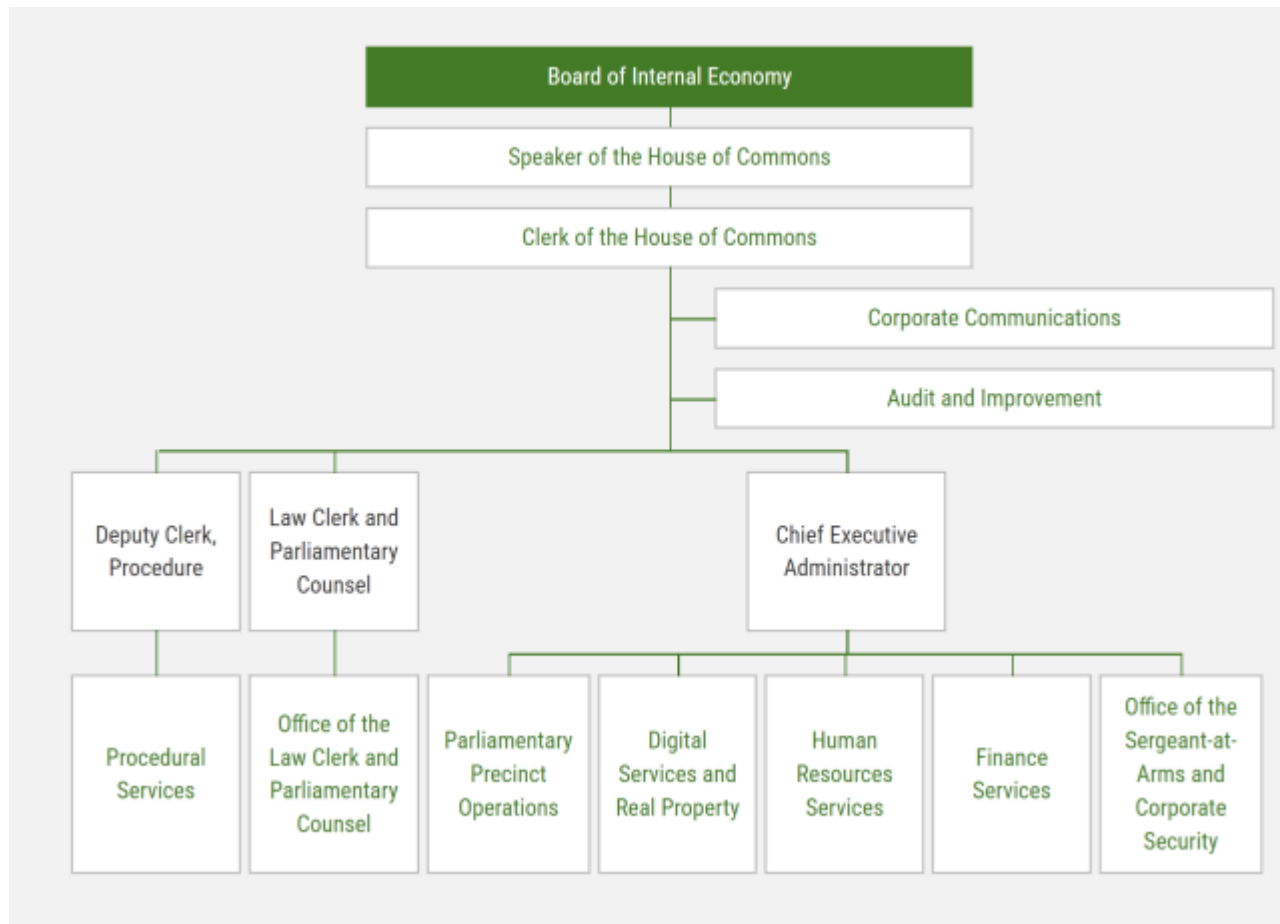
Members of Parliament (Members) are independent constitutional office holders and sit in the House of Commons to serve as representatives of the people who have elected them to that office. Their responsibilities include legislative and deliberative functions, as well as representation of and service to their constituencies and constituents. Members consider and vote on legislation in the Chamber, attend committee and caucus meetings and perform a wide range of duties in their constituencies. They also represent Canada when travelling abroad on official business or when hosting foreign dignitaries.

Members are provided with an office within the Parliamentary Precinct and have at least one constituency office in their constituency. The general organization of the parliamentary office and the constituency office(s) is left to each Member, as long as the Member follows the rules set out by the Board of Internal Economy (the Board) as regards the use of House resources. Members are also responsible for the management of these resources and must operate within their allocated budget.

Members are the employers of their employees and have the full discretion over the direction and control of the work performed on their behalf by their employees. Employees are hired exclusively to assist Members in the fulfillment of their parliamentary functions. The applicable Terms and Conditions of Employment of Members employees are established by the Board, and specify that all prospective employees, contractors, interns and volunteers of Members are required to undergo a House site access security screening to be given access to the Parliamentary Precinct and/or House's network, which includes a Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) criminal records name check, using digital fingerprinting, and a Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) security assessment.

- **The organisation and internal structure of the House, including the official(s) responsible for the various functions; and**

The House is the elected assembly of the Parliament of Canada, consisting of 338 seats filled by Members elected by Canadians to represent their various constituencies. The Speaker presides over the House and chairs the Board, the governing body of the House for administrative and financial matters. The House Administration, who has for chief executive the Clerk, supports Members in their parliamentary functions by offering services and advice. The organisation and internal administrative structure of the House is as follows:



Board of Internal Economy (Board): The Board is responsible for all financial and administrative matters for the House, its premises, services and employees, and its Members. It also makes by-laws respecting the management of House resources by Members.

The Board consists of the Speaker, who acts as Chair, two members of the Privy Council (appointed to the Board by the Government), the Leader of the Opposition or his or her representative, and additional Members appointed in numbers so that there are an equal number of Government and opposition representatives (apart from the Speaker). The Clerk of the House acts as secretary to the Board.

The Speaker: The Speaker presides over proceedings of the House. He represents the House and has traditional, ceremonial, and diplomatic duties. He speaks on behalf of the House when the House has business with the Crown, the Senate, and other bodies outside Parliament. The Speaker is also the Chair of the Board.

The Clerk: Members are supported in their parliamentary functions by services administered by the Clerk of the House who, as the chief executive of the House Administration, reports to the Board and the Speaker as its Chair. The Clerk advises the Speaker and all Members on the interpretation of parliamentary rules, precedents and practices. The Clerk is at the service of all Members, regardless of their party affiliation, and must act with impartiality and discretion. The Clerk is responsible for maintaining records of the proceedings of the House and for keeping custody of these records and other documents in the possession of the House. The Clerk also acts as Secretary to the Board. In addition, the Clerk frequently receives delegations of parliamentary officials from other legislatures and participates in interparliamentary activities.

The Clerk's Management Group: Reporting to the Clerk are senior officials who are responsible for the various organizational units of the House Administration. The group, which is chaired by the Clerk, makes recommendations to the Speaker and to the Board regarding the administration of the House.

- **The legislative process in the House.**

The rules of parliamentary procedure, including the legislative process, are exhaustively laid out in the textbook [*House of Commons Procedure and Practice*](#), Third Edition, 2017. The following is a general synopsis of the legislative process.

Most bills are first introduced in the House. They may also be introduced in the Senate first, before being studied by the House. However, there is a constitutional requirement that bills involving the spending of public funds or increasing taxation be introduced in the House first.

In the House, a bill may be initiated by a minister, in which case it is referred to as a "government bill," or by a Member who is not a minister, in which case it is called a "private member's bill." Bills proposing the expenditure of public funds must be accompanied by a royal recommendation, which can only be obtained from the Government. A Member who is not a minister may introduce a bill containing provisions requiring the expenditure of public funds, provided that a royal recommendation is obtained by a minister before the third reading vote and the passage of the bill.

A bill can become law only once the same text has been approved by both Houses of Parliament and has received royal assent. The details of each stage of the legislative process are as follows:

1. Notice and placement on the Order Paper

The introduction of any public bill requires 48 hours' written notice. The day after it appears on the Notice Paper, the title of the bill will appear in the Order Paper and it is ready for introduction in the House.

