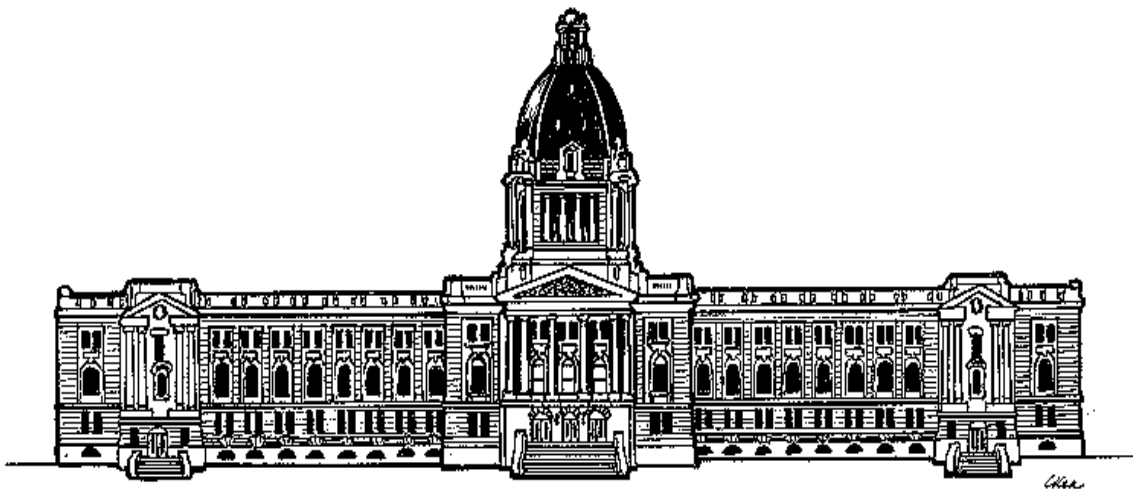




STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ECONOMY

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ECONOMY

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Ms. Victoria Jurgens
Prince Albert Northcote

[The committee met at 15:58.]

**General Revenue Fund
Innovation Saskatchewan
Vote 84**

Subvote (IS01)

The Chair: — Good afternoon, committee members. Being near 4 p.m., I'll call the committee meeting to order. Welcome, Minister Norris and his officials as we begin discussion of vote 84 on Innovation Saskatchewan.

I would like to invite Minister Norris to introduce his officials and give opening remarks. And also just a reminder to officials, if you're responding directly to a question, to state your name for the sake of Hansard. Minister Norris.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Mr. Chair, thank you very much, and to all committee members, I'm delighted to be appearing before the committee today and pleased to be talking about the important work of Innovation Saskatchewan.

I will take a minute just to introduce Dr. Jerome Konecni, president and CEO [chief executive officer] of Innovation Saskatchewan. And Jerome comes with extensive experience in the federal government, in the provincial government, and in the private sector, and so we were very pleased that Dr. Konecni has joined Innovation Saskatchewan in this leadership role. As well, Rita Flaman Jarrett is here, the director of corporate services for Innovation Saskatchewan.

If I may, Mr. Chair, I thought I'd just make a few introductory remarks and then we can get right into the questions. In the budget that's under deliberation, the theme that has been clearly presented and spelled out is keeping the Saskatchewan advantage. Innovation Saskatchewan is doing its part in keeping the Saskatchewan advantage by fulfilling its mandate of developing policies and programs and working with industry partners, educational institutions, and other governmental entities both at the provincial level as well as in Ottawa at the federal level to help foster and facilitate the achievement of our innovation priorities for government.

Innovation Saskatchewan helps to coordinate the strategic direction of the government's research and development as well as science and technology investment. Innovation Saskatchewan provides advice on science and technology policy, coordinates the establishment and maintenance of science research and development infrastructure of which we have quite extensive investments that are present here in the province and that continue to develop and evolve. We also provide advice and recommendations on research, on development, on demonstration projects, on commercialization of new technologies and innovative processes in Saskatchewan.

Since the creation of our province, Saskatchewan has been known across the country and around the world as a leader in innovation. Saskatchewan is home to almost one-third of Canada's agricultural biotechnology. And that will come as no surprise as that is a clear extension of Saskatchewan being home to nearly half of Canada's arable land, and having been

seen right from the start as a key leader of innovation. When we think about the settlers and farmers and producers that helped to grow this province, helped to break the land, we know how important that work has been and how important it is that it continues.

I would argue it was almost equally significant that here in Saskatchewan, at the University of Saskatchewan, we were home to the first College of Agriculture — now the College of Agriculture and Bioresources — that was embedded in a Canadian university. And that was a first right across the country. That's helped us to ensure that over the course of decades, and including to present day, that we maintain our comparative and competitive advantages in key areas of agriculture biotechnology research. Obviously it's expanded out beyond the University of Saskatchewan but that really was a fundamental decision in Saskatchewan, being able to play the role that we are playing today.

In addition to agriculture, we have probably the broadest natural resource portfolio of any Canadian province, in fact probably among the broadest natural resource portfolio of any North American jurisdiction. When we think of having about 50 per cent of the world's potash, when we think about having about 20 per cent or so of some of the world's richest uranium, when we think about being the number two oil producer in the country, when we think about being the number three producer of coal and natural gas, and the list goes on, we can see that we have been blessed with natural resources and that we are challenged to add value to those resources. That is, we are challenged to ensure that the resource development, as we see and look to the future, will be defined by adding increasing value to others' lives in adding more prosperity, more employment, more jobs to people right here in Saskatchewan. And to that end, the investment for Innovation Saskatchewan's budget for 2012-13 is \$6.77 million.

And we can drill down into what that looks like, but I want to highlight a few areas where we have focused some important energies. The Canadian Centre for Nuclear Innovation is a world-class research centre housed at the University of Saskatchewan and it is, through a multi-year funding agreement, receiving \$30 million of funding from the Government of Saskatchewan. And that's important because it's helping us to put a very refined focus on areas of research regarding nuclear medicine and medical isotopes. But of course, isotopes can also be used with industrial applications. So we're also, through the centre, focusing on material sciences — that is, those sciences that are going to be enhancing everything from computers through to cholesterol and well beyond.

