

Minutes of a meeting of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Elections held in the DeCouto Atrium at the House of Assembly on Friday, September 13, 2013 at 12.30pm.

**PRESENT**

**Mr. C. Walton Brown, Jr., JP, MP—Chairperson**

**Mrs. Jeanne J. Atherden, JP, MP**

**Mr. Glen C. Smith, JP, MP**

**Mrs. Kim N. Wilson, JP, MP**

**Ms. Susan E. Jackson, JP, MP**

**Ms. Meredith Ebbin—Committee Clerk**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 12.40pm.

Mr. Brown said he has sent a request to the Centre for Justice for a legal opinion on whether candidates are required to declare interests in government contracts. The Centre for Justice has reached out to a QC.

The QC will issue an opinion in January.

Following discussion on a range of topics, it was agreed that the Committee would examine the issues of declaration of interests, intimidation of voters, the criteria for advance polling and absentee ballots.

Public hearings will be held in the library of the House of Assembly beginning on Monday, September 23 and ending on Thursday, September 26, between the hours of 12noon and 4pm.

Former parliamentarians Messrs. John Barritt, Kim Swan, and Alex Scott and Parliamentary Registrar Mr. Randolph Scott will be invited to appear before the committee.

Committee members can invite any member of the public who has an interest in or direct knowledge of the issues being examined to appear.

Mr. Brown assured the committee that he would be exercising his authority as chairman to require anyone who makes accusations at the hearings to back them up—their testimony must be credible.

Members of the committee will not be required to submit questions in advance of the hearing.

Advertisements will be placed in the media informing the public of the hearings and inviting them to give oral or written submissions.

It is not anticipated that the hearings will attract a large response from the public. Seating will be provided for 12 people.

The committee is required to submit its final report in February.

The meeting was adjourned at 1.40pm.

**CONFIRMED THIS**

**DAY OF**

**2013**

**CHAIRPERSON**