2. Introduction and first reading

Bills are introduced in the House during Routine Proceedings. If it is a private member's bill, the sponsor may provide a brief explanation.

3. Second reading and referral to a committee

The second reading stage of the legislative process provides an opportunity for Members to participate in debate on the general scope and principle of the bill. Once the bill is adopted at second reading, it is referred to committee for further scrutiny.

4. Consideration in committee

The role of the committee is to review the text of the bill and to approve or modify it. Committees may invite witnesses to appear, present their views and answer questions. Afterwards, the committee proceeds to clause-by-clause consideration of the bill, at which point members may propose amendments. Once all the clauses of the bill have been considered and adopted with or without amendment, the committee votes on the bill as a whole and the chair reports the bill to the House.

5. Report stage

The report stage allows all Members to propose motions to amend the text of the bill.

Debate at report stage occurs only when amendments are proposed. The debate focuses on these amendments rather than on the bill as a whole.

6. Third reading and adoption

Debate at third reading focuses on the final form of the bill. Once the motion for third reading has been adopted, the bill is sent to the Senate.

7. Consideration and passage by the Senate

The Senate follows a legislative process very similar to the one in the House.

The Senate may also suggest amendments to the bill. If so, both Houses must agree on the same version of the bill before it can receive royal assent.

In cases where the Senate adopts a bill without amendment, a message is sent to the House and the bill receives royal assent thereafter.

8. Royal Assent

Approval by the Governor General is required for a bill to become law once it has been passed by both Houses in identical form.

As mentioned above, while the legislative role is an important one for Members, they have many other roles in the House, in committees, in their constituency and abroad. These roles bring them into frequent contact with a range of stakeholders and individuals.

- **Describe the security clearances, if any, held by senior members of the House Administration (e.g. Speaker, Clerk, Law Clerk, Sergeant-at-Arms).**

Security clearances are not mandatory for Members, including the Speaker. The House Administration does not provide security clearances to Members. However, the Speaker and other Members can request a security clearance from the Government of Canada if they require access to classified information pertaining to the Government of Canada. Some Members have security clearance in relation to their position held within the Government of Canada.

A House security screening is required for prospective Members' employees working on Parliament Hill and in constituencies, House Administration employees (including service heads), students, volunteers and service providers to be given access to the Parliamentary Precinct and/or the House's network. Site access security clearances are granted based on an analysis of information obtained from CSIS and the RCMP. Security clearance at the Government of Canada Secret and Top Secret levels for positions in the House Administration are based on the requirements set by the respective service heads and based on access to Government of Canada classified information. The security screening for these levels is performed by the Privy Council Office.

- **Describe to what extent the House is responsible for the safety and security of MPs and officials/administrators of the House, and how these responsibilities are executed? If not, please indicate which department is responsible for doing so?**

In 2015, the Parliamentary Protective Service (PPS), a separate entity from the House and the Senate, was established to ensure physical security throughout the Parliamentary Precinct and Parliament Hill. The PPS provides protective operations, detection and access control, perimeter protection, alarm monitoring, and operational communications.

Although physical security in the Parliamentary Precinct is provided by the PPS, the House and the Senate establish their own security and access requirements through their respective corporate security offices. The House Administration, through the Office of the Sergeant-at-Arms and Corporate Security, works to develop corporate security policies and programs, and acts as liaison with PPS,

intelligence and law enforcement partners, to address security matters. It also provides tools and support to Members and their staff in the Parliamentary Precinct, in Members constituencies and when they travel, including:

- The Residential and Constituency Office Security Program, which conducts security assessments of Members' constituency offices and their residences, and designs and supports the installation of security measures to counter any threats. A key element to this program is outreach with local law enforcement partners across the country;
- The Open-source monitoring program (OSINT) supports the gathering of a variety of publicly accessible information about the House and Members from social media sources to identify conduct that may violate the terms and conditions of various social media platforms or that should be referred to law enforcement;
- The Event Security and Travel Program which enhances the safety of Members when they conduct business outside the Parliamentary Precinct by coordinating site security for events hosted and attended by Members, including providing advice and best practices to Members, liaising with security and law enforcement partners to conduct security assessments, and provide security briefings to travelling Members, delegations and committees, both in Canada and internationally.
- The Mobile Duress Program which aims to protect Members' personal security within and outside the Parliamentary Precinct. In an emergency, Members can send out a geo-fenced signal by activating their mobile duress alarm.

