

HANSARD

NOVA SCOTIA HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

HUMAN RESOURCES

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

The Red Chamber

Appointments to Agencies, Boards and Commissions

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HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Chris Palmer (Chair)
Melissa Sheehy-Richard (Vice Chair)
Dave Ritcey
John A. MacDonald
Nolan Young
Hon. Derek Mombourquette
Ali Duale
Kendra Coombes
Suzy Hansen

[Melissa Sheehy-Richard was replaced by Hon. Steve Craig.]
[Hon. Derek Mombourquette was replaced by Hon. Tony Ince.]
[Ali Duale was replaced by Lorelei Nicoll.]

In Attendance:

Kilian Schlemmer
Legislative Counsel

Judy Kavanagh
Legislative Committee Clerk



House of Assembly
Nova Scotia

HALIFAX, TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES

10:00 A.M.

CHAIR
Chris Palmer

Vice Chair
Melissa Sheehy-Richard

THE CHAIR: Order. I call this meeting to order. This is the Standing Committee on Human Resources. I'm Chris Palmer, MLA for Kings West and Chair of the committee. Good to see everybody. I hope you all had a good Easter weekend.

Today we will review appointments to agencies, boards, and commissions. I'd like to ask everybody who's in the room to set their phones to silent. I'll ask all committee members to introduce themselves for the record by stating their name and constituency. I'll begin to my left with MLA Craig.

[The committee members introduced themselves.]

THE CHAIR: For the purposes of Hansard, I also recognize the presence of Legislative Counsel Kilian Schlemmer to my left, and Legislative Committee Clerk Judy Kavanagh to my right.

We will begin with our agencies, boards and commissions appointments. If I could look for a motion - MLA MacDonald.

JOHN A. MACDONALD: For the Department of Advanced Education, I recommend Bruce Holland as a member to the Saint Mary's University Board of Governors.

THE CHAIR: There's a motion on the table. Is there any discussion? MLA Nicoll.

LORELEI NICOLL: I know Mr. Holland, and I know that he's just declared that he's running for municipal council. I just wondered if that is problematic. If he is successful and wins, will we be back here finding a replacement for him? I just wondered how this was going to work out.

THE CHAIR: MLA Nicoll has raised a point of discussion. Is there any discussion around the table about that? MLA MacDonald.

JOHN A. MACDONALD: I'm aware of it, but it's an election, so who knows whether he does or not? I'm not sure whether a municipal councillor precludes it, as I understand. Saint Mary's University Board of Governors - I don't think they have a direct link with the municipality, but that would be based on the municipality. To me, I don't know why there would be any issue with it.

THE CHAIR: MLA Nicoll.

LORELEI NICOLL: That was my whole point. You're appointing somebody, and I figure there could have been somebody else who could have been appointed who wasn't running for election for this position on SMU. Therefore, we're just making more work should he win; we will be coming back here and looking to find a replacement.

That's another thing: we don't put an alternative person forward, which would be a good thing to do, in my opinion.

I just wanted it on the record because at the end of the day, there could have been somebody else who would have been preferable.

THE CHAIR: If there's no other discussion, we'll have the vote on the motion.

All those in favour? Contrary minded? Thank you.

The motion is carried.

MLA MacDonald.

JOHN A. MACDONALD: I'm going to apologize to the person I'm about to nominate, because I'm sure I'm not going to do good with this last name. MLA Hansen is now laughing at me.

For the Department of Health and Wellness, I recommend Obinna Esomchukwu as Public Representative to the Board of Directors of the Nova Scotia College of Dispensing Opticians.

How close did I do?

THE CHAIR: There is a motion on the table. Any discussion?

All those in favour? Contrary minded? Thank you.

The motion is carried.

MLA MacDonald.

JOHN A. MACDONALD: Still under the Department of Health and Wellness, I recommend John Muir as Director to the IWK Health Centre Board of Directors.

THE CHAIR: There is a motion on the table. Any discussion?

All those in favour? Contrary minded? Thank you.

The motion is carried.

MLA MacDonald.

JOHN A. MACDONALD: For the Department of Health and Wellness, I recommend appointing Jolinne Kearns and Karin Wallace as Public Representatives to the Midwifery Regulatory Council of Nova Scotia.

THE CHAIR: There is a motion on the table. Any discussion?

All those in favour? Contrary minded? Thank you.

The motion is carried.

MLA MacDonald.

JOHN A. MACDONALD: For the Department of Health and Wellness, I recommend appointing Daniel Gee as a Public Representative to the Board of the Nova Scotia College of Respiratory Therapists.

THE CHAIR: There is a motion on the table. Any discussion?

All those in favour? Contrary minded? Thank you.

The motion is carried.

MLA MacDonald.

JOHN A. MACDONALD: For the Department of Labour, Skills and Immigration, to the Apprenticeship Board, I recommend the appointment of Jan Fullerton as Member, Industrial/Manufacturing Sector; however, Jan Fullerton's 2022 appointment to Member-at-Large is amended to Industrial/Manufacturing Sector Employer Representative Member, as the title of the position has changed.

THE CHAIR: There is a motion on the table. Any discussion?

All those in favour? Contrary minded? Thank you.

The motion is carried.

MLA MacDonald.

JOHN A. MACDONALD: Last but not least, for the Department of Service Nova Scotia, I move to recommend that Bruce Osborne be appointed as Member, Consumer Advocate to the Nova Scotia Board of Registration of Embalmers and Funeral Directors.

THE CHAIR: There is a motion on the table. Any discussion?

All those in favour? Contrary minded? Thank you.

The motion is carried.

Thank you, MLA MacDonald.

Where it's Appointments to Agencies, Boards and Commissions, I'm looking for agreement from the table to see if we would put off our correspondence and other committee business until the next sitting of the Human Resources Committee. Do we have general agreement around the table for that?

It is agreed.

That being the case, our next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 7th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The topic is the Canada-Nova Scotia Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Agreement - 2021 to 2026: Update.

Our witnesses will be from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development; Dr. Tammy Findlay, Mount Saint Vincent University; Child Care Now Nova Scotia; Association of Early Childhood Educators Nova Scotia; and the Early Learning and Child Care Engagement Table.

That being said, our meeting is now adjourned. Thank you.

[The committee adjourned at 10:09 a.m.]