

Règlements du Conseil législatif du Bas-Canada (28 janvier 1793)

1. The Members of the Legislative Council are to sit in the order prescribed by His Majesty.
2. The Speaker when he speaketh to the House, is always to be uncovered he is not to adjourn the House or do any thing as the mouth of the House, without the consent of the Members first had, except the ordinary things about Bills as for preferring one Bill to another, and such like, and in case of difference amongst the Members, it is to be put to the Speaker.
3. The first thing commonly either at the beginning of a General Assembly or of a session, is that some Bill pro forma is read, and then a Committee to be chosen out of the House which shall stand all that session to review the Orders of the House, and take consideration of the privileges of the Members, and see from time to time that they be duly observed.
4. After that they administer the Oath prescribed by the Statute of the thirty first of His present Majesty to such Members as have not sat in the House before, and have not taken the same Oath before in the House.
5. The Bills are commonly let pass at the first reading and to be committed upon motion at the second reading.
6. No person is to speak twice to any Bill at one time of reading of it, or any other proposition, unless it be to explain himself in some material point of his speech, but no new matter, and that not without leave of the House first obtained. Every Man speaks standing and uncovered, and names not the Members of the House commonly by their names, but the Member that spoke last, last but one, last but two, or some other note of their speech.
7. At votes – the last Member in order at the Table, after the Speaker hath put the Question, begins first, and every man in his turn rises uncovered and only says Content or not Content.
8. The first or second day the House is called and notice taken of such Members as are absent not excused by His Majesty or by the King's Representative for some time.
9. For absence every Member is to make his excuse by any Member of the House, which if it be allowed as just, he is excused if not, he is to be blamed by the House as the fault requires. This is to be understood to be after the general meeting of the House upon the Writs and the House set.
10. When the House is sitting every Member that shall enter is to give and receive salutations from the Rest, and not sit down in his place, unless he has made an obeysance to the Cloth of State.

11. At the beginning of a general Assembly, before it be met, if the day be adjourned it is done by Writ which is directed to both the Houses, and in that case, the House of Assembly is to be called in, and stand uncovered before the Bar, but not before the members be all sit, who sitting and being uncovered, the Speaker uses some words unto them to let them know the cause of their meeting, which he doth uncover, in respect he speaks to both Houses and after the writ read he adjourns the Court.
12. To have more freedom of speech and that arguments may be used *pro* and *contra*, Committees are appointed (some times for Bills to facilitate and agree of great business) either of the whole House or of particulars, Committees of the whole House sometimes sit in the House, but then the Speaker sits not in the Chair as a Speaker.
13. If they be of small numbers commonly they meet in a less room or in the great Committee Room, as the Members please. Any of the Members of the Committee speak to the rest uncovered, but may sit still if he pleases.
14. The meeting of the Legislative Council into any of the House of Assembly is either upon occasions of Messages, which they send up to the Legislative Council, or upon conferences, when they come up to them the manner is thus. After the Members have notice given them by the Usher, that the House of Assembly have sent to the Legislative Council, they attend untill the business upon which the House is, is ended. And then the Legislative Council sitting the House of Assembly are sent for in, and stand at the lowest end of the Room, then the Speaker with such as please riseth and go down to the middle of the Bar, then the Chief of the Members of the Assembly in the midst and the rest about him come up to the Bar, with three obeysances and deliver the Message to him, who after he had received it retires to his former place, and the House being cleared and settled, he reports it to the Members who do help his memory if in any thing he be mistaken, and after the Members have taken resolution if the business require any answer, they are either called in and approaching to the Bar with three obeysances as before, the House sitting in order as before, the Speaker sitting in his Seat doth give them their answer in the name of the House, or else if the resolution be not so speedy the Legislative Council send the word by the Usher they shall not need to stay for the answer, but will send it by some express Messenger of their own.
15. At the Committee of the Legislative Council any Member of their House, though not of the Committee is not excluded from coming in and speaking, but he must not vote. Also he shall give place to all that are of the Committee though further down in the List, and shall sit behind them. The same order is also observed at a conference with the House of Assembly.
16. None are to speak at a conference with the House of Assembly but those who are of the Committee.
17. When any thing that hath been committed is reported, all the Members of the Committee stand up.

