

KEVIN O'REILLY—MLA FRAME LAKE
Independent Statutory Office Budgets
Committee of the Whole—2016-2017 Operating Budget Review
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MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. There's also a couple of other changes here. There's a reduction in the Language Commissioner's expense line and a slight increase in the Human Rights Adjudication Panel. Can someone help me understand those, please? Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you, Mr. O'Reilly. Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Masi, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, we've had several changes within the Language Commission. Just recently the Language Commissioner was recruited, and she's also a lawyer, so there's been some costs associated with previous dealings with the hiring and contracting a lawyer. So at this point in time this individual doesn't need those services, because she also provides legal advice. So it's \$18,000, basically, in savings in that area.

And then there's the increase in the Human Rights Adjudication Panel of \$35,000; that's part of forced growth of \$38,000 for a part-time admin assistant offset by \$3,000 reduction in travel. So it's just part of the forced growth that we have to deal with. Masi, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. O'Reilly.

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. And I want to thank the Speaker for providing that information. I'm just curious, these independent statutory officers, do they prepare their own budgets and those are submitted then to the Board of Management for review, is that how the process works? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you, Mr. O'Reilly. Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Masi, Mr. Chair. Yes, the Member is absolutely right. They submit their budgetary proposals to the Board of Management and the Board of Management meet on that and makes the decision based on that. So each and every commission does their own reporting as well. Masi.