We're also focusing on increasing areas of nuclear safety through research and development and focusing on options in technological innovations regarding small reactor technologies. Especially on the last two, we do not do that in isolation. We do that in partnership, most explicitly through a stated memorandum and joint research endeavour, jointly funded research endeavour with Hitachi, which most recently has just located its Canadian headquarters, relocated from Mississauga into Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

We're also very pleased with the progress that we've been able

to make as of today with the announcement this morning on the International Minerals Innovation Institute. And this centre of excellence is going to be allowing government, the private sector which plays a lead and important role, fundamental role, as well as a variety of post-secondary institutions to work together. This makes a lot of sense especially given that Saskatchewan is now seen as the hub and epicentre for Canadian mining.

There are two key areas of endeavour. One is to help ensure that we're meeting the labour market needs, or what I call the talent challenge requirements, of this sector. Over the course of the next nine to 10 years, the sector in Saskatchewan alone is going to require more than 21,000 skilled and trained entrants, those Saskatchewan students and students from elsewhere that are going to come in and help us to develop this key sector.

As well, we know we are blessed with a bounty of natural resources but we also know that some of the research challenges that confront the sector relate to environmental sustainability and stewardship. They relate to water usage and water quality and water security. They also focus on making sure that we're in a position to maximize and add value. There is a fine balance and, through the institute, we're going to be working with the private sector.

In fact, the institute has just received \$500,000 in funding from the government of Saskatchewan through Innovation Saskatchewan. And I'm pleased to say that BHP, Cameco, the PotashCorp, and Mosaic have combined, pledged \$4 million in multi-year funding for the institute. And we have multiple other parties now interested in that dialogue and discussion continues.

So I'm very pleased; I'm especially pleased that the former Lieutenant Governor, Dr. Gordon Barnhart has just taken over as the interim chair for this organization. We've already received direct feedback on how important his experience in governance — both in this legislature for about 20 years serving as Clerk, as well as his time serving as the Clerk of the Canadian Senate and Canadian parliaments, as well as his time as university secretary at the University of Saskatchewan — is already paying off in some of the deliberation regarding governance.

I'll touch briefly on the Food Security Institute which we are committed to moving forward with key partners from the post-secondary educational system, as well as from the private sector. That work continues. We're working on a blueprint for rolling that out. That's important because food safety, food security, and the sustainability piece is something that continues to gain momentum and attention around the world. It is one of those local and global issues that people recognize Saskatchewan for having played a key role in the past, and they anticipate and welcome a key role into the future. And we can talk more about that.

We're also doing some key work in enhanced oil recovery. And Innovation Saskatchewan is providing \$500,000 in funding to two project consortiums which use microbial-based technology as a potential solution to the enhanced recovery problem or some of the challenges associated with enhanced oil recovery. And we're very pleased again to be joining world-class companies in seeing these endeavours move forward.

So we have millions of dollars that we're investing, making sure that we retain very focused on adding value to Saskatchewan resources, on ensuring that the innovation agenda is connected directly to those resources as well as to our future prosperity by adding value to people's lives here within Saskatchewan and right around the world.

On that, Mr. Chair, there are many details and, I'm sure, many additional issues that I could highlight. But I'd like to just turn the attention of the committee back over to those that would like to ask questions and offer comments, and we welcome those. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

The Chair: — Thank you, Minister. The floor is now open for questions. Ms. Sproule.

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Mr. Minister, for those comments and thank you for coming out this afternoon. Again I've explained to other committees that I'm fairly new in this role, so most of my questions are just sort of on the beginner level. I figure I've got four years to sort it all out as we go along. And I will want to ask some questions specifically on the vote itself.

But just to start off with, I am having some trouble sort of sorting out the difference between Innovation and Enterprise and how the ministry, just maybe for the people, is how the ministry is set up. And I think there's been some changes since it was initially set up. And why was there a split between Enterprise and Innovation, and how has this come about?

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Thanks very much for that kind of fundamental and important question. It's a question that I'd probably categorize as a structural-functional question. That is, can we talk about the structure and the function and the evolution of the organization? I'm happy to do that.

The kind of evolution is that Innovation Saskatchewan was formed in 2009, began operations on April 1st, 2010. And indeed as you suggested, operations and program funding, there was transferral from existing resources that had been allocated to Enterprise Saskatchewan into Innovation Saskatchewan. And I'll get into this a little bit. The basic response, why have a separate entity, why have this structure, is simply if we conceive innovation to be a continuum — and I'm not saying everyone does, but most of the practitioners and those reflecting on innovation would see it as such — at one end of the continuum, you would have curiosity-based or foundational research, and on the other side, and on the other end of the continuum, you would have the successful commercialization of, within a sector, I won't call it a product, but within a sector it could be multiple products.

[16:15]

So the notion here was that Innovation Saskatchewan should occupy a different spot, a different zone on that continuum rather than Enterprise Saskatchewan. If you want, Enterprise Saskatchewan should be focusing more on economic development. And Innovation Saskatchewan, essentially if you move along that continuum, needs to be focused on some of the key areas of maximizing areas of applied research, maximizing opportunities on development, maximizing opportunities on

commercialization and corporate partnerships that ultimately stream easily into Enterprise Saskatchewan. So the easy answer, Enterprise Saskatchewan and Innovation Saskatchewan have evolved differently. Each occupies a different space, a different zone on that innovation continuum.

And this is where, you know, I would like to turn to Dr. Konecsni, because he's had an opportunity through your career to see some of the interdependence and interplay across the continuum. Maybe as you're rolling up your sleeves, I kept thinking it's been a year, but it hasn't been a year. Probably about six months . . .

Mr. Konecsni: — Right.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Since you've joined us. And that way you can get a better sense operationally how you think this is working as far as the niche that we're occupying and I think helping with on the continuum. Go ahead, Jerome.

Mr. Konecsni: — Mr. Minister, thank you very much. I would like to echo the sentiment that innovation is a process. It's often referred to as, some people refer to the value chain. Some people call it, too, the product development cycle. What I would add to that is that in addition to a process along the innovation continuum is an environment or an ecosystem that includes a lot of other factors — policies, the natural environment that we have, the natural resources that the minister referred to — that we're building our innovation agenda on. I think the other things we need to look at as the constructed environment — the infrastructure that the government has heavily invested in, the skills, and the challenges that we have to maintain skill. So it's an entire ecosystem.

