STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS Wednesday, February 26, 2019

MINUTE NO. 28

8:30 a.m. — māmawapiwin náyati room (Room 8)

1. **Present**: Trent Wotherspoon in the chair and members Greg Brkich, David Buckingham, Herb Cox, Dan D'Autremont,* Lisa Lambert, Vicki Mowat, and Randy Weekes.

Substituting Members

Dan D'Autremont for Don McMorris

Provincial Auditor's Office

Judy Ferguson, Provincial Auditor Tara Clemett, Deputy Provincial Auditor Carolyn O'Quinn, Deputy Provincial Auditor Melanie Heebner, Principal Linda Klassen, Principal Kim Lowe, Principal Jason Shaw, Principal Jonathan Pituley, Senior Manager

Provincial Comptroller's Office

Terry Paton, Provincial Comptroller Diana Fink, Senior Analyst Alanna Schemenauer, Analyst

2. The following documents were tabled:

Ministry of Social Services: Responses to questions asked September 26, 2019

(PAC 98-28)

Ministry of Education: Responses to questions asked September 25, 2019

(PAC 99-28)

Ministry of Education: Report of Public Losses, September 1, 2019 to November 30, 2019

(PAC 100-28)

Ministry of Finance: Government response to Standing Committee on Public Accounts third report of the twenty-eight legislature

(PAC 101-28)

Provincial Auditor of Saskatchewan: Third quarter report 2019-20

(PAC 102-28)

Ministry of Finance: Report of Public Losses, October 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

(PAC 103-28)

Ministry of Advanced Education: Report of Public Losses, October 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 (PAC 104-28)

Ministry of Health: Report of Public Losses, October 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019

(PAC 105-28)

3. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 6, Finance—Public Employees Benefits Agency.

The following officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Ministry of Finance

Rupen Pandya, Deputy Minister

Brent Hebert, Assistant Deputy Minister, Revenue

Karen Lautsch, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Office of Planning,

Performance and Improvement

Arun Srinivas, Assistant Deputy Minister, Taxation and Intergovernmental Affairs

Terry Paton, Provincial Comptroller

Dean Cursons, Director, Financial Services

Public Employees Benefit Agency

Dan Gudmunson, Director, Finance and Planning

Tasha Lupanko, Director, Education and Engagement

4. The following document was tabled:

Ministry of Finance: Status update, dated February 26, 2020

(PAC 106-28)

5. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 43 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 6, Finance — Public Employees Benefits Agency:

We recommend that the Public Employees Benefits Agency have written procedures for verifying the completeness and accuracy of pension and benefit plan participant data before providing it to the actuaries.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Finance has complied with the recommendation.

6. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 32, Finance — Public Employees Benefits Agency — Securing Personal Information.

The following officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Ministry of Finance

Rupen Pandya, Deputy Minister

Brent Hebert, Assistant Deputy Minister, Revenue

Karen Lautsch, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Office of Planning,

Performance and Improvement

Arun Srinivas, Assistant Deputy Minister, Taxation and Intergovernmental Affairs

Terry Paton, Provincial Comptroller

Dean Cursons, Director, Financial Services

Public Employees Benefit Agency

Dan Gudmunson, Director, Finance and Planning

Tasha Lupanko, Director, Education and Engagement

- 7. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 32, Finance Public Employees Benefits Agency Securing Personal Information.
- 8. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 5, Finance Public Employees Benefits Agency Effectively Informing Certain Pension Plan Members.

The following officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Ministry of Finance

Rupen Pandya, Deputy Minister

Brent Hebert, Assistant Deputy Minister, Revenue

Karen Lautsch, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Office of Planning,

Performance and Improvement

Arun Srinivas, Assistant Deputy Minister, Taxation and Intergovernmental Affairs

Terry Paton, Provincial Comptroller

Dean Cursons, Director, Financial Services

Public Employees Benefit Agency

Dan Gudmunson, Director, Finance and Planning

Tasha Lupanko, Director, Education and Engagement

9. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 69 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 5, Finance — Public Employees Benefits Agency — Effectively Informing Certain Pension Plan Members:

We recommend that the Ministry of Finance — Public Employees Benefits Agency provide Municipal Employees' Pension Plan terminating and retiring members with all legally required information within timeframes required by law.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Finance has complied with the recommendation.

10. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 24, Finance — Monitoring the Fuel Tax Exemption Program.

The following Ministry of Finance officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Rupen Pandya, Deputy Minister

Brent Hebert, Assistant Deputy Minister, Revenue

Karen Lautsch, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Office of Planning, Performance and Improvement

Arun Srinivas, Assistant Deputy Minister, Taxation and Intergovernmental Affairs

Terry Paton, Provincial Comptroller

Dean Cursons, Director, Financial Services

11. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 24, Finance — Monitoring the Fuel Tax Exemption Program.

12. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 45, Modernizing Government Budgeting and Reporting.

The following Ministry of Finance officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Rupen Pandya, Deputy Minister

Brent Hebert, Assistant Deputy Minister, Revenue

Karen Lautsch, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Office of Planning, Performance and Improvement

Arun Srinivas, Assistant Deputy Minister, Taxation and Intergovernmental Affairs

Terry Paton, Provincial Comptroller

Dean Cursons, Director, Financial Services

13. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 374 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 45, Modernizing Government Budgeting and Reporting:

We recommend that the Government of Saskatchewan formally require interim public financial reporting on the Summary Budget.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Finance has complied with the recommendation.

14. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 6, Finance.

The following Ministry of Finance officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Rupen Pandya, Deputy Minister

Brent Hebert, Assistant Deputy Minister, Revenue

Karen Lautsch, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Office of Planning, Performance and Improvement

Arun Srinivas, Assistant Deputy Minister, Taxation and Intergovernmental Affairs

Terry Paton, Provincial Comptroller

Dean Cursons, Director, Financial Services

- 15. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 6, Finance.
- 16. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 34, Finance Implementing the Revenue Administration Modernization Project.

The following Ministry of Finance officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Rupen Pandya, Deputy Minister

Brent Hebert, Assistant Deputy Minister, Revenue

Karen Lautsch, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Office of Planning, Performance and Improvement

Arun Srinivas, Assistant Deputy Minister, Taxation and Intergovernmental Affairs

Terry Paton, Provincial Comptroller

Dean Cursons, Director, Financial Services

- 17. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 34, Finance Implementing the Revenue Administration Modernization Project.
- 18. The committee recessed from 9:32 a.m. until 9:49 a.m.
- 19. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2017 report volume 2, chapter 12, Saskatchewan Arts Board and the 2018 report volume 2, chapter 13, Saskatchewan Arts Board.

The following Saskatchewan Arts Board official appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Michael Jones, Chief Executive Officer

20. The following document was tabled:

Saskatchewan Arts Board: Status update, dated February 26, 2020

(PAC 107-28)

21. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 77 of the Provincial Auditor's 2017 report volume 2, chapter 12, Saskatchewan Arts Board:

We recommend that the Saskatchewan Arts Board follow its established policies when making grant payments.

The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Arts Board has complied with the recommendation.

22. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 75 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 13, Saskatchewan Arts Board:

We recommend that the Saskatchewan Arts Board maintain written management-approved guidance about accounting for and payment of grants.

The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Arts Board has complied with the recommendation.

23. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 22, Saskatchewan Arts Board — Awarding Grants Impartially and Transparently.

The following Saskatchewan Arts Board official appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Michael Jones, Chief Executive Officer

24. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 124 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 22, Saskatchewan Arts Board — Awarding Grants Impartially and Transparently:

We recommend that the Saskatchewan Arts Board establish the frequency of formal program reviews of its major grant programs.

The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Arts Board has complied with the recommendation.

25. The committee concurred with recommendation 2 made at page 126 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 22, Saskatchewan Arts Board — Awarding Grants Impartially and Transparently:

We recommend that the Saskatchewan Arts Board set out, in writing, its process to use and select independent assessors when awarding grants.

The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Arts Board has complied with the recommendation.

26. The committee concurred with recommendation 3 made at page 128 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 22, Saskatchewan Arts Board — Awarding Grants Impartially and Transparently:

We recommend that the Saskatchewan Arts Board obtain signed agreements from evaluators before releasing grant application packages to them.

The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Arts Board has complied with the recommendation.

27. The committee concurred with recommendation 4 made at page 128 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 22, Saskatchewan Arts Board — Awarding Grants Impartially and Transparently:

We recommend that the Saskatchewan Arts Board record the time the person with a declared conflict of interest left and returned to a grant adjudication session.

