



STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AND JUSTICE

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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AFFAIRS AND JUSTICE**

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Mr. Doyle Vermette, Deputy Chair
Cumberland

Ms. Lori Carr
Estevan

Ms. Lisa Lambert
Saskatoon Churchill-Wildwood

Mr. David Marit
Wood River

Mr. Warren Michelson
Moose Jaw North

Mr. Warren Steinley
Regina Walsh Acres

[The committee met at 15:00.]

The Chair: — Well good afternoon, the time being 3 p.m., this is the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice, meeting June 22nd, 2016. My name is Laura Ross. I'm the Chair of the committee. Today substituting in for the Deputy Chair is Warren McCall, on behalf of the NDP [New Democratic Party]. We have Lori Carr, Dave Marit, and Warren Michelson. Substituting in for Warren Steinley, we have Bronwyn Eyre . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Oh, Lisa's here. Thank you, thank you very much. And Lisa Lambert.

**General Revenue Fund
Tourism Saskatchewan
Vote 88**

Subvote (TR01)

The Chair: — Today we will be considering the estimates for Tourism Saskatchewan. We will now begin our considerations of vote 88, Tourism Saskatchewan, subvote (TR01). Minister Harrison is here with his official ministers. Minister, please introduce your officials and make your opening comments.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Well thank you very much, Madam Chair. I appreciate it. It's good to be here this afternoon. I want to thank committee members for making the time to be here as well to talk about Tourism Saskatchewan and issues and challenges that we are faced with. I want to acknowledge our CEO [chief executive officer], Mary Taylor-Ash, to my left and to her left Veronica Gelowitz, the chief financial officer and executive director of corporate services.

If I could, just a few opening comments with regard to tourism. Tourism, as I think members know, is one of the world's most rapidly growing industries, and it's big business here in Saskatchewan. Between 2008 and 2012, annual travel expenditures and visitation grew by 33 and 48 per cent respectively. In 2014 more than 2.15 billion in travel spending was recorded, and the number of visits to and within the province reached 12.5 million. Approximately 4.9 million of these were for one or more nights, with 1.42 billion spent on overnight or longer stays. This four per cent increase over 2013 affirms the strength and stability of this important industry for our province.

As for 2015, figures for total travel expenditures and visitation are not yet available. However we do know that our provincial parks had record-breaking attendance of nearly 3.9 million visits.

Saskatchewan has approximately 3,200 organizations offering 4,200 tourism products and services. Nearly 65,000 Saskatchewan citizens are employed in tourism and tourism-related businesses, and this accounts for actually about 10 per cent of our entire workforce. The sector is 95 per cent small- or medium-sized operations with 79 per cent of these situated in communities other than our two major cities.

Saskatchewan's tourism resources are abundant. Our lakes, numbering almost 100,000, teem with world-record-size fish — of which I have yet to find any. We have an enviable park

system that is two national, 34 provincial, and almost 80 regional parks. The selection of campgrounds, beaches, recreational activities, and golf courses make them popular destinations.

Saskatchewan hospitality is second to none, as we all know and are very proud of. Throughout the province, communities large and small, urban and rural are places where visitors are warmly welcomed and made to feel like family.

Tourism Saskatchewan drives efforts to build a diverse, robust tourism industry that's vital to keeping our economy strong and making Saskatchewan a great place to live, work, visit, and raise a family. Its vision is for a vibrant entrepreneurial tourism industry offering year-round, compelling, and memorable Saskatchewan experiences.

A solid team of professionals work to fulfill the mission of "connecting people with quality Saskatchewan experiences and advancing the development of successful tourism operations." Tourism Saskatchewan's 2015-16 fiscal year was one that saw the organization unveil a new brand for the province that speaks to the qualities and characteristics that set Saskatchewan apart from other destinations.

Two commercials aired that featured compelling images and stories from the southern part of our province. Last summer, video footage and photography were captured in northern Saskatchewan for components of the spring 2016 advertising campaign. The focus was canoeing the mighty Churchill River and the joy of spending time with family while camping in beautiful Prince Albert National Park.

The consumer website, tourismsaskatchewan.com, was completely overhauled to create a stunning showcase for Saskatchewan images and the new tourism brand, and I would encourage any folks watching at home to go to tourismsaskatchewan.com to take advantage of that. The new website is more user-friendly. It's completely adaptable to any mobile device, helping to serve more travellers than ever before. Targeted and focused social media campaigns and messaging resulted in a combined growth of 38 per cent in the last fiscal year across all Tourism Saskatchewan social media channels. For every dollar invested in advertising, \$40 in visitor spending is realized, which is an impressive return on investment.

The event-hosting program also offers impressive economic returns. Calculations applied to 18 of the 29 events that received funding from the program last year showed that for an investment of just over \$400,000, nearly 360 jobs were supported with a gross output impact of \$28.8 million. Tourism Saskatchewan is working closely with tourism operators from across the province to expand experiential tourism. A number of operators have enthusiastically participated in a pilot program which is aimed to support creative approaches and practices that will enrich product offerings and visitor engagement.

A trained and skilled tourism workforce is the backbone of the tourism industry. Last year, the Saskatchewan Tourism Education Council, or STEC, delivered industry training and

skill development products to 5,550 participants, an 11 per cent increase over the last year. The Ready to Work program, which focuses on training to find long-term careers in hospitality and tourism, was delivered to 248 individuals in 10 locations, including eight remote northern locations. Over 80 per cent of participants, the majority of whom are Aboriginal, obtained employment or returned to school after receiving this training.

In 2015-16, Tourism Saskatchewan began implementing recommendations from the outfitted fishing market strategy. Advertising efforts included targeting a new market: anglers in eastern Pennsylvania.

Saskatchewan's tourism resources are indeed abundant. We're proud of the successes and accomplishments — from strong economic figures which I shared to the fact that Saskatchewan brought home two national tourism awards last year. And I appreciate the opportunity to speak to the strength and successes of the industry, and I look forward to questions that members may have. Thank you very much.

The Chair: — Questions? Mr. McCall.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much, Madam Chair. Mr. Minister, officials, welcome to estimates for the consideration of the Tourism Saskatchewan allocation in this budget.

First off, you've got a new critic to deal with here, so if some of my questions seem a little out there, please keep that in mind.

But certainly it's also a good opportunity to welcome Ms. Taylor-Ash to the committee and to the post. And I guess on that score, Mr. Minister . . . And again we try not to focus too much on officials in the committee, but at risk of anything inappropriate, but certainly the coming of Ms. Taylor-Ash has been well regarded, and this would be a good opportunity for Ms. Taylor-Ash to make some introductory remarks about herself, coming to the position of CEO, and tell the committee a little bit about her vision that she brings to the organization.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Yes, thank you very much, Mr. McCall, I appreciate that. I just want to make one comment. Mary's too humble to probably to say this, but I want to. How fortunate we are to have Mary serving as our CEO. She's from Newfoundland and Labrador — as viewers will quickly realize once when she's on the microphone — where she had a very, very successful career in tourism amongst other endeavours.

But Mary had played an integral role in the development of the Newfoundland and Labrador advertising campaigns which have become so iconic across the country and are so well regarded. And we have been very fortunate to benefit from Mary's experience, not just in that particular field but right across the entire sector, and she's done a remarkable job thus far.

As Mr. McCall said, you know, very well thought of and very well received I think is an incredibly fair statement to make. So I just want to say that, and I'll turn it over to you, Mary.

Ms. Taylor-Ash: — Thank you. Thank you, Minister, and thank you, Mr. McCall. It is my pleasure to be the CEO of Tourism Saskatchewan, and I moved here three years ago to work. Prior to that, as the minister pointed out, I was assistant

deputy minister of Tourism in Newfoundland and Labrador.