And Innovation Saskatchewan, our role is to step back and look at and understand all those moving parts in this complicated machinery that we call innovation and ensure that they're all operating, that there is adequate investment in each of those areas. And there's a role for different government agencies and ministry to play and ensure that that role is being played, if there's no gaps and so on.

And when you talk about innovation and enterprise, Chris Dekker, who's the CEO of Enterprise, we've committed to communication because we liken the innovation process to a relay, a relay race. And we see that our role is to hand the baton off to Enterprise Saskatchewan. But like any good relay, there's a slight bit of overlap to ensure the hand-off takes place. You run along each side for a small bit to ensure that the baton is firmly transferred. Failure to do that would be not very efficient and wouldn't result in the effective outcome. So that's how we have described it. So we're very strongly committed to communication but also understanding that whole innovation process and everybody's role. And the work that we've done, undertaken in jurisdictional advantage assessment, has really helped us to do that.

And we also have a committee of deputy ministers where all the ministries who have a role to play in Innovation participate regularly, discuss these issues, and look at the global picture. Our role at Innovation Saskatchewan is to coordinate that committee and to bring those people together and ensure that everybody's role is being played and played effectively. And if

there's need for changes or improvements in the different components, then that's what we also look at. But it's clearly a partnership of many ministries, and Enterprise is one of those most important ministries that we work with.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — I would add that I think, you know, I think one of the features that increasingly distinguishes the new Saskatchewan is the role and the partnership and the investment that we're seeing out of the private sector. And I'll offer a couple of examples.

Obviously today, with the announcement of our new minerals institute, what we see is the role of government mostly being that, at least at this stage, of catalyst, a very complex sector — different interests, different players, different practices, and different types of mining — coming together with the government, the government putting forward initial \$500,000, industry stepping up with \$4 million, and really encouraging the government to play an active role in adding value to a number of key components within that sector. I think any time we can talk about that kind of partnership, that kind of leverage, we're in a very, very solid position.

A second example I would use is the international test facility which is associated with the Shand power plant. That in particular is a joint initiative between SaskPower and Hitachi. Each has put in \$30 million. And that has not simply reflected and reinforced that Saskatchewan's a leader in clean coal and carbon sequestration as well as enhanced oil recovery, but it has sent a message to the world that, where some jurisdictions are calling into question or looking at the funding regarding clean coal, Saskatchewan as well as others are simply saying, these are likely to be new industry norms over the course of the next 5, 10, 15, and 20 years. That is, the world is not likely to move away from coal. In fact for Saskatchewan, coal is going to remain foundational for us for decades to come.

This past year for SaskPower, it was about 58 per cent of our power supply. So we have 300 years of coal within Saskatchewan. We rely on it, but we also need to clean it up. And I think we have a very solid track record over the course of a decade on enhanced oil recovery, and I think this international test facility, which is going to allow new technologies to be tested on this platform, I think those are a couple of examples where the private sector is really stepping up and being a really, really constructive partner not simply for projects for today, which certainly is the case, but for projects that are going to have significant implications and applications for decades to come.

There are numerous examples from the Canadian Light Source synchrotron with private sector partners, the International Vaccine Centre and VIDO [Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization] with private sector and external dollars coming in including from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, one of three or four locations in Canada where that's the case. Those are some of the examples that I think are part of the new Saskatchewan. I think they are part of a changing dialogue and dialogue that demonstrates a maturation process for many of our innovation initiatives.

So I hope that gives you a flavour of the structure and function of Innovation Saskatchewan, the evolution from the partnership

that continues with Enterprise Saskatchewan but that has changed to allow each to play a much more specific and niche-oriented role along the continuum and within that ecosystem.

Ms. Sproule: — Thank you very much. That does help. I certainly, I think I'm getting a better picture of innovation. I'm just wondering if you could give me a concrete example of where Innovation has in the relay handed the baton over to Enterprise. Is there any particular instance you can think of that would demonstrate that?

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Thanks very much for the question, very good question. Again, we'll get Dr. Konecsni to offer some examples.

I'd probably again put a frame, if I could. Probably a little bit more dynamic and complex. It's not simply unidirectional. It's not simply a case where Innovation Saskatchewan will have an idea or a contact or a network and send that to Enterprise Saskatchewan. This is a very fluid relationship, and so there are a number of individuals, organizations, and entities that also come to Enterprise Saskatchewan that end up working within Innovation Saskatchewan as well as other partners within that innovation ecosystem. And that could be the Saskatchewan Research Council, for example, or the Canadian Light Source synchrotron.

Not too long ago, there was a meeting of the National Pharmaceutical Association. That meeting was held in the boardroom of InterVac, and Dr. Konecsni was there and I dropped in. There's an example where it's really fluid, it's very dynamic, especially when key players begin to get a sense of the type of investments that are being made. And an easy example relates to the pharmaceutical industry. They see the progress that we're making on the Academic Health Sciences building. They see the new clinical trial beds that have been opened up at City Hospital in Saskatoon. They see the completion of the InterVac program. They see the biomedical imaging beamline at the Canadian Light Source synchrotron, as well as the built infrastructure that's been there for many, many years.

This is capturing people's attention. They see new capacity. So they'll have conversations; Enterprise Saskatchewan, Innovation Saskatchewan. They might go over to the Saskatchewan Research Council. In an afternoon, they might go over and talk to the folks at the Canadian Light Source synchrotron. So it's very dynamic, and I think that kind of captures a big part of what's going on. That's again just a snapshot of what that would look like. Dr. Konecsni will offer a couple of examples on that movement each way.

[16:30]

Mr. Konecsni: — Thank you, Mr. Minister. Again to follow up on that, there's a number of different cases, but let's look at agriculture. So how we might work with Enterprise Saskatchewan is there's an interesting new technology or a company that's looking to establish a presence in Saskatchewan because they heard about our community. The folks from Enterprise Saskatchewan might bring this idea, this potential technology company to Saskatchewan and they'll look to us to

say, can you help us identify that? Is that the right technology? Are there better technologies out there? Should we be searching further? Should we be . . . How can we help evaluate this technology, and how does it compare? So we are the specialists. We specialize in the research and the technology evaluation and understanding. They look at the needs.