18. No man is to enter either when the House sits, or at any Committee or conference, unless it be such as are commanded to attend, but such as are Members of the House, upon pain of being punished severely and with example to others.
19. The Members of the Legislative Council are to keep their dignity and order in sitting as much as may be and not remove out of their places without just cause to the hindrance of others that sit near them, and disorder of the House, but when they must needs go cross the House they are to make obeysance to the Cloth of State.
20. When any Members speak, they address their speech to the rest of the Members in general.
21. To prevent misunderstanding and for avoiding offensive speeches, when matters be debated either in the House or at Committees, it is for honor's sake thought fit and to be ordered, that all personal sharp or taxing speeches be forborne, and whosoever answereth another man's speech, shall apply his answer to the matter, without wrong to the person, and as nothing offensive is to be spoken, so nothing is to be ill taken if the party that speaks shall presently make a fair exposition or clear denial of the words that might bear any ill construction and if any offence is given in that kind, the House itself will be very sensible thereof, and sharply censure the offender and give the Party offended a fit reparation and full satisfaction.
22. The Clerk is to enter no order untill the Speaker first demand the assent of the House, and the Clerk is to read every order first in the House before it be entered.
23. The privileges of the House is that no Member of the Legislative Council sitting in any Session or within the usual time of privileges of Parliament is to be imprisoned or restrained without sentence or order of the House, unless it be for Treason or Felony or for refusing to give security for the Peace.
24. Every Member is to sit in his due place when the House is put into a Committee.
25. If it be desired by any Member that the House be put into a Committee, it ought not to be refused.
26. Ordered for avoiding all mistakes unkindnesses and other differences, which may grow to quarrels tending to the Breach of the peace that if any Member shall conceive himself to have received any affront or injury from any other Member of the House either in the House or at any Committee or in the room belonging to the Legislative Council, he shall appeal to the Members for his reparation, which if he shall not do, but occasion or entertain quarrels, declining the Justice of the House, then the Member that shall be found therein delinquent, shall undergo the severe censure of the House. And that this Order be a standing Order of the House.

27. Ordered that such Members as shall make protestation or enter their dissents to any Vote of the House shall make their said protestation or give directions to have their dissent entered into the Clerk's Book, the next sitting day of the House or else the said protestation or dissent to be void and of none effect.
28. Ordered that all Bills be read thrice in the whole, and once on three different days for the common course unless the House shall see special cause for the common utility to change the same course in any particular instances.
29. Ordered that if any Member have occasion to speak with another Member of this House while the House is sitting, they are to go together below the Bar or else the Speaker is to stop the business in agitation and that this order be added to the standing orders of this House.
30. Ordered that after a question is put, and the House hath voted thereupon no Members is to depart out of his place, untill the House hath either entered upon some other business or upon consideration of adjourning the House, and that this order to be added to the Roll of Standing orders of the House.
31. Ordered &ca. That when a question hath been truly put by the Speaker, no Member is to speak against the question but to vote, and that this order shall be entered into the Roll of the Standing Orders of this House.
32. As it might deeply entrench on the privileges of this House for any Member of this House to answer any accusation in the House of Assembly either in person or by sending his answer in writing or by his Counsel there. Upon serious consideration had, whereof, and perusal of the precedents in the Upper House in Parliament, it is ordered &ca. That no Member of this House shall either go down to the House of Assembly or send his answer in writing or appear by Counsel to answer any accusation there, upon penalty of being committed to the Black Rod or the prison during the pleasure of this House. And that this order be added to the Standing Orders of this House that the Members may the better take notice of the same.