The minister had made some remarks about the abundance of tourism assets in this province, and indeed we do have an abundance of experiences and assets. So it is indeed a privilege for me to work . . . And I work with an incredible team. The thing about when you move somewhere new . . . You know, Newfoundland and Labrador has been very widely recognized for its tourism marketing. I get all the credit for that; however I had an amazing team in Newfoundland and Labrador that were very much focused on the marketing.

And I'd like to reassure the committee that we also have an amazing team here in Saskatchewan. And we have been working for the last couple of years . . . You asked, Mr. McCall, about the vision. What we have been working on in the last couple of years is really building the tourism identity of this province.

So we spent the first, you know, year or so really getting our heads around what does that mean. What do we have in Saskatchewan that entices people to travel around the province or to come to the province? So we spent quite a bit of time talking to both people who love us and some of the people who don't visit us and asking them what it is that we have that makes us unique and different and all of those things. So that's a big part of, you know, in terms of determining your brand.

In the last couple of years as well, once we went through that process, and certainly in the last year, we've embarked upon a new brand for tourism in Saskatchewan. And that brand is really built on making an emotional connection with the visitor, both with the visitor who lives here . . . And that's very common for tourism anywhere in Canada, that a lot of your visitation is your own residents traveling around to different parts of the province, as well as making an emotional connection to people from outside to come visit.

So we are very much at that stage in our branding, that we're working on what we call telling our stories. And just last year, we told a couple of northern stories. As part of the vision, part of it is marketing the destination, but we also have a responsibility for helping the industry develop. And so the minister had mentioned a couple of things that we are doing in that area.

We have events that we help support, and they're huge economic generators. We also work in terms of training the industry. So we have a division that works on education and training so that we can help. We're an economic generator and a pretty big one with over 2 billion in visitor spending each year. So we're working with operators to make sure they are the best they can be and that we're developing more experiences to entice more visitors.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you very much for that. I guess again, welcome and I look forward to getting into the vision more. And certainly I'm sort of spiritually obligated to say that the promotionals on the Churchill River and canoeing in the North, I've got fond, sort of, thoughts about heading up to the Churchill not too long after all this wraps up. And thanks for, you know, having something there that can sort of torture me on a minute-to-minute basis. Nothing against committee or the

proceedings in the House, but certainly you capture the grandeur of Nistowiak Falls or the Mosquito Rapids portage or all those things very well.

And I guess again it's something that's always occurred to me, that there is that sort of kitchen party solidarity between the Maritimes and the Prairies and that value that's placed on the real and on authentic experiences. And we have those in abundance in Saskatchewan.

And I guess that's a good sort of jumping off point for, for example, the promotion geared around Churchill River. I thought I saw a bit of an up-spike in certain campsites, getting beat out for certain campsites around Barker Lake or thereabouts last summer.

[15:15]

But how are you tracking, in a particular sense, that specific effort that is being made around parts of this sector? Certainly you've got the global information that the minister has well related, but say, as regards something like whitewater canoeing and trippers involved therein, how do you track that? What stands as sort of the benchmark, and what are you looking for in terms of impact or success?

Ms. Taylor-Ash: — One of the challenges that we do have that's a little bit outside of our control to some degree, is we do rely on Statistics Canada for our numbers in turn. And that's why the minister had relayed that we are still waiting to get the 2015 numbers. So there's a bit of a delay there.

However, we do have . . . And every year we track the success of our advertising. So if we are doing a campaign . . . This year our campaign featured the North, you know, very much. We will then do in our key markets — so in the province, in province and in Alberta, which is another key market for us — we will track the success of the campaign. So we will do surveys. We engage a research company. We have a research company of record, and they will do that research to see how well that resonated.

We have a little more difficulty in terms of, I guess, tracking specific activities like, you know, people who canoe, or that kind of thing. But we're also coming at that from another angle right now. And so what we are spending quite a bit of time on is what we call market segmentation. So we have bought into a program which was designed by Destination Canada, which is the Crown corporation that's responsible for marketing all of Canada. And we are able to, through working with other research firms, we are able to really get a very good handle on exactly what our customer looks like. And when I say that, it's not just demographics; this is what we call psychographics.

So we are able to define the person who visits Saskatchewan, what they like, the kinds of values they have, the kinds of things they like to do generally, whether they like outdoor activity or want to visit museums. We are able to really pinpoint that very well. And we're working, we've just started this process, and we're starting to work on it. We can also, through this process, identify where they live in Canada, which is really interesting.

So we're able to define all of these segments. And some of

them might sound a little funny to the committee, but we have segments, like they're called lakes and locals. So those are people that love going to the lake and, you know, that they like staying in their particular area. Then we have other segments that are called affluents, and these are people who have a lot to spend. They're typically learners, and we can pinpoint what we have that might attract them and where they live in Canada. So this is very fascinating information that we're just starting to really embark on now and able to really use in order to target our efforts even better.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — If I could just perhaps add a little bit. I mean that was absolutely . . . We put a real focus on doing the testing, on getting the research right, which translates into making sure that we're getting our advertising right, which translates into having people come to Saskatchewan or go to a certain destination within the province.

You know, frankly it's not unlike what you would have . . . You know, a lot of corporations do this sort of work. I mean it's very detailed, kind of big data sort of stuff where you're able to very directly target your most available consumer. And frankly it's not unlike what political parties do as well. So we've tried to take that approach of really getting the data, getting the research part right, which will translate into getting the other components right.

And we have had challenges in terms of the data. I mean we partner with Statistics Canada. There's two major travel surveys that are done every year. One focuses on residents of Canada. One focuses on, it's called the international travel survey, I think is the other one. There's about an 8- or 10-month time lag in actually getting the data from StatsCan on these things. So you know, we've traditionally done this. And I think we partner with eight other provinces and two territories on those particular surveys along with the Government of Canada as well.

But you know, we felt we needed to do better in terms of the research and the testing, so you know, we put a lot of work into this. And I think it's reflected in the advertising that we've done which is very consistent, you know, very focused in terms of what our advantages are and what are seen to be our advantages, not just here but across the country. And I think it's, you know, it's work that's done in other spheres, but it's something new in terms of how we've taken an approach here in this province.

Mr. McCall: — I certainly agree with the wisdom of the approach, and again as the data becomes more readily available, I'd be interested to see how the fruit is borne. And I'm presuming that there was some kind of market segmentation went into pinpointing eastern Pennsylvania; I don't know if, you know, repeated watchings of the movie *The Deer Hunter* or what kicked that up.

But I guess it does beg a more serious question in terms of how the organization responds to things like a weaker or stronger dollar or, you know, the propensity for staycations when maybe the economy is tightening up in Saskatchewan. Can you talk a bit more about how those kind of factors impact the work of the organization?

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — I appreciate the question, Mr. McCall. I

mean there is significant research that goes . . . And you used the eastern Pennsylvania example, which I actually used in my introductory remarks. But you know, it's a very significant source of funds coming from US [United States] hunters and anglers. It's about \$80 million per year.

But you're very right though in citing the fluctuation of the Canadian dollar as being an important factor in what that final number ends up being on a per year basis. So you know, we do what we can in working with outfitters — whether it be in the hunting or angling sphere — to try and smooth out what could be, you know, pretty significant fluctuations based on dollar variations. So I mean, I think last year we spent about \$450,000 in the United States advertising hunting and angling opportunities which are, you know, in the scheme of advertising compared perhaps with other jurisdictions, pretty limited dollars. So we have to be very targeted about how we market what I think are, you know, the very best hunting and angling opportunities in the entirety of North America.

We are so . . . I'm going to get off . . . [inaudible] . . . I won't go long, but I mean we are so fortunate here to have the opportunities that we do. And I know many folks sitting in this room, you know, are avid fishers or avid hunters, in this case. We are so lucky, and I think sometimes we don't even know how lucky we are here to have right in our backyards, you know, literally world-class, the very best on the planet, fishing and hunting opportunities. But maybe I'll ask Mary to kind of go into the details as to how we determine where we're going to spend those precious dollars, on US advertising particularly.

Ms. Taylor-Ash: — We did a study last year, an angling study because, as the minister pointed out, outfitting, hunting and fishing in this province is about 80 million, and it really is our US market. That's why the US customer comes here, the US visitor, for the most part. You know, there are other reasons, but for the most part. And in fact, if you go to certain places in the US, they will know that we have the records — right? — for white-tailed deer or some of our angling records.

So we did a study and had real experts out of the US work with us on a new angling strategy. And what they said was that, they told us that we have the opportunity to move a little bit further afield to attract more people. And that's what brought us more to the east because we had always traditionally been, we go to shows in Denver. We go to shows in Salt Lake City, you know. We think about Texas. We thought sort of that vertical market. And they said, you know what, you've got to think a little broader because of the anglers, fishers in other parts of the US. So they suggested . . . A lot of what we do, some of it is advertising with that approximately half million a year, but quite a bit of it is shows. And we take our, we go with our outfitters to these shows, and that's how we sell.

So we did, we went to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania this year. We did two shows there, and it was a really good first step in getting interest from there. So our people who work in that area came back quite excited about the response that we were getting. So it's like venturing out a little bit to try and grow the market because we really would like to see the market grow. And as the minister has pointed out, we have some of the best in the world. So we're competing against Alaska so, you know, we have to be there.

So it'll take a little while before we know whether Harrisburg is going to pay off. Maybe a few years before we start to see some of the returns on that, but that's what we're looking at, moving out into some other markets.

Mr. McCall: — I guess it begs a bit of a question in terms of basic infrastructure and something like connecting flights and what's happening out of Saskatoon, what's happening out of Regina, and then how folks go forth from there. I guess, how do you . . . I know there have been some changes lately in Regina as regards to connecting flights to the States. How do you work to mitigate or make sure that that infrastructure is there and serving the market well?

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Yes, that's a very, very good question. And we have been concerned — you know, I'd frankly say disappointed — by the decisions that have been made by air carriers, American air carriers, who have been operating into Saskatchewan who have made decisions, I mean, based on their merits within the context of their own company. I mean, these weren't flights that were losing money. These were flights that were, you know, pretty well used by folks coming up from the US and people from Saskatchewan going down into the US markets.

We've been working with the airport authorities. I mean, it's primarily . . . It's their responsibility with regard to these particular flights and managing the relationships with airlines, but we have been working with them closely. I've been in regular contact with both of the CEOs from Regina and Saskatoon. I have to say as well, the municipalities, the mayors of both Regina and Saskatoon have been very engaged in this as well, as have the chambers of commerce and other stakeholders.

We've also been engaged in terms of, you know, how we can play, you know, a helpful role in looking to attract new air carriers or have existing carriers expand their routes or go to new destinations. So you know, there's been progress being made on this. I'm hopeful that we're going to be able to make, you know, have some very positive news on this. It's something we're working on. And we recognize the importance for our outfitting industry particularly, but also I mean in a more general sense for people who are looking to go to the United States on pleasure, business, whatever it may be, and for our business community as well.

So I would say that there's been a pretty concerted effort on the part of the stakeholders here, of which we're a part. We're not the lead, but we're a part. And we've been engaged on that and very much cognizant of the importance of it.

Mr. McCall: — Thank you for that. And again, recognizing we've got limited time, I'll try to lightning round you some of this remaining that I'd like to get your take on. But certainly STEC, glad you touched on the work of the council. They're a big-impact player out there in terms of employment. And I'm glad to see that that work is continuing and having that great impact.

[15:30]

In terms of other, sort of, segments of the market, it occurs to me that, you know . . . And certainly there are different stabs

made at things like the festival trail in Saskatchewan, be it from, you know, the Craven Country Jamboree on down to, I think of something like the Gateway Festival in Bengough, which is a huge and growing success and, you know, still counts on the local folks doing the pancake breakfast on the Sunday morning. There are a lot of . . . I think that would stand out as an area of opportunity. So I'd welcome some thought on that.

I'd also welcome some thought on again something that the minister had touched on in terms of the way that both, in the province and maybe in Western Canada, there are some things that are right in front of our nose and we don't really see them and value them in the way that others might. And in that connection, I think of the powwow trail in Saskatchewan and working in partnership with First Nations or working in partnership with the Métis community around something like Back to Batoche.

So I guess on those two fronts, what sort of work is being done to both better realize that opportunity in terms of the festival circuit as it exists in Saskatchewan and throughout Saskatchewan, and then on the First Nations, Métis side of the coin, something like the powwow trail. You know, I'm continually sort of amazed to run into places where you've got a bunch of folks from Germany showing up, or the direct flight that exists between, I think, Frankfurt and Whitehorse, and the way that Yukon has tapped into that market and is really realizing it.

But anyway that's a bit of a long way around on the context, but if you could give me your thoughts, Minister and officials, on those two areas of opportunity.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Sure. Thanks very much and again a good question in terms of . . . And I'll try and address both parts of it. The annual events sponsored, we do it through a number of different streams. We have the community annual events that we sponsor. I think last year it was just over \$100,000, and those included, you know, I think the Dog Patch Music Festival and the Queen City Pride Parade and the John Arcand music fest. There's a number. I could give you a whole list, but we do a number of those.

We have the marquee annual events that we sponsor as well, which is Ness Creek, for instance. That's under that stream which our colleague from Saskatoon Nutana, near and dear to her heart . . . and the Saskatoon Ex, Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan, another example.

We do the national and international events, which I think last year were just over \$440,000. We sponsored the Ford Women's World Curling Championship, was under that example; the Royal Bank National Junior A Hockey Championship as well.

We do some special tourism projects as well — the RCMP [Royal Canadian Mounted Police] Heritage Centre's Spirits of the Trail event. So in total it's about, it was just over \$1.1 million in terms of events, sponsorship that we did last year.

With regard to your suggestion on, you know, the powwows, that's a good one and I think we're going to, we're going to do some follow-up on that. I mean there's an application-based process, so of course interested event holders would be free to

make application, but I know that this is a growing opportunity. You know, I can speak to my own hometown in Meadow Lake. Flying Dust First Nation has had a powwow now, it'll be going into . . . I think this year will be the 11th annual. I've been to every one and it's a great, great event and it grows every year. It really is remarkable the number of people that come for the event, for the powwow, and not just from here. I mean it's from right around North America.

It's actually kind of an interesting even legal relationship, especially as it relates to indigenous peoples, in that indigenous peoples — I don't think kind of the average public are aware of this — are essentially treated as citizens of North America. So in terms of travelling across borders, it's not . . . You don't have to have a passport. If you show that you're a status First Nation person, you're considered to be a citizen on either side of the border. So it's really kind of an opportunity to travel back and forth, and there's people that, you know, spend the whole season that are going from one powwow to the next which, you know, is great. So I think there's some opportunity there but I'll, Mary, turn it over to you.

Ms. Taylor-Ash: — Just to add a little bit to that because the minister's really covered off the event side. We have started a program around experiential tourism because tourism is really all about the experiences and what people can do. And people travel a little differently now than they used to. So at one point, people would travel in groups, or they'd travel on buses, and they'd be quite happy to just say I saw that — you know, been there, did that, got the T-shirt.

Now people really want to experience things so they want to . . . They don't want to just eat a Saskatoon pie. They want to go pick the berries, and they want someone to show them how to make the pie, and then they get to eat the pie. They want to know more about our heritage and our culture and they really want to interact with the locals.

Mr. McCall, you had said something about authentic. That's one of the big things, you know, in our branding. Saskatchewan is a very real place, a place where people are very straightforward. People are very welcoming. And that is something people really are looking for, but we have to make it into experiences for people.

So we are working right now with a number of our operators, and we're going to continue to work with them going forward. And we're doing it a little bit in a workshop fashion now where we help our operators make their experiences better. And so for example, if we're working with somebody who's running a restaurant where they're serving local ingredients, we say, well okay, what could you do that would even make this experience better or more awesome, you know, than it was before. And so we are working with a number of operators on that. And so that's part of what we do to try and, you know, expand the economic benefit. It's better for the operator. It makes people stay longer if there are more experiences in an area.

You had also mentioned STEC. So that's our tourism education council, and they are involved in a lot of things as well. But one of the things that we are extremely proud of is our ready-to-work program. And you mentioned our indigenous people. About 80 per cent of the people in that program are Aboriginal,

and we do training and they get jobs. And that is something that we are, you know, extremely pleased to bring that together because in tourism we have a labour shortage. And so being able to train people as cooks or food and beverage servers or people who are working in housekeeping or any other number of jobs and be able to find work for them is life-changing. And so we're extremely proud of that program as well.

Mr. McCall: — Well thanks for that. I see by the clock on the wall that I'm into overtime in terms of what had been agreed upon for the questions and discussion of the estimates for Tourism Saskatchewan. But at that point I'd just conclude my questions, thank the minister and officials for coming here today to have this important discussion about work that there is obviously a great amount of passion for, and to thank you for that work.

The Chair: — Thank you very much, Mr. McCall. We will move to vote 88, Tourism Saskatchewan. This is on page 113. Tourism Saskatchewan, subvote (TR01) in the amount of 14,153,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Tourism Saskatchewan, vote 88, 14,153,000. 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, 2017, the following sums for Tourism Saskatchewan in the amount of 14,153,000.

Mr. Marit: — I so move.

The Chair: — Thank you very much, Mr. Marit. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Now I will ask the minister for his closing comments and an opportunity to thank his officials.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Thank you very, very much, Madam Chair. I really do want to thank Mary, Veronica for being here. I think, you know, folks who may have been tuning in can see the passion and, you know, what a great team, really genuinely a great team we have at Tourism Saskatchewan doing a great job in a very professional way, and how lucky I am as minister to get to work with them. I really do feel privileged, so I want to thank them very, very sincerely.

I want to thank members of the committee. I want to thank you, Mr. McCall, for very good questions, very insightful. I appreciate it. And I think that, you know, what we can agree on across the way is the necessity to, you know, hopefully encourage folks to take advantage of what's the greatest province in the greatest country in the world. And we all know that, and we're going to tell our story and have others come and see as well. So thank you very much.

The Chair: — I would also like to thank the minister, but I would really like to thank . . . I can't just say Mary. I guess I'm supposed to say Mary Taylor-Ash, CEO [chief executive

officer]. I had the opportunity to meet Mary when she had first moved here and I absolutely was so impressed with her qualifications. But her enthusiasm — she absolutely, she embodies what Tourism Saskatchewan is accomplishing. I love the . . . I think that our branding for our province makes me want to live here, and I do. It makes me want to go canoeing, and I don't want to.

But thank you very much. I mean your whole team, you can just see that you're passionate about the work you do, and so thank you very much. I think the people of Saskatchewan are very fortunate. We are the richer for it. So thank you very much. We will be moving into voting off the estimates so, minister and officials, you are excused.

We will now move into the voting of the estimates and supplementary estimates for 2016-2017.

General Revenue Fund Government Relations Vote 30

The Chair: — Vote 30, Government Relations, central management and services, subvote (GR01) in the amount of \$9,627,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. First Nations and Métis engagement, subvote (GR12) in the amount of \$81,810,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Municipal and northern engagement, subvote (GR07) in the amount of \$405,713,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Saskatchewan Municipal Board, subvote (GR06) in the amount of \$1,849,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Public safety, subvote (GR11) in the amount of \$11,216,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

[15:45]

The Chair: — Carried. Provincial public safety, telecommunications network, subvote (GR13) in the amount of zero dollars. This is for informational purposes only. There is no vote needed. That one we all want. We want more of those ones.

Non-appropriated expense adjustment in the amount of 2,639,000. Non-appropriated expense adjustments are non-cash adjustments presented for informational purposes only. No amount is to be voted.

Government Relations, vote 30, 510,215,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. I will now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Be it resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2017, the following sums for Government Relations in the amount of 510,215,000.

May I have someone move?

Ms. Lambert: — I will move.

The Chair: — Okay. Ms. Lisa Lambert has moved. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Justice
Vote 3**

The Chair: — Vote 3, Justice, central management and services, subvote (JU01) in the amount of 56,426,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Courts and civil justice, subvote (JU03) in the amount of 43,801,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Innovation, legal and policy services, subvote (JU04) in the amount of 37,431,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Community safety outcomes, subvote (JU13) in the amount of 16,068,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Community justice, subvote (JU05) in the amount of 17,543,000, is that agreed? Oh, correction. I'll make a correction here. In the amount of 17,542,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Thank you, I was just rounding up I guess. Boards and commissions, subvote (JU08) in the amount of 30,510,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Custody, supervision and rehabilitation services, subvote (JU06) in the amount of 165,227,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Policing, subvote (JU09) in the amount of 202,524,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Saskatchewan Police Commission, subvote (JU12) in the amount of 1,484,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Capital and improvement, subvote (JU11) in the amount of 12,995,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Non-appropriated expense adjustments in the amount of 5,037,000. Non-appropriated expense adjustments are non-cash adjustments presented for information purposes only, and no amount is to be voted.

Justice, vote 3, 584,080,000. Eight thousand, sorry, stuck an extra zero in there. 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, 2017, the following sums for Justice in the amount of \$584,080,000 . . . 8,000, I keep saying 80,000, sorry.

Can I have someone move that? Lori Carr. Oh, Ms. Carr, sorry. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Parks, Culture and Sport
Vote 27**

The Chair: — Vote 27, Parks, Culture and Sport, central management and services subvote (PC01) in the amount of 11,440,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Parks subvote (PC12) in the amount of 23,174,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Resource stewardship and the Provincial Capital Commission, subvote (PC18) in the amount of 16,214,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Regina stadium project subvote (PC16) in the amount of 25,000,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Community engagement subvote

(PC19) in the amount of 35,184,000, is that agreed?

presented to the Assembly.

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

Ms. Carr. Is that agreed?

The Chair: — Carried. Non-appropriated expense adjustment in the amount of 3,860,000. Non-appropriated expense adjustments are non-cash adjustments presented for information purposes only. No amount is to be voted.

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Seeing that we have completed our business this afternoon, I will ask a member to move a motion of adjournment.

Parks, Culture and Sport, vote 27, 111,012,000. I will now ask a member to move the following resolution:

Mr. Marit: — I'll move.

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31st, 2017, the following sums for Parks, Culture and Sport in the amount of 111,012,000.

The Chair: — Mr. Marit has moved a motion of adjournment. Is that agreed?

Mr. Michelson: — So moved.

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

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

The Chair: — Carried. This committee stands adjourned until the call of the Chair. Thank you very much everyone.

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

[The committee adjourned at 15:59.]

The Chair: — Carried.

**General Revenue Fund
Supplementary Estimates — March
Government Relations
Vote 30**

The Chair: — Supplementary estimates, March 2015 to 2016, subvote 30, Government Relations, public safety, subvote (GR11), in the amount of 48,000,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. First Nations and Métis engagement, subvote (GR12), in the amount of 8,297,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. 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, 2016, the following sums for Government Relations in the amount of 56,297,000.

Ms. Eyre. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Two-minute recess.

[The committee recessed for a period of time.]

The Chair: — Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice first report, committee members, you have before you a draft of the first report of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice. We require a member to move the following motion:

That the first report of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice be adopted and