The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Arts Board has complied with the recommendation.

28. The committee concurred with recommendation 5 made at page 132 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 22, Saskatchewan Arts Board — Awarding Grants Impartially and Transparently:

We recommend that the Saskatchewan Arts Board give evaluators detailed written guidance about scoring grant applications against evaluation criteria, and make its guidance available to applicants.

The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Arts Board has is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

29. The committee concurred with recommendation 6 made at page 134 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 22, Saskatchewan Arts Board — Awarding Grants Impartially and Transparently:

We recommend that the Saskatchewan Arts Board track receipt and resolution of complaints about its grant programs.

The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Arts Board has complied with the recommendation.

30. The committee recessed from 10:28 a.m. until 10:32 a.m.

31. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 14, Central Services — Securing the Data Centre.

The following Ministry of Central Services officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Mike Carr, Deputy Minister

Nancy Cherney, Assistant Deputy Minister, Property Management

Troy Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate and Commercial Services

Kelly Fuessel, Acting Chief Information Officer, Information Technology

32. The following document was tabled:

Ministry of Central Services: Status update, dated February 26, 2020

(PAC 108-28)

33. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 219 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 14, Central Services — Securing the Data Centre:

We recommend the Ministry of Central Services work with its service provider to configure its data centre firewalls to restrict inappropriate access.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Central Services has complied with the recommendation.

34. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 15, Central Services — Using Consultants.

The following Ministry of Central Services officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Mike Carr, Deputy Minister

Nancy Cherney, Assistant Deputy Minister, Property Management

Troy Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate and Commercial Services

Kelly Fuessel, Acting Chief Information Officer, Information Technology

- 35. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 15, Central Services Using Consultants.
- 36. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 29, Central Services Planning Accommodations.

The following Ministry of Central Services officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Mike Carr, Deputy Minister

Nancy Cherney, Assistant Deputy Minister, Property Management

Troy Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate and Commercial Services

Kelly Fuessel, Acting Chief Information Officer, Information Technology

- 37. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 29, Central Services Planning Accommodations.
- 38. The committee recessed from 11:08 a.m. until 12:59 p.m.
- 39. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 10, Provincial Capital Commission.

The following Provincial Capital Commission officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Monique Goffinet Miller, Chief Executive Officer

Grant Hilsenteger, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Disaster Recovery Greg Miller, Board Chair

Patrick Coulthard, Director, Stewardship and Operations

Ryan Whippler, Director, Outreach and Visitor Experience

40. The following document was tabled:

Provincial Capital Commission: Status update, dated February 26, 2020

(PAC 109-28)

41. Upon discussion of recommendations made in Chapter 11, It was moved by Ms. Mowat:

That the Public Accounts Committee recommends the Government of Saskatchewan reject the proposed Brandt building in Wascana Park and restart the process from the beginning.

A debate arising and the question being put, it was defeated on the following recorded division:

Yeas — 1

Mowat

Nays — 6

Brkich Buckingham Cox D'Autremont Lambert Weekes

42. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 71 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 10, Provincial Capital Commission:

We recommend the Provincial Capital Commission make public written processes about the timing, nature, and extent of public consultations for major amendments to the Wascana Centre Master Plan.

The committee noted that the Provincial Capital Commission has is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

43. The committee concurred with recommendation 2 made at page 72 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 10, Provincial Capital Commission:

We recommend the Provincial Capital Commission publish, using clear language, its design review process for major developments in Wascana Centre.

The committee noted that the Provincial Capital Commission has complied with the recommendation.

44. The committee concurred with recommendation 3 made at page 72 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 10, Provincial Capital Commission:

We recommend the Provincial Capital Commission keep the public informed about the status of each proposed and approved major development in Wascana Centre until its completion.

The committee noted that the Provincial Capital Commission has is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

45. The committee concurred with recommendation 4 made at page 73 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 10, Provincial Capital Commission:

We recommend the Provincial Capital Commission clearly document in its Board minutes how major improvements and developments it approves conform to the Wascana Centre Master Plan.

The committee noted that the Provincial Capital Commission has complied with the recommendation.

46. The committee concurred with recommendation 5 made at page 74 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 10, Provincial Capital Commission:

We recommend the Provincial Capital Commission establish agreements with building owners of major developments in Wascana Centre to facilitate control of building use and conformity with The Provincial Capital Commission Act and the Wascana Centre Master Plan in effect.

The committee noted that the Provincial Capital Commission has is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

- 47. The committee recessed from 2:09 p.m. until 2:16 p.m.
- 48. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 4, Executive Council and the 2019 report volume 2, chapter 5, Executive Council.

The following Ministry of Executive Council officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Cam Swan, Deputy Minister Kristen Fry, Executive Director, Corporate Services

49. The following document was tabled:

Ministry of Executive Council: Status update, dated February 26, 2020

(PAC 110-28)

50. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 29 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 4, Executive Council:

We recommend that Executive Council review, in detail, its periodic financial reports.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Executive Council has complied with the recommendation.

51. The committee concurred with recommendation 2 made at page 30 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 4, Executive Council:

We recommend that Executive Council work with the Board of Internal Economy to remunerate legislative secretaries at rates consistent with Board of Internal Economy approved rates.

- 52. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 5, Executive Council.
- 53. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 13, Communicating Information about Government Programs and Services in a Non-Partisan Way and the 2019 report volume 2, chapter 33, Executive Council Communicating Information about Government Programs and Services in a Non-Partisan Way.

The following Ministry of Executive Council officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Cam Swan, Deputy Minister Kristen Fry, Executive Director, Corporate Services

54. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 210 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 13, Communicating Information about Government Programs and Services in a Non-Partisan Way:

We recommend the Government of Saskatchewan make public its criteria for what constitutes non-partisan communications about government programs and services.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Executive Council has complied with the recommendation.

- 55. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 33, Executive Council Communicating Information about Government Programs and Services in a Non-Partisan Way.
- 56. The committee recessed from 2:39 p.m. until 2:42 p.m.
- 57. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 1, chapter 1, Municipal Potash Tax Sharing Administration Board.

The following Ministry of Government Relations officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Greg Miller, Deputy Minister

Laurier Donais, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Disaster Recovery Sheldon Green, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Relations Giselle Marcotte, Assistant Deputy Minister, First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs

Elissa Aitken, Executive Director, Policy and Program Susan Carani, Executive Director, Lands and Consultation Branch Brad Henry, Executive Director, Northern Municipal Services Jeff Markewich, Executive Director, Corporate Services

58. The following document was tabled:

Ministry of Government Relations: Status update, dated February 26, 2020

(PAC 111-28)

59. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 18 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 1, chapter 1, Municipal Potash Tax Sharing Administration Board:

We recommend that the Municipal Potash Tax Sharing Administration Board submit its audited financial statements within the timeframes required by The Municipal Tax Sharing (Potash) Act.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Government Relations has complied with the recommendation.

60. The committee concurred with recommendation 2 made at page 18 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 1, chapter 1, Municipal Potash Tax Sharing Administration Board:

We recommend that the Municipal Potash Tax Sharing Administration Board obtain the Minister responsible's written approval of the remuneration and expense rates it pays its board members. It should obtain this approval prior to changing remuneration rates.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Government Relations has complied with the recommendation.

61. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 11, Northern Municipal Trust Account.

The following Ministry of Government Relations officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Greg Miller, Deputy Minister

Laurier Donais, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Disaster Recovery

Sheldon Green, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Relations

Giselle Marcotte, Assistant Deputy Minister, First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs

Elissa Aitken, Executive Director, Policy and Program

Susan Carani, Executive Director, Lands and Consultation Branch

Brad Henry, Executive Director, Northern Municipal Services

Jeff Markewich, Executive Director, Corporate Services

62. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 68 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 11, Northern Municipal Trust Account:

We recommend that the Ministry of Government Relations adequately segregate duties of employees responsible for the key accounting functions of the Northern Municipal Trust Account.

63. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 6, Government Relations — Alerting the Public about Imminently Dangerous Events.

The following officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Ministry of Government Relations

Greg Miller, Deputy Minister

Laurier Donais, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Disaster Recovery

Sheldon Green, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Relations

Giselle Marcotte, Assistant Deputy Minister, First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs

Elissa Aitken, Executive Director, Policy and Program

Susan Carani, Executive Director, Lands and Consultation Branch

Brad Henry, Executive Director, Northern Municipal Services

Jeff Markewich, Executive Director, Corporate Services

Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency

Marlo Pritchard, President and Fire Commissioner

Teresa Florizone, Vice-President

Jean Longpre, SaskAlert Manager

64. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 83 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 6, Government Relations — Alerting the Public about Imminently Dangerous Events:

We recommend the Ministry of Government Relations maintain a robust and enforceable written contract with the party providing day-to-day administration for the SaskAlert program.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Government Relations has complied with the recommendation.