The House Administration also provides other security and safety programs to support Members, including: providing security project management and technical operations for all construction and renovation projects in the Parliamentary Precinct; risk management and investigations to assess and identify threats, risks and vulnerabilities to the House; cybersecurity; security screening services; threats and risk assessment for House occupied buildings; business resilience; violence prevention in the workplace; fire prevention and emergency preparedness; and mail screening.

The House Administration also collaborates with the Privy Council Office and the Chief Security Officers in each federal department to ensure Members who are also cabinet ministers are secured both in their parliamentary and ministerial functions. Protocols delineating these responsibilities are currently in place to ensure collaboration and coordination between the House Administration, PPS, the Privy Council Office and the Chief Security Officers of the different federal government departments.

- **Does the House have any role in the safety and security of MPs while they are travelling abroad on parliamentary business? If so, which one, and if not, indicate which government organisation is responsible for doing so?**

Whether the Members travel domestically or internationally, the House Administration has a Travel

Security Program which provides risk analysis and advice for Members traveling on parliamentary business, including the planning and coordination of security measures required by Members, committees and other parliamentary delegations. The House Administration also conducts site visits and tailored travel assessments, when necessary, and engages government security and law enforcement partners as well as Canadian embassies to coordinate Members' security and travel logistics.

The House Administration also provides Members with the ParIVoyage program, a parliamentary travel service that ensures Members have access to a secure information technology (IT) environment to enable them to carry out their parliamentary functions in the safest way possible when travelling to high-risk destinations and events. The program provides cybersecurity briefings and awareness sessions to Members and their employees before their travel to high-risk destinations and events, ensuring they are well-prepared with robust cybersecurity practices. It also offers dedicated 24/7 technical support to assist travelers with any technical issues they may encounter.

- **Describe the IT support provided to MPs, House officials and other House employees, including e-mail services, messaging, and other electronic communications, as well as cyber security services, etc.**

The House Administration provides advice and strategic direction on IT and information management, develops business strategies, and delivers programs and services that support integrated solutions, technologies and tools to Members, caucuses, the House Administration and other key parliamentary partners. It also provides Members and their employees with a safe and secure IT environment while traveling as part of the Members' parliamentary functions. The House Administration also provides the continuous delivery of operational services related to the broadcast of parliamentary events as well as television, telecommunications and Web-based services, and provides various other tools to ensure the Members and their employees, and House Administration employees, can carry their work in a safe and secure IT environment.

To provide access to information and services from within the Parliamentary Precinct, the House Administration provides a secure data communications network available to Members of Parliament and their guests. The House Administration also has a secure, internet-based solution which provides network connectivity between the Parliamentary Precinct and constituency offices. However, Members are responsible for selecting and entering into a contract with an Internet service provider for an Internet access that links their constituency offices to the House's network.

Members, their employees as well as employees of the House Administration have access to a 24/7 client care call centre to provide them with technical support. The House Administration also provides Members with direct and personal support with technology, telephony and multimedia services and equipment.

Cyber security services: Cybersecurity significantly enhances the cyber resilience of the House to help, among others, to counter foreign interference, which can manifest as cyberattacks, disinformation campaigns, and espionage. The primary responsibilities of the House Administration cybersecurity strategy encompass various aspects of protection of digital assets, including:

- Strengthening the cyber resilience of the House’s network against a continuously evolving digital threat environment;
- Protecting the confidentiality and integrity of the House systems and its users’ data;
- Protecting IT resources availability to ensure the continuity of parliamentary operations;
- Enabling the secure adoption of newer technologies and services; and
- Providing awareness, training, and consultation for its users.

The cybersecurity posture focuses on enhancing resilience and achieving optimal performance outcomes, through measures such as preventing cybersecurity incidents, implementing robust security controls, conducting risk assessments, training users, and continuously monitoring for potential threats. A proactive approach emphasizes on the capacity of the House Administration to respond swiftly and effectively to security incidents, threats, or breaches as they occur. This involves detecting breaches, containing damage, eliminating threats, recovering affected systems, and conducting post-incident analyses to understand root causes and enhance future defenses. The House Administration also uses various automated tools to scan systems for vulnerabilities followed by the execution of appropriate measures to patch or mitigate them, minimizing associated risks.