And then there might be a case where we have a technology and we're looking to commercialize it. And like any company and any technology company, you're often looking for somebody who's going to commercialize it. And so that's where . . . Or they're going to provide supplies or services to this new company that wants to commercialize a technology. Enterprise Saskatchewan is really critical in saying okay, we've got a new wind technology, but do we have a manufacturing sector to support that? If we're going to seal the deal and get this new technology brought to Saskatchewan, where can they get their supplies from? And so Enterprise Saskatchewan understands that. We've done the evaluation of the technology. Enterprise Saskatchewan then looks at the infrastructure and the supply chain and says okay, here's the companies in the Humboldt area that might be able to provide the manufacturing services.

So it's like the minister said. It goes two ways. But in many cases, it's often we work together and we walk side by side because you're looking at the whole path. I don't think when we refer to innovation, we refer to innovation, it's not equal to research. Research is a component of innovation. If we're not thinking about the path to a useful product or service that adds value, it's not innovation. It still is just research. It's just new knowledge. So when we contemplate research, we're contemplating the path to a valuable product or service at the end. Innovation Saskatchewan is critical in their expertise in helping us find and define that path to that useful end.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Yes. I would reiterate, a fundamental feature of Innovation Saskatchewan, a fundamental question that we ask in very sophisticated and probing ways — and we can talk about how we do that methodologically — but a fundamental question is a value-add question: whose lives are going to be enhanced by the initiative or enterprise that's undertaken?

And quite often what's traditionally happened is an emphasis has been put on the supply side. We can do this. And what we're attempting to do is make sure that that conversation is transitioned and transformed into, what are some of the needs adding value to our industry partners, adding value as far as some of the outcomes of the work that's under way, not simply being able to say, we have the capacity to do X or Y or Z. It's actually, what is it that's required? And that's leading to some very interesting conversations that I think over the course of months and years will again further transform the Saskatchewan economy by allowing us to add more value to our natural resources. I hope that's helpful.

Ms. Sproule: — It helps a lot. Thank you very much for that. It certainly is complex, and I think I'm starting to get a sense that it's not just a straight line for sure. It's obviously a big picture.

Typically, you know, when I think of research and development, I've always thought of that in the role often served by universities and institutes of higher learning. And so

would you say the role of Innovation Saskatchewan is just to channel the funding towards the appropriate researchers and developers? Or do you have staff that are actively doing research and development? Or what's the role of your board in terms of is it just handing out money to the right spots, or is it more than that?

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Well we'll talk about this. Actually I've been very kind of categoric on this, and that is, we don't simply want to be a bank to hand out money. When we think about that continuum and we think about the ecosystem, we can see that universities — in our case the University of Regina and University of Saskatchewan — can have multiple roles. And that is first and foremost. The curiosity-based or foundational research is a defining component of post-secondary education research. And to that I'll add SIAST [Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology]. Because although not a major priority, and nor should it be, SIAST has, over the course of the last couple of years, been recognized by NSERC [Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada] and by CFI [Canada Foundation for Innovation] for its potential to be a research collaborator. So I want to make sure we add that into the mix too.

But the post-secondary piece has traditionally been kind of multi-faceted, curiosity-based, foundational research. We've seen for both universities, the University of Regina and University of Saskatchewan, industry liaison offices that are there to help facilitate the movement, again, along that continuum. And then we also see, quite candidly, whether at the decanal level, whether at the level of vice-presidents of research, or for individual researchers — and this is where the real inspiration occurs, especially at the level of individual researchers — we can see individual researchers and departments and colleges and faculty actually being engaged in different ways on different projects right across that continuum. And that's very exciting because they usually bring their graduate students with them or senior undergraduates as far as gaining more experience. Some very successful companies here in Saskatchewan have been commercialized directly out of our universities.

So I wouldn't identify it again as just one static position on that continuum. Given the kind of investments that we've been able to make as a government, \$3.5 billion in post-secondary education in five years — an all-time record — given the kinds of centres of excellence that we see continuing to evolve here within the province, this is a very, very exciting time for some of the work.

There are numerous examples, but I think what I'll do is I'll get Dr. Konecsni to kind of just highlight a few of those, where the universities fit in. And undoubtedly we've seen some and will continue to see some remarkable work and projects.

Mr. Konecsni: — There are some incredible new products and new ideas that have come out of universities. I think if you look at SED Systems, International Road Dynamics, Vecima, those are all university spinouts where research has resulted in an innovative product. And so what we want to do of course is encourage that, create the proper framework. Also I think a lot of our role is a catalyst. How do we bring those people together? One of the things we're beginning to find is that

innovation occurs at the intersection of disciplines.

And one of the best stories we have of that in Saskatchewan is canola. Canola was invented because a chemist and a biologist got together. If the chemist hadn't been there we would not have canola because we had to figure out how we were going to analyze this acid that was in the plant that made it unhealthy in the oil. So the chemist developed a process and then gave that process to the biologist who could then measure the improvements and get to where they needed to go. So that's an example. So a lot of our role is acting as a catalyst facilitator for some of those things.

But I'd be remiss if I didn't also say, and reinforce this, that sometimes innovation is not, doesn't result at an organization like the synchrotron or InterVac. It occurs in a company where you're faced with competition from international competitors, and I have to figure out a way to get, make my product look different or better than the competition. And so a lot of times that's just taking existing knowledge and combining it with a bunch of different components and coming up with a result that is an improvement, a significant improvement over . . . So one of the areas that we believe we have to focus on is that whole process of innovation. It's one thing to have all of this great science and to facilitate and have great ideas and knowledge generated at universities, but if we don't have an industry that has the skills and the understanding of the process to turn it into real values, real products, real services, we're going to fail time and time again.

So we have to make sure that our companies are ready to receive that knowledge, those technologies, and utilize them. And I've been involved . . . The minister said I worked with a private company. We incorporated a technology that was new to our business. If we hadn't done that, we . . . Our company tripled in sales in three years. Without that technology we wouldn't have been able to do that. That was innovation, you know, and yet it was a very painful process, you know, to get it done and to get the skills. And we didn't know what we didn't know.

