

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
Tuesday, March 21, 2017

MINUTE NO. 11
8:00 a.m. — māmawapiwin náyati room (Room 8)

1. **Present:** Danielle Chartier in the chair and members Jennifer Campeau, Herb Cox, Larry Doke, Don McMorris, Hon. Paul Merriman, Warren Michelson, and Nicole Sarauer.

Provincial Auditor's Office

Judy Ferguson, Provincial Auditor
Regan Sommerfeld, Deputy Provincial Auditor
Jason Shaw, Principal
Kim Lowe, Principal

Provincial Comptroller's Office

Terry Paton, Provincial Comptroller
Chris Bayda, Executive Director, Financial Management Branch

2. It was moved by Ms. Sarauer:

That this committee requests that the former Minister of Highways who held the position between May 2012 and August 2016, appear before this committee as a witness at a meeting of the Public Accounts Committee.

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

Yea — 1

Sarauer

Nay — 6

Campeau, Cox, Doke, McMorris, Merriman, Michelson

3. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 2, chapter 30, Western Development Museum — Permanently Removing Historical Artifacts; and 2016 report volume 2, chapter 13, Parks, Culture and Sport.

The following officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport

Twyla MacDougall, Acting Deputy Minister
Scott Brown, Assistant Deputy Minister, Stewardship Division
Jennifer Johnson, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Parks Division
Lynette Halvorsen, Director, Financial Management and Operations

Western Development Museum

Ruth Bitner, Collections Curator, Western Development Museum

4. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 2, chapter 13, Parks, Culture and Sport.

5. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 209 of the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 2, chapter 30, Western Development Museum — Permanently Removing Historical Artifacts:

We recommend that management follow established policies and seek approval of the Board of the Western Development Museum for revisions to policies.

The committee noted that the Western Development Museum has complied with the recommendation.

6. The committee concurred with recommendation 2 made at page 211 of the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 2, chapter 30, Western Development Museum — Permanently Removing Historical Artifacts:

We recommend that the Western Development Museum provide its staff with written guidance on:

- Systematically identifying artifacts for removal from its collection
- Reporting aggregate artifact deaccessioning and disposal activities to the Board
- When to obtain independent appraisals of artifacts

The committee noted that the Western Development Museum is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

7. The committee concurred with recommendation 3 made at page 212 of the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 2, chapter 30, Western Development Museum — Permanently Removing Historical Artifacts:

We recommend that the Western Development Museum systematically review its collections to identify potential artifacts for removal.

The committee noted that the Western Development Museum has complied with the recommendation.

8. The committee concurred with recommendation 4 made at page 213 of the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 2, chapter 30, Western Development Museum — Permanently Removing Historical Artifacts:

We recommend that Western Development Museum Collections Management Policy clarify its expectations of staff to actively assist in identifying artifacts for removal.

The committee noted that the Western Development Museum is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

9. The committee concurred with recommendation 5 made at page 213 of the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 2, chapter 30, Western Development Museum — Permanently Removing Historical Artifacts:

We recommend that the Western Development Museum update job descriptions of staff involved in collections management to reinforce their roles and responsibilities in deaccessioning and disposing of artifacts.

The committee noted that the Western Development Museum is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

10. The committee concurred with recommendation 6 made at page 215 of the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 2, chapter 30, Western Development Museum — Permanently Removing Historical Artifacts:

We recommend that the Western Development Museum use information in its collection database to analyze its collection to aid deaccessioning and disposal decisions.

The committee noted that the Western Development Museum has complied with the recommendation.

11. The committee concurred with recommendation 7 made at page 215 of the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 2, chapter 30, Western Development Museum — Permanently Removing Historical Artifacts:

We recommend that the Western Development Museum dispose of deaccessioned artifacts within an established timeframe.

The committee noted that the Western Development Museum is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

12. The committee concurred with recommendation 8 made at page 215 of the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 2, chapter 30, Western Development Museum — Permanently Removing Historical Artifacts:

We recommend that the Western Development Museum approve disposals of artifacts consistent with its Collections Management Policy.

The committee noted that the Western Development Museum has complied with the recommendation.

13. The committee recessed from 8:31 a.m. until 8:37 a.m.
14. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 1, chapter 24, Government Relations — Safe Drinking Water in Northern Settlements; 2016 report volume 2, chapter 8, Government Relations; 2016 report volume 2, chapter 12, Northern Municipal Trust Account; and 2016 report volume 2, chapter 37, Government Relations — Assessing Public Concerns.

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

Witnesses

Tammy Kirkland, Deputy Minister

Keith Comstock, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Relations and Northern Engagement

Laurier Donais, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services, Public Safety Standards and Disaster Recovery
Jeff Markewich, Executive Director, Corporate Services
Cheri Kellington, Executive Assistant, Deputy Minister's Office

15. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 1, chapter 24, Government Relations — Safe Drinking Water in Northern Settlements.
16. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 2, chapter 8, Government Relations.
17. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 69 of the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 2, chapter 12, Northern Municipal Trust Account:

We recommend that the Ministry of Government Relations prepare timely and accurate bank reconciliations for the Northern Municipal Trust Account, as its policies require.

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

18. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2016 report volume 2, chapter 37, Government Relations — Assessing Public Concerns.
19. It was moved by Mr. Michelson:

That this committee do now adjourn.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

20. The committee adjourned at 9:03 a.m. to the call of the Chair.

Kathy Burianyk
Committee Clerk

Danielle Chartier
Chair