Additionally, the House Administration collaborates with external cybersecurity partners, such as the Communications Security Establishment (CSE), CSIS, 5 Parliaments, and IT security vendors, to stay informed about the latest challenges related to cybersecurity, and to contribute to the delivery of relevant briefings and communications to Members and their employees.

- **Please indicate whether the House provides support to MPs for IT matters that extend beyond official parliamentary accounts, such as personal email, constituency websites, etc.**

The House Administration does not offer direct support for these services. However, the House Administration provides consultation services and best-efforts assistance when a Member’s cybersecurity posture is at risk.

Relationship with the security and intelligence community, law enforcement agencies and the government

- Describe the relationship, if any, between the House Administration and security and intelligence agencies, law enforcement agencies or other government entities relating to foreign interference.**

The House Administration maintains strong partnerships with security, intelligence, local law enforcement and government agencies, including with the RCMP, CSIS, Public Safety Canada and CSE, to be kept abreast of the latest trends and issues related to foreign interference, and to coordinate the delivery of relevant briefings to Members and caucuses. It also works closely with the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security, a branch of CSE, to ensure that Members are protected against external cyber threats.

- Indicate whether MPs, the House Administration, House officials and House employees receive classified information relating to foreign interference from intelligence agencies, law enforcement agencies or other government entities? If so, how is this information received and handled?**

Specific House Administration employees who have the required security clearance levels can receive classified information from partner agencies on foreign interference when relevant to House's interests, including matters related to Members. The information is received and handled consistent with the standards applicable. The House Administration also coordinates with security, intelligence and law enforcement partners to provide briefings to Members on a case-by-case basis.

Internal practices and procedures relating to foreign interference

- Describe all general training, instruction or information provided to MPs, House officials and House employees regarding foreign interference. Please include all training and items provided directly by the House Administration, as well as those provided by third parties in collaboration with the House Administration.**

The House Administration coordinates with security, intelligence and law enforcement partners to provide unclassified foreign interference briefings to multiple service areas within the House Administration. These unclassified briefings are also provided to the caucuses of all recognized parties, as well as to the Green Party and Independent Members.

The House Administration also put in place a general cybersecurity awareness program for Members that addresses the evolving cyber threat landscape. For example, the House Administration included a "phishing reporting" button in its email software for users to easily report suspected phishing emails. It is also in the process of developing awareness material specifically on foreign interference, as well as cyber awareness content relating to foreign interference.

- **Describe whether the House Administration plays a role in alerting MPs to potential foreign interference threats, either against specific MPs, groups of MPs, or all MPs collectively? If so, please describe the circumstances in which this occurs and how such briefing takes place.**

When information is received indicating that an individual Member or a group of Members was the subject of foreign interference, the House Administration coordinates meetings between the targeted Member(s) and the relevant intelligence, security, and/or law enforcement partners to report and address the matter as appropriate. When they receive the information, the House Administration also deploys the appropriate security controls to protect Members cybersecurity posture and works with its security, intelligence and law enforcement partners to ensure the threat is mitigated.

- **Describe whether the House Administration receives reports or complaints from MPs regarding foreign interference. If so, please describe how the House collects such reports and what occurs once these reports are received.**

If the House Administration receives information indicating that an individual Member or group of Members were subject to foreign interference, it will coordinate with the targeted individual/group and the House Administration's cybersecurity team, when relevant, and with the appropriate intelligence, security, and/or law enforcement partner, will report and address the matter as appropriate.

The information is collected through interaction with the targeted Member(s) and stored within the House Administration's Records Management System.

Members can also raise a matter in relation to foreign interference interfering with their parliamentary functions as a question of privilege in the Chamber. In that case, the matter can be referred to a committee to study the matter. Once a report is adopted by a committee, it is presented to the House.