So if we can help people anticipate what they need to know, I think we can take away some of that pain and accelerate our ability to compete with people from all over the world. Because the competition is there for Saskatoon companies. It isn't Regina companies. It's companies from Australia. It's companies from Europe. It's companies from India and China. And we've got to be able to compete with the best in the world. And sometimes we're just talking about two weeks. If you get to the market two weeks later than somebody else, guess who's going to win.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — And an easy expression there is, no one remembers who came in second. And that's certainly the case increasingly on the food security side, increasingly on the research regarding zoonotic diseases. Very significant contributions have been made by Saskatchewan scientists and researchers and . . .

Ms. Sproule: — Did you say zoonotic?

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Zoonotics. Those are diseases that jump from animal to human communities. And 80 per cent or

thereabouts of all new diseases in the world are jumping from animal to human communities. And when we think of the significance of that, we can begin to see the significance of the research that's under way, for example, at the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization and the International Vaccine Centre, and is recognized as a centre of excellence not simply in the world or not simply in Canada but right around the world. So those would be some very tangible examples. The canola one is the most obvious as far as being a game changer for Western Canada.

Ms. Sproule: — I'm starting to regret we only have an hour, one hour for this discussion. I think we could pursue a lot of these comments. Just one, I guess, in terms of involving, you know, private companies in the research chain, if I can use that expression. And it seems that the knowledge is being used here to enhance competitiveness, and that's a good thing. I wonder if there are any sort of negative downsides to that. And you often hear a criticism of involving the private sector in pure research or the curious, I guess, side of the continuum that you described. And you know, obviously the companies' goals are to enhance their market or their share of the marketplace, and often pure research wouldn't have that view, particularly in terms of scientific research. And you do hear criticisms about that. How do you handle that at Innovation Saskatchewan?

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Yes. No, it's an important question. You know, it relates to the integrity of the research endeavour while also keeping an eye on the context. And again, right from the very start of publicly funded and organized research in Saskatchewan, there's been an eye to both — maintaining that integrity, which is absolutely fundamental and which we have a stellar track record for across the province, especially when it comes to the post-secondary institutions. We also have played, almost from the start, an instrumental role and value. And that's about people having the knowledge base and a commitment to community to make a difference.

[16:45]

And, you know, I'll use one example that's often overlooked in the province. In the midst of the First World War, it was obvious that science and technology and innovation could be used, kind of in this modernist frame, for enhanced destruction that even today, when we look at the photos and hear the stories, they're gut-wrenching. In the midst of the First World War there was a recognition by the Canadian government that Canada was going to have to step up its science and technology work for simply the contribution to the war effort to help save lives and, in the end, to help ideally shape a sustainable peace. So the precursor to the National Research Council was formed, and that was formed through a national cabinet committee. And the Western Canadian representative was President Walter Murray at the University of Saskatchewan for all of Western Canada.

There's one example, I think, of an individual who set the example. And it really matters; an individual set the example. The interests of the institution were foremost, but when called upon, when asked and invited to participate in a national endeavour, did so. That, I think, demonstrated a commitment to national research that was at once instrumental. That committee helped give birth to the National Research Council.

The story continues. So the first dean of engineering at the University of Saskatchewan became a city councillor in Saskatoon, helped to build a bridge, again applied very real, very specific contributions, and on the eve of the Second World War was invited to Ottawa, became the head of the National Research Council, played a very fundamental role in the development of a variety of technologies for Canada, worked closely with the Americans, worked very closely with the British, and arguably made a seminal contribution to again helping to kind of win a war and with an effort to finding sustainable peace. Those are a couple of examples where individuals . . .

Ms. Sproule: — Who was that person?

Hon. Mr. Norris: — The dean of engineering; first dean of engineering. They have a . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Yes, C.J. Mackenzie. Yes. And there's a dinner, annual dinner hosted by the College of Engineering every year.

Those are couple of examples where individuals made a significant contribution, never stopped making a significant contribution, but engaged in kind of purposeful, in active innovation at the national level. I used those as kind of illustrations of the type of commitment from the earliest stages that Saskatchewan researchers have had to kind of the call of a nation. And that included working with industry. It included working with other post-secondary institutions. It included making sure we were focused and able to work with other governments, as well as maintain the integrity and commitment of the post-secondary institutions they were affiliated with.

So I think when we see it in that kind of context, the norms have been long established in Saskatchewan. And again there are lots of examples during the Depression and our agricultural researchers going out, often by train, to go out and talk about best practices across communities, best practices in dugouts, best practices in shelterbelts, best practices in planting. So it's been continuous.

And I have to say, at least from where I sit, it's a stellar reputation that Saskatchewan has achieved, never taken for granted, but that the province has achieved right from the start of the post-secondary institutions being established and created and for these renowned individuals and the contributions they've made and many, many others that continue to have those kind of partnerships and the balance that's required.

And I, you know, I think that notion of balance has been really, really instructive for maintaining the integrity of our post-secondary system.

Ms. Sproule: — That's a good perspective to look at it from so I thank you for that. I know I'm quickly running out of time, and I just want to ask a question about some of the spending from last year. I know that you were allocated . . . was it about \$2 million originally last year? And then there was a supplementary estimate where a considerably larger amount was granted. I'm just curious why that wasn't foreseen at the beginning of the budget cycle and why it was done as a supplemental process.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — And we can drill down into this. I think

the additional dollars were focused largely on the nuclear innovation agenda, and part of that was actually working through key aspects of the agenda. So I'll highlight a couple.

We're very fortunate to have the Canadian Light Source synchrotron here within the province — Canada's only synchrotron. The significance of that is that the federal government came forward with a call for the production of medical isotopes outside of reactors. As everyone knows, kind of within the research community, there's been an uneven track record as of late regarding the production of medical isotopes in Canada. And without getting into that history, and happy to drill down, the federal government came forward, a national call, national invitation for alternative methods of production. And under the leadership of Dr. Josef Hormes as well as especially Dr. Mark de Jong, the notion and ultimately concept and proposal that was submitted was that using the Canadian Light Source synchrotron connected to a linear accelerator that Saskatchewan could offer, and uniquely to Saskatchewan, an alternative method of producing medical isotopes.

This is completely consistent with our track record going back to November 8th, 1951 where Dr. Johns and Sylvia Fedoruk and others were able to take the lead. Unfortunately for reasons mostly of ideology and indifference and inertia, some gaps developed. But this was a chance for us to kind of to get back into a leadership role nationally, and we put our hand up and we said, let's do this. And if I'm not mistaken, that call came out, Jerome, I think it was \$10 million dollars from Ottawa. I think we put in \$2 million. It was on short notice. We had the largest share of the federal allocation come to Saskatchewan compared to any province. And we were given a time frame, I think that, I think it was two years initially, and I think it's been expanded a little bit to help facilitate this. And so we are in the midst of that research endeavour.

This again has the potential to be a game changer where Saskatchewan . . . And now increasingly what we're seeing is the science is sound. We're just trying to get a sense of the price point where Saskatchewan can be contributing medical isotopes, not simply to our province because we have put forward that we want to move forward with the PET/CT [positron emission tomography/computed tomography] scan, but also contributing nationally. So that triggered . . . Your question was, what about the timing; wasn't that anticipated? The answer was, there had been conversations, but we didn't know the tight timeline that Ottawa was going to roll that out on. As we rolled that out, then the PET/CT project, we do not have one; it was an area, a gap. That's absolutely key for cancer diagnosis and fighting cancer. We said, let's move forward on that for the people of the province. That's essential, that piece of nuclear medicine. It's one of our key priorities.

We then had an opportunity to also move forward with the cyclotron. And cyclotron technology is such that it will also afford the opportunity to produce medical isotopes. So we wanted to build capacity here. We wanted to play a key leadership role. We wanted to have a PET/CT so that we could play a lead role in Canada on nuclear medicine in very short order.

And that wasn't out of the blue. Again, we had the Canadian Light Source synchrotron. We were the only one in Canada. We

have a number of nuclear scientists at both campuses actually. We're actually very lucky. And of course we have an existing reactor, the Slowpoke reactor, which is on the campus of the University of Saskatchewan. And we also have a fusion reactor, which is in the basement of the physics building at the U of S [University of Saskatchewan]. We have two, Tokamak reactor in the second case. So let's move forward there.

As you move forward on the production of isotopes, obviously with a key focus on medical isotopes — fighting cancer and diagnosing cancer, making sure that we're offering value to people across the province — the key question then is, is there another use for isotopes as well? And the answer is yes, of course there is, especially regarding material sciences. And so this provided us the opportunity to then look at the Canadian Centre for Nuclear Innovation, another campaign platform commitment that we had made. Suddenly the opportunity was there and that made good sense.

The dialogue with Hitachi as that process was under way suddenly took on some additional energy, and so we were able to move forward with that partnership. That's a \$10 million partnership, signed MOUs [memorandum of understanding] with Nuclear Safety and Security, as well as a focus on small reactor technology.

And then in the midst of that, the world witnessed with shock and sympathy the events in and around the tsunami and then Fukushima. And the question came, did you get the timing wrong? And the answer was, no. Actually new knowledge, more knowledge, and partnerships in knowledge regarding nuclear safety and nuclear innovation are probably more important today than ever before. The world, quite candidly, has hundreds of nuclear reactors. We can't walk away from this: (a) it's part of the foundational component of our innovation, our innovation continuum — we have 20 per cent of the world's richest uranium — and (b) there's an ethical obligation to actually contribute to the sustainability and safety of this sector.

And we're very, very pleased to have key partners like Cameco and Areva and others now arriving into the province. Hitachi stepped up, and the dialogue continues with a wide variety of players around the world with a focus on nuclear medicine, a key area priority for us, to regain and reclaim a leadership role that had been lost.

Then on the Canadian Centre for Nuclear Innovation, material sciences, Dr. John Root has joined us from Chalk River and the National Research Council. We're very pleased to have him play this role as interim lead, and there may be more on that to come. And then obviously on small reactor technology and nuclear safety, all of which are completely consistent with recommendations out of the UDP [Uranium Development Partnership] process and out of the public consultations that were held, to which the Government of Saskatchewan responded positively, that we ought to play a far more enhanced role on research and development.

So a little bit of a long-winded answer on this, but it is to say it was the federal government that triggered this. We had planning horizons. The federal government in making that call really shortened up some of those timelines because we wanted to

seize the opportunity. And when I say we, under the leadership, as I say, Dr. Josef Hormes and Mark de Jong especially said, here's a real chance. Our scientific community said, here's a real chance for us to go and play that leadership role. So that helps to explain why some of those extra dollars came online.

Ms. Sproule: — Okay. I think I have time for one more quick question. Well it's hard to anticipate these sorts of things arising, but given that you're very careful about a balanced budget in this fiscal year, if something like this arose again, would the government be able to find ways to accommodate that kind of call for additional support? And I guess we see some difficult decisions that your government has had to make in the last budget go-round, so just what sort of flexibility is there for Innovation Saskatchewan when these kinds of opportunities present themselves?

[17:00]

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Well I think the key for us is now we have Dr. Konecni in place. You can imagine we were going through the interview process for a CEO and we were responding at the same time. Now that we have Dr. Konecni in place, this is, we're probably on far more solid ground than we were, quite candidly, a year ago. A lot of people pulled together to make it work.

I think one of the keys, and this is where Dr. Konecni's role with the National Research Council where he came from, again another success story for Saskatchewan, I mean here we have on the nuclear science side, Dr. John Root coming over from the National Research Council into Saskatchewan. Here Dr. Konecni leaving the National Research Council, coming into Saskatchewan. These are some kind of reverse trends. A generation or two ago, you would have seen the opposite. You would have seen kind of the best and brightest out of Saskatchewan going to the federal government. Now what we're seeing are opportunities for us to migrate some of the talent back into Saskatchewan, so we're pleased with this.

The significance directly to your point is this: we're very well positioned across a wide variety of innovation sectors — from the mining sector where the announcement just today occurred, to the nuclear science sector, the nuclear research sector, through to ag biotechnology and the broader bio sector — as now we're beginning to see all kinds of synergies through to any number of others, certainly PTRC, Petroleum Technology Research Centre and, in the enhanced oil recovery, the role of SaskPower.