65. The committee concurred with recommendation 2 made at page 88 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 6, Government Relations — Alerting the Public about Imminently Dangerous Events:

We recommend the Ministry of Government Relations document its regular monitoring of all key responsibilities of its SaskAlert program administrator.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Government Relations has is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

66. The committee concurred with recommendation 3 made at page 88 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 6, Government Relations — Alerting the Public about Imminently Dangerous Events:

We recommend the Ministry of Government Relations work with the operator of Alert Ready (the National Alert Aggregation and Dissemination System) to obtain information needed to enable a periodic review of the appropriateness of user access to the System.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Government Relations has complied with the recommendation.

67. The committee concurred with recommendation 4 made at page 89 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 6, Government Relations — Alerting the Public about Imminently Dangerous Events:

We recommend the Ministry of Government Relations actively monitor whether SaskAlert participants complete timely and accurate alerts, and take action where necessary (e.g., suspend system access).

The committee noted that the Ministry of Government Relations has is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

68. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 25, Government Relations — Safe Drinking Water in Northern Settlements

The following Ministry of Government Relations officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Greg Miller, Deputy Minister

Laurier Donais, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Disaster Recovery

Sheldon Green, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Relations

Giselle Marcotte, Assistant Deputy Minister, First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs

Elissa Aitken, Executive Director, Policy and Program

Susan Carani, Executive Director, Lands and Consultation Branch

Brad Henry, Executive Director, Northern Municipal Services

Jeff Markewich, Executive Director, Corporate Services

- 69. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 25, Government Relations Safe Drinking Water in Northern Settlements.
- 70. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 7, Government Relations.

The following Ministry of Government Relations officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Greg Miller, Deputy Minister

Laurier Donais, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Disaster Recovery

Sheldon Green, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Relations

Giselle Marcotte, Assistant Deputy Minister, First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs

Elissa Aitken, Executive Director, Policy and Program

Susan Carani, Executive Director, Lands and Consultation Branch

Brad Henry, Executive Director, Northern Municipal Services

Jeff Markewich, Executive Director, Corporate Services

71. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 55 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 7, Government Relations:

We recommend the Ministry of Government Relations regularly review and update the processes it uses to make key accounting estimates (e.g., for education property tax revenues, treaty land entitlement obligations).

The committee noted that the Ministry of Government Relations has complied with the recommendation.

72. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 35, Government Relations — Proposing Education Property Tax Mill Rates.

The following Ministry of Government Relations officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Greg Miller, Deputy Minister

Laurier Donais, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services and Disaster Recovery

Sheldon Green, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Relations

Giselle Marcotte, Assistant Deputy Minister, First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs

Elissa Aitken, Executive Director, Policy and Program

Susan Carani, Executive Director, Lands and Consultation Branch

Brad Henry, Executive Director, Northern Municipal Services

Jeff Markewich, Executive Director, Corporate Services

- 73. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 35, Government Relations Proposing Education Property Tax Mill Rates.
- 74. The committee recessed from 4:15 p.m. until 4:19 p.m.
- 75. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 50, Standing Committee on Public Accounts and the 2019 report volume 2, chapter 49, Standing Committee on Public Accounts.
- 76. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 50, Standing Committee on Public Accounts.
- 77. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 49, Standing Committee on Public Accounts.
- 78. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 20, Summary of Implemented Recommendations, the 2019 report volume 1, chapter 2, Summary of Implemented Recommendations, and the 2019 report volume 2, chapter 19, Summary of Implemented Recommendations.
- 79. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 20, Summary of Implemented Recommendations.
- 80. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 2, Summary of Implemented Recommendations.
- 81. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 19, Summary of Implemented Recommendations.

82. It was moved by Mr. Weekes:	
That this committee do now adjourn.	
The question being put, it was agreed to.	
83. The committee adjourned at 4:32 p.m. to the call of the Chair.	
Rob Park Committee Clerk	Trent Wotherspoon Chair