In that regard, the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs has conducted studies on the subject and is still examining it. The Committee notably presented its 63rd Report on April 10, 2024 following a question of privilege raised by the Member for Wellington—Halton Hills which included numerous recommendations relating to foreign interference

- **Describe the resources available to the House to assist an MP who is the subject of foreign interference?**

The House Administration is developing reference tools and modules about foreign interference as part of the onboarding process for new Members. It also provides on-demand and personalized awareness sessions, which are made available to Members and their employees at any time. The House Administration is also in the process of incorporating in-depth security briefings for Members and is planning to expand its services by working more closely with Public Safety Canada and CSIS to protect Members from foreign interference.

Finally, the House Administration is offering a proactive cybersecurity approach through awareness sessions and online training to ensure that Members are aware of the cybersecurity risks that may affect them as they carry out their parliamentary functions.

- Do parliamentarians have an express obligation to report attempts of foreign interference?**

Members do not have an express obligation to report attempts of foreign interference.

- Indicate whether the House is considering any new practices or procedures in relation to foreign interference. If so, what are they and why are they being considered?**

As mentioned, the House Administration has included a foreign interference component to its on-boarding process for new Members as well as an on-demand training program for Members. The House Administration also monitors the proceedings relating to the adoption of the report of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs referred above with the view to fully implement the recommendations once adopted by the House, in addition to the work already done relating to the recommendations that are within its purview.

Rules governing the conduct of Members of Parliament

- Are there any rules, laws or policies governing interactions between an MP and the diplomatic staff of a foreign state? If so, please describe them.**

The Conflict of Interest and Ethics Commissioner (the Commissioner) is an independent officer of the House of Commons. The Commissioner is responsible for administering the [Conflict of Interest Act](#) (the Act) for public office holders -which includes Ministers and parliamentary secretaries, and the [Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons](#) (the Code) applicable to all Members. Both the Act and the Code do not provide for rules specific to diplomatic staff of a foreign state. The general rules regarding conflict of interest apply, which entails that specific matters must be reported to the Commissioner, such as any sponsored travels or gifts.

More information about the Commissioner and his role can be found [here](#).

Members can also participate in parliamentary diplomacy work through interparliamentary activities such as being members of parliamentary associations, interparliamentary groups or friendship groups. More information about the Parliament's interparliamentary activities can be found [here](#).

- Describe the rules, regulations or policies governing interactions between MPs and lobbyists.**

The Commissioner of Lobbying, an independent agent of Parliament, is responsible for regulating lobbying at the federal level. The Commissioner administers the [Lobbying Act](#), which applies to individuals who are paid to lobby, provides for a system of registration for those who lobby public office holders. Members are included in the definition of a designated public office holder in the

Designated Public Office Holder Regulations. As such, any paid lobbyist who lobbies a Member may require registration and the filing of returns in the Lobbyist Registry.

Given they are designated public office holders, former Members are also restricted from lobbying for five (5) years once they are no longer Members.

The Commissioner of Lobbying also administers the Lobbyists' Code of Conduct, which sets standards of behaviour for lobbyists.

More information about the Commissioner of Lobbying can be found [here](#).

- **Describe the rules applicable to MPs travelling abroad as part of their parliamentary activities. Please include rules relevant for travel undertaken as part of committee work, parliamentary associations and individual ad hoc travel.**

Members' travel entitlements are almost exclusively for travel within Canada.

However, the Members By-law allows a limited number of travels between Ottawa or their constituency and Washington D.C. or New York City, in order to carry out their parliamentary functions. Trips to New York City are only allowed to attend official conferences, meetings and events mentioned on the United Nations website, as well as meetings scheduled with United Nations officials.

Of note, since April 2024, the Board makes it mandatory for all users traveling abroad with House-owned IT devices to notify the House Administration, so that an assessment of the cyber risk of traveling to a foreign country can be made.

There are also specific rules relevant to Members' travel as part of committee work and parliamentary associations, which are further explained below.

Committee Work

The House's committees travel from time to time to take testimony, participate in conferences, or visit sites related to a study. To hold such meetings or activities outside the Parliamentary Precinct, committees must first obtain the necessary funding from the Liaison Committee (LIAI), or from the Board, as well as authorization from the House.

The Board approves the financial policies applicable to parliamentary committees. It also establishes the budget envelope for committee activities. LIAI is responsible for examining budget requests from standing and joint standing committees. It allocates and supervises committee funding from the Board.

Once a committee has secured funding for a travel project, a travel request is submitted to the whips of the recognized political parties for their consideration. It is then up to the House to authorize the trip, by adopting a motion that confers travel authority on the committee. This order (the motion adopted by the House) normally specifies the context of the trip, the locations to which the committee

may travel, the period during which the trip may be made, and how many Members and committee employees will participate.

When committees are on travel status, whether in Canada or abroad, and do not hold formal meetings, they usually have the opportunity to consult with groups and individuals, and to visit facilities. They do not hold formal hearings outside the country. The powers delegated to them by the House have no effect when they are outside Canada. Moreover, their deliberations are not protected by parliamentary privilege.

When preparing international trips, a security assessment is carried out by the House Administration. All recommendations are then communicated to Members by House Administration employees.

Parliamentary Associations

The Joint Interparliamentary Council (JIC), composed of four Senators and nine Members of Parliament, is responsible for determining budgetary and administrative matters related to the work of parliamentary associations. It provides overall policy direction to parliamentary associations, including financial policies related to travel, and allocates funding to each association out a global envelope provided by the Senate Standing Committee on Internal Economy, Budgets and Administration and the Board.

Each parliamentary association elects an executive committee from among its members at an annual general meeting. The executive committee coordinates and directs activities with bilateral counterparts or with the international secretariats of the multilateral organizations to which they belong. It also determines, in light of the funding available, which activities will be undertaken in a given year and what the size of the delegation will be. For each activity, members of the association who are interested in participating apply, and the party whips select who will attend.

In 2018, the JIC adopted a *Code of Conduct for Parliamentarians Participating in the Activities of Parliamentary Associations* for parliamentarians participating in the activities of parliamentary associations. It spells out expectations, responsibilities and commitments required of delegates when travelling with associations, including participation in activities, respect for financial policies and behaviour toward colleagues and staff. They include a requirement to attend all briefings and preparatory meetings ahead of an activity and a requirement to follow any physical and IT security recommendations provided by partners.

When preparing international trips, the House Administration carries out a security assessment. All recommendations are then communicated to Members by the House Administration employees.

- Are there any rules, laws or policies that regulate or limit the extent to which MPs are permitted to engage in sponsored travel? If so, please describe them.**

The *Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons* provides that Members may

accept, for themselves and guests, sponsored travel that arises from or relates to their position. Members must file a disclosure statement with the Commissioner when a sponsored travel exceeds \$200, and is not wholly paid from the Consolidated Revenue Fund or by the Member personally, their political party or any parliamentary association recognized by the House, within 60 days after the end of a trip. The statement will be posted in the public registry found on the Commissioner's webpage. The Commissioner is also required to submit to the Speaker of the House a list of sponsored travel by Members during the previous calendar year. The list is submitted by March 31 each year.

The *Conflict of Interest Act* provides more stringent rules for ministers and parliamentary secretaries. They are prohibited from accepting travel on non-commercial chartered or private aircraft for any purpose unless required in their capacity as public office holders, in exceptional circumstances, or with the Commissioner's prior approval.

Ministers and parliamentary secretaries who have accepted, from any source, travel on non-commercial chartered or private aircraft for themselves, for their families or for ministerial staff or advisers, must publicly declare it within 30 days after the travel.

Other sponsored travel accepted by ministers and parliamentary secretaries is considered a gift or other advantage and is subject to the acceptability test for gifts.

More information about the Commissioner and his role, and the application of the Act and the Code to Members' sponsored travel can be found [here](#).

The [Lobbyists' Code of Conduct](#) (2023) prohibits lobbyists from providing "gifts", such as sponsored travels, to public office holders that they lobby or expect to lobby, other than a low-value gift that is a token of appreciation or promotional item.

More information about the Commissioner of Lobbying can be found [here](#).

- Are there any rules, laws or policies that regulate or limit the extent to which MPs are permitted to engage in sponsored international travel? If so, please describe them.**

The rules applicable to sponsored travel are the same whether a Member travels within Canada or internationally.

August 30, 2024