In key areas that we are attentive to, I won't say that we're not caught off guard. I'm simply saying a year hence we are being invited into dialogue and conversation about kind of trends and ideas in ways that we weren't a year ago. And that's a real tribute to the leadership that's here. So there may be some things that come up out of the blue that we have to be attentive to, and certainly we'll do our very best.

Sometimes those are driven by rare opportunities or sometimes unfortunately disasters and things like that, but as far as a national dialogue, an international dialogue, I think we're punching well above our weight class as far as being invited to tables and engaging in conversation. And you know, I was

recently in the Netherlands on enhanced oil recovery and clean coal technology. Saskatchewan is seen — it's not simply Canada — Saskatchewan is seen as being among the world's foremost leaders.

The notion that something could change quickly, it may occur, but more often in key fields of innovation these are gradual, evolutionary changes that you can get some sense of the trajectory, some sense of timeline, some sense of national calls or international calls where you have time to pull together teams. You have time to actually bring together partnerships. You have time to contact your private sector partners. So I think that's fair. I think we're in a different position today than we were a year ago.

Ms. Sproule: — Well I certainly thank you for the time. I'm assuming, Mr. Chair, my time's up, and would appreciate an opportunity to ask a lot more questions, but not today. So thank you for that, and I guess as a closing comment, congratulations on your coming here and the work you're doing and, Mr. Minister, for getting the best for Saskatchewan. And how would a person go about getting a tour of the synchrotron?

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Oh, we can arrange that easily.

Ms. Sproule: — Can you arrange that?

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Yes.

Ms. Sproule: — I'll talk to you later about that then.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — We're happy to do that. Maybe I'll even guide it.

Ms. Sproule: — That would be great. You know all about it, I assume.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Just enough to be dangerous, probably.

The Chair: — Thank you, Ms. Sproule. Seeing no further questions, I'll call the vote. Innovation Saskatchewan, (IS01), \$6,769,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Vote 84, Innovation Saskatchewan, \$6,769,000. I will now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2013, the following sums for Innovation Saskatchewan in the amount of \$6,769,000.

If we can get a member to move that motion. Ms. Jurgens. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. I would like to extend a thank you to the minister and his officials for joining us this afternoon and responding to the questions that have been presented by the members. Mr. Minister.

Hon. Mr. Norris: — Great. Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. To you and to all members of the committee, as well as to the officials from Innovation Saskatchewan and those here within the legislature, I want to offer my sincere thanks for your work, for your interest and engagement and commitment for this issue of innovation. I think it's profoundly important for the province today and will continue to be for years to come. So thanks very much, Mr. Chair.

The Chair: — Thank you, Mr. Minister. Just like to also mention to committee members, we had some questions raised during minister . . . Energy and Resources back on May 1st. So ECO 5/27, Ministry of Energy and Resources responses to questions raised on the May 1st, 2012 meeting of the committee dated May 3rd, 2012 and distributed May 3rd, 2012, those documents are tabled. Thank you, Minister.

Now the committee's got some work ahead of it. Over the past number of weeks, committee's considered estimates and supplementary estimates, and now I'd seek agreement of the committee that we now move forward with votes on the estimates and supplementary estimates that are before the committee. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Agreed.

**General Revenue Fund
Agriculture
Vote 1**

The Chair: — Our first estimate will be Ministry of Agriculture, central management and services, (AG01). To be voted, \$10,838,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Policy and planning, (AG05), \$3,745,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Research and technology, (AG06), 20,440,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Regional services, (AG07), 41,892,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Land management, (AG04), 6,554,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Industry assistance, (AG03), 5,409,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Irrigation and water infrastructure, (AG11), 9,568,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Financial programs, (AG09), 8,813,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Business risk management, (AG10), 321,365,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Amortization of capital assets, 2,106,000. This is for information purposes only.

Agriculture, vote 1 — \$428,624,000. I will now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2013, the following sums for Agriculture in the amount of 428,624,000.

The mover, Mr. Doherty. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Energy and Resources
Vote 23**

The Chair: — We'll move to Energy and Resources, page 49. Energy and Resources, central management and services, (ER01). To be voted, \$22,127,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Forestry development, (ER18), \$3,127,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Revenue and planning, (ER04), \$2,652,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Petroleum and natural gas, (ER05), \$9,298,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Minerals, lands and policy, (ER06), \$10,909,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. And amortization of capital assets is \$2,830,000. That's for information purposes.

Energy and Resources, vote 23 — \$48,113,000. I'll now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2013, the following sums for Energy and Resources in the amount of \$48,113,000.

Do we have a member who will move that resolution? Ms. Jurgens. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Enterprise and Innovation Programs
Vote 43**

The Chair: — Moving on to Enterprise and Innovation. Enterprise and Innovation, investment programs, (EI03), \$27,347,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Vote 43, Enterprise and Innovation programs, \$27,347,000. I would ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2013, the following sums for Enterprise and Innovation programs in the amount of \$27,347,000.

Do I have a member who can move that motion? Mr. Doke. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Enterprise Saskatchewan
Vote 83**

The Chair: — We'll now move on to Enterprise Saskatchewan. For operations, (ES01), \$20,744,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Programs, (ES02), \$12,319,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. For Enterprise Saskatchewan, vote 83 — \$33,063,000. I will now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2013, the following sums for Enterprise Saskatchewan in the amount of \$33,063,000.

Do we have a mover? Mr. Doherty. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Environment
Vote 26**

The Chair: — Now move to Environment. Central management and services, to be voted, \$16,638,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Climate change, (EN06), \$5,434,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Land, (EN15), \$3,043,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Environmental support, (EN14), \$14,090,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Fish and wildlife, (EN07), \$9,031,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Compliance and field services, (EN08), \$16,641,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Environmental protection, (EN11), \$42,726,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Forest services, (EN09) for \$12,772,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

[17:15]

The Chair: — Carried. Wildfire management, (EN10), \$64,632,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. And amortization of capital assets, 7,707,000, for information purposes only. I will now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2013, the following sums for the Environment in the amount of \$185,007,000.

