

Person and Government, and not doubting that their proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper and prudence, he grants, and upon all occasions will recognize and allow their constitutional privileges. I am commanded also to assure you that the Commons shall have ready access to His Excellency upon all reasonable occasions and their proceedings, as well as your words and actions, will constantly receive from him the most favourable construction.

His Excellency the Governor General then reads the Speech from the Throne. When the Speech has been read, the Secretary to the Governor General delivers a copy to the Speaker of the Senate and a copy to the Speaker of the House of Commons.

The members of the House of Commons then withdraw.

His Excellency the Governor General retires, and the sitting of the Senate is resumed.

The Deputy Leader of the Government presents a *pro forma* bill, upon which no further action is taken. (The purpose of the *pro forma* bill is to demonstrate the right of the Senate to deliberate without reference to the causes of summons expressed in the Speech from the Throne.)

See Bourinot, Fourth Edition, p. 94.

The Speaker then informs the Senate that His Excellency has caused to be placed in his hands a copy of the Speech from the Throne, and the Deputy Leader of the Government moves that the Speech from the Throne be taken into consideration on a certain date.

The Deputy Leader of the Government then moves that all the senators present during the session be appointed a committee to consider the orders and customs of the Senate and privileges of Parliament, and that the committee be empowered to meet in the Senate Chamber when and as often as it pleases. This committee is known as the Committee of Privileges.

See Rule 7(2).

The Deputy Leader of the Government then moves that certain senators be appointed a Committee of Selection to nominate senators to serve on the several select committees during the session, and to report with all convenient speed the names of the senators so nominated.

See Rule 66.

The Senate then adjourns to a designated time and date.

Opening of Subsequent Sessions

The proceedings at the opening of a second or subsequent session are the same as at the First Session, with the omission of such parts as are peculiar to the opening of Parliament.

CONSIDERATION OF THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

When the order for the consideration of the Speech from the Throne is called for the first time, the mover of the motion for an Address in Reply moves: