



MEDIA ADVISORY

Recall of the House

Ottawa, Ontario – May 11, 2020

Pursuant to the order made on April 20, 2020, the Honourable Anthony Rota, Speaker of the House of Commons, has given notice for the House to meet on **Wednesday, May 13, 2020, at the later of 2:30 p.m. and the conclusion of the proceedings of the in-person meeting of the Special Committee on the COVID-19 Pandemic**, for the consideration of a bill to enact certain measures in response to COVID-19.

Additional background

On [Monday, April 20](#), a motion was adopted by the House stating that it is adjourned until Monday, May 25, unless the four House Leaders agree that it remain adjourned until a later date. The House can also be recalled earlier by the Speaker at any time pursuant to Standing Order 28(3). The motion adopted on April 20 also provides a mechanism for recalls of the House on Wednesdays following the proceedings of the Special Committee, subject to certain conditions, as outlined in paragraph (i):

- (i) the House shall meet on a Wednesday, at the later of 2:30 p.m. and the conclusion of the proceedings of the Special Committee on the COVID-19 Pandemic,
- (ii) notice of the sitting shall be given no later than 6:00 p.m. on the preceding Monday,
- (iii) notices may be filed with the clerk no later than 6:00 p.m. on the preceding Monday and shall be printed in the Notice Paper to be published for that sitting,
- (iv) the application of Standing Orders 15, 17, 36(8)(b) and 39(5)(b) shall be suspended,
- (v) the order of business shall be Introduction of Government Bills, followed by Government Orders,
- (vi) the only orders of the day which may be considered under Government Orders shall relate to the COVID-19 pandemic and measures necessary to respond to it,
- (vii) an embargoed copy of any measure to be considered shall be provided to the House leaders of the recognized parties no later than 6:00 p.m. on the preceding Saturday,
- (viii) before any measure is considered, a minister of the Crown must state that there is agreement among the representatives of all recognized parties to govern the proceedings in relation to the said measure and the minister may propose a motion, without notice, setting forth the terms of such agreement and every such motion shall be decided forthwith,
- (ix) no motions may be received or considered under Standing Orders 26, 38, 52, 53, 56.1, 57, 78(2) or (3), 81 or 84,

(x) any day the House sits pursuant to this paragraph shall not be considered as a sitting day for the purposes of Standing Orders 34(1), 37(3), 51(1) and 110 and subsection 28(12) of the Conflict of Interest Code for Members of the House of Commons,

(xi) when the proceedings governed by the motion described in subparagraph (vii) have been completed, or if that motion is negated or a minister does not state that there is an agreement, the Speaker shall adjourn the House to the date fixed under paragraph (e), and the House shall be deemed, for the purposes of any order, to stand adjourned pursuant to this order;

The House has been recalled on 15 other occasions, including the recalls of April 29, 2020, April 11, 2020, and March 24, 2020. For a list of previous recalls during adjournment periods, please refer to Appendix 12 of *House of Commons Procedure and Practice*, Third Edition, 2017, "[Recalls of the House of Commons During Adjournment Periods Since 1867.](#)"

Otherwise, [Standing Order 28\(3\)](#) also provides a means by which the House may be recalled at any other moment while the House stands adjourned. This process usually begins with a government request made in writing to the Speaker. The decision to recall is made by the Speaker, after consultation with the government and once the Speaker is satisfied that the public interest would be served by an earlier meeting of the House. Unless a motion is adopted that provides for a change to the daily order of business, proceedings are held in the usual manner depending on the time of the meeting of the House. When the House sits on a Saturday or Sunday, the order of business will be that of a Friday sitting.

For more information related to the Speaker's role or the daily order of business of the House following a recall, see the section entitled "[Recall of the House During an Adjournment](#)" in Chapter 8 of *House of Commons Procedure and Practice*, Third Edition, 2017.

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For more information:

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