

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF BC
POLICY MANUAL

SECTION: Member Policies

POLICY: 7520 Caucus Funding

Authorized By: LAMC

Issue/Revision Date: December 1, 2016

Signature: Approved per December 1, 2016
LAMC Meeting Minutes

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Objective

The objective of this policy is to document the Legislative Assembly Management Committee (LAMC) approved formula for caucus and independent member budgets. It is summarized in one place for ease of regular review and update as necessary.

Authority

Legislative Assembly Member policies are approved and authorized by the Legislative Assembly Management Committee in accordance with policy 1100 *Creating and Updating Policies*.

Key Definitions

There are no key definitions for this policy

1. Caucus Operating Budgets

- .01 Caucuses and Independent Members are allocated a portion of the Vote 1 budget on an annual basis.
- .02 These budgets are calculated using a per member formula which is approved by the Legislative Assembly Management Committee on an annual basis.
- .03 Caucus operating budgets are calculated as shown below. Where specific LAMC decisions have been documented the date of that decision is noted.
 - The caucus receives funding equal to the salary and benefits of a Research Officer N21, Step 5 for each non-executive Member of the caucus; plus,
 - The caucus receives funding equal to fifty percent of the salary and benefits of a Research Officer N21, Step 5 for each executive Member of the caucus (*LAMC decision August 5, 1998*); plus,
 - The caucus receives funding of \$4,000 for each non-executive Member of the caucus and \$2,000 for each executive member; plus,
 - The caucus receives additional funding of \$5,000 for each Member of the caucus (*LAMC decision July 18, 2006*).
 - The Speaker is not part of the Caucus and does not participate in the Caucus funding formula.

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.04 Independent Members receive double the operating budget allocated to a caucus non-executive Member (*LAMC decision September 3, 2009*)

**2. Operating
Budget
Adjustments**

.01 Adjustments to the annual operating budget allocations of a caucus are made effective on the date the changes were made to the composition of the caucus (*LAMC decision July 8, 2008*).

Examples of when the composition of a caucus would change are the resignation of a member, or a cabinet shuffle which changes the number of ministers.

If the composition of a caucus is changed mid-fiscal year, Financial Services will recalculate the budget allocation upon receiving official notification of the effective date. The revised budget allocation is then provided to the caucus executive director for review. The caucus is required to spend within the revised budget allocation, which may be higher or lower than the initial allocation.

**3. Caucus
Capital
Budgets**

.01 Each Caucus receives an annual capital budget of \$25,000, and each Independent Member receives an annual capital budget of \$2,000. Capital budgets are subject to annual approval by the Legislative Assembly Management Committee subject to availability of capital funds (*as per LAMC approval of the fiscal 2015/16 budget*).

Contacts

Please contact financialservices@leg.bc.ca for questions regarding this policy.

References

- *LAMC decision August 5, 1998*
- *LAMC decision July 18, 2006*
- *LAMC decision September 3, 2009*
- *LAMC decision July 8, 2008*
- *LAMC decision March 3, 1993*