

### **Sittings of National Council**

63. (1) The National Council of Provinces may determine the time and duration of its sittings and its recess periods.
- (2) The President may summon the National Council of Provinces to an extraordinary sitting at any time to conduct special business.
- (3) Sittings of the National Council of Provinces are permitted at places other than the seat of Parliament only on the grounds of public interest, security or convenience, and if provided for in the rules and orders of the Council.

### **Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons**

64. (1) The National Council of Provinces must elect a Chairperson and two Deputy Chairpersons from among the delegates.
- (2) The Chairperson and one of the Deputy Chairpersons are elected from among the permanent delegates for five years unless their terms as delegates expire earlier.
- (3) The other Deputy Chairperson is elected for a term of one year, and must be succeeded by a delegate from another province, so that every province is represented in turn.
- (4) The Chief Justice must preside over the election of the Chairperson, or designate another judge to do so. The Chairperson presides over the election of the Deputy Chairpersons.

[Sub-s. (4) substituted by s. 5 of the Constitution Sixth Amendment Act of 2001.]

- (5) The procedure set out in Part A of Schedule 3 applies to the election of the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairpersons.
- (6) The National Council of Provinces may remove the Chairperson or a Deputy Chairperson from office.
- (7) In terms of its rules and orders, the National Council of Provinces may elect from among the delegates other presiding officers to assist the Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons.

### **Decisions**

65. (1) Except where the Constitution provides otherwise—
- (a) each province has one vote, which is cast on behalf of the province by the head of its delegation; and