

**SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT
OF THE COMMISSIONER
ON SALARIES, ALLOWANCES AND
RETIREMENT BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS
OF THE MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

RE: Clause 1(3) of the Regulation

September 9, 2024

**Michael D. Werier, K.C.
Commissioner**

Supplemental Report of the Commissioner on Salaries, Allowances and Retirement Benefits for Members of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly

This is a supplemental report to the Report on Members Salaries, Allowances and Retirement Benefits dated June 28, 2024. The purpose of this supplemental report is to address an issue which was raised in my consultations but was not specifically addressed in the June 28, 2024 Report.

The existing Members' Salaries Regulation sets out in clause 1(3) the following:

When two or more positions held

1(3) A member who holds two or more positions mentioned in subsection (2) shall be paid the additional salary for only one of them. As an exception, if one of the positions is that of legislative assistant, the member shall be paid the additional salary for that position and one other position.

It has been proposed that this clause should be deleted. This would therefore allow, for example, a Member receiving additional compensation as a Cabinet Minister to receive further additional compensation for serving as Government House Leader or Party Whip.

At the outset of any analysis of this issue, it is important to state, that there is no issue that serving in an additional role will involve extra duties and additional hours of work and demands on a Member's work day.

However, I have determined that the present system should not be altered for the following reasons.

Firstly, I have examined how this issue is treated by other provinces and the federal government. Based on a survey of the provinces and Canada, only one province, Nova Scotia, allows for a second additional indemnity. (Saskatchewan did not respond to the survey.) Manitoba would be an outlier if a change were made.

Secondly, Members serving as Cabinet Ministers are presumed to be equal and are paid the same amounts. Cabinet Ministers are part of a collective decision-making body. The Cabinet is not a multitiered structure.

If a Cabinet Minister was to receive additional compensation it would run contrary to the above principle.

It might also give rise to arguments that certain Cabinet portfolios should receive higher compensation than other portfolios because of the greater demands of the role.

This is not a desirable result, nor is it in place across the country.

It is certainly open to the Prime Minister or Premier to select who will perform what role in government, and demands of the job is certainly one of the considerations to be taken into account.

In sum I have determined that there should not be any change to the existing Regulation respecting the above issue.

Respectfully submitted this 9th day of September, 2024.



MICHAEL D. WERIER, K.C.
Commissioner