Do I have a mover? Ms. Jurgens. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Highways and Infrastructure
Vote 16**

The Chair: — Moving to estimates on Highways, central management and services, (HI01) to be voted, \$21,335,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Strategic municipal infrastructure, (HI15), \$36,976,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Operation of transportation system, (HI10), \$87,384,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Preservation of transportation system, (HI04), \$150,820,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Transportation planning and policy, (HI06), \$3,879,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Custom work activity, (HI09). There's nothing to be voted there.

Machinery and equipment, (HI13), 5,750,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Amortization of capital assets of 129,741,000. That's for information purposes. I would now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2013, the following sums for Highways and Infrastructure in the amount of \$306,144,000.

I need a mover. Mr. Doherty. Thank you. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Highways and Infrastructure Capital
Vote 17**

The Chair: — Now moving to Highways and Infrastructure

Capital. Highways and Infrastructure rehabilitation, (HC01), 91,700,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Infrastructure enhancement, (HC02), 183,600,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Highways and Infrastructure Capital, vote 17, 275,300,000. I will now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2013, the following sums, which to the extent that they remain unexpended for that fiscal year are also granted for the fiscal year ending on March 31st, 2014, the following sums for Highways and Infrastructure capital in the amount of 275,300,000.

Can I have a mover for that? Mr. Bradshaw. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Saskatchewan Research Council
Vote 35**

The Chair: — We'll move then to vote 35, Saskatchewan Research Council. Saskatchewan Research Council, (SR01), \$18,983,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Vote 35, Saskatchewan Research Council, \$18,983,000. I'd ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2013, the following sums for Saskatchewan Research Council in the amount of \$18,983,000.

Ms. Heppner. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Lending and Investing Activities
Enterprise and Innovation Programs
Vote 144**

The Chair: — We'll move to Enterprise and Innovation, vote 144. Enterprise and Innovation programs, loans under *The Economic and Co-operative Development Act*, (EI01), to be voted for \$4,750,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Enterprise and Innovation programs, vote 144, 4,750,000. I will now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2013, the following sums for Enterprise and Innovation programs in the amount of 4,750,000.

Can I have a mover for that? Mr. Doke. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Supplementary Estimates — December
Agriculture
Vote 1**

The Chair: — Now we'll move to the supplementary estimates, December 2011. For Agriculture, industry assistance, (AG03) of \$200,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Business risk management, (AG10) of 27,365,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — And then for Agriculture, vote 1, 27,565,000. I would ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2012, the following sums for Agriculture in the amount of 27,565,000.

Ms. Jurgens. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Supplementary Estimates — December
Energy and Resources
Vote 23**

The Chair: — Supplementary estimates for Energy and Resources, forestry development, (ER18), 1,015,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Energy and Resources, vote 23, 1,015,000. I will now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2012, the following sums for Energy and Resources in the amount 1,015,000.

Do I have a mover to the motion? Mr. Doherty. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Supplementary Estimates — December
Environment
Vote 26**

The Chair: — Environment, vote 26, environmental protection, (EN11), 33,860,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Environment, vote 26, 33,860,000. I now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2012, the following sums for Environment in the amount of 33,860,000.

Do we have a mover to that motion? Mr. Bradshaw. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Supplementary Estimates — December
Highways and Infrastructure
Vote 16**

The Chair: — Highways and Infrastructure, strategic municipal infrastructure, (HI15), \$1,975,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Preservation of transportation system, (HI04), \$49,000,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Transportation policy and programs, (HI06), \$1,070,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. For Highways and Infrastructure, vote 16, \$52,045,000. I would ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2012, the following sums for Highways and Infrastructure in the amount of \$52,045,000.

Do I have a mover to that? Mr. Doherty. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Agreed. Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Supplementary Estimates — December
Highways and Infrastructure
Vote 17**

The Chair: — Highways and Infrastructure capital, infrastructure enhancement, (HC02) for \$10,000,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Highways and Infrastructure capital, vote 17, \$10,000,000, I now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2012, the following sums, which to the extent that they remain for that fiscal year, are also granted for the fiscal year ending on March 31st, 2013, for Highways and Infrastructure capital in the amount of \$10,000,000.

Do I have a mover to the motion? Mr. Doke. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Supplementary Estimates — December
Lending and Investing Activities
Highways and Infrastructure
Vote 145**

The Chair: — Highways and Infrastructure, vote 145, loans for shortline railways, (HI01), \$3,200,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Highways and Infrastructure, vote 145, \$3,200,000. I now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2012, the following sums for Highways and Infrastructure in the amount of 3,200,000.

Do I have a mover to that motion or resolution? Mr. Bradshaw. We're agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Supplementary Estimates — March
Agriculture
Vote 1**

The Chair: — Supplementary estimates for March 2012 for Agriculture, industry assistance, (AG03), 1,500,000, is that

agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Business risk management, (AG10), \$1,220,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. For Agriculture, vote 1, \$2,720,000. I would ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2012, the following sums for Agriculture in the amount of \$2,720,000.

Do I have a mover to the motion? Ms. Jurgens. We're agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

[17:30]

**General Revenue Fund
Supplementary Estimates — March
Highways and Infrastructure
Vote 16**

The Chair: — Highways and Infrastructure, strategic municipal infrastructure, (HI15), \$10,000,000. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Highways and Infrastructure, vote 16, \$10,000,000. I now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2012, the following sums for Highways and Infrastructure in the amount of \$10,000,000.

Do I have a mover to the motion? Mr. Doherty. We're agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Highways and Infrastructure, vote . . . We've already done that. Now we need a motion to present a report to the committee, Standing Committee on the Economy, first report. Committee members, you have before you a draft of the first report of the Standing Committee on the Economy. We require a member to move the following motion:

That the first report of the Standing Committee on the Economy be adopted and presented to the Assembly.

Mr. Bradshaw: — I so move.

The Chair: — Mr. Bradshaw. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. We have arrived at the end of the business for the Standing Committee on the Economy. I would ask a member to move a motion of adjournment.

Mr. Doherty: — I so move.

The Chair: — Mr. Doherty has moved adjournment. We're all agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Thank you members for your patience and going through all the resolutions this afternoon. Have a great day.

[The committee adjourned at 17:31.]