



Special Committee To Prevent The Abuse And Exploitation Of Children Through the Sex Trade

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**SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO PREVENT THE ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION
OF CHILDREN THROUGH THE SEX TRADE
2000**

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Kevin Yates
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February 21, 2000

The committee met at 10:45 a.m.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — We're certainly pleased to see everybody here and we'll hope that Carolyn enters the room pretty quickly. But as Mr. Prebble has indicated, there are five items on the agenda as we see it. Some of them will be lengthier than others but we'll get started with asking Mr. Randy Pritchard to update us on his communications to date with Manitoba and Alberta.

One additional item that will be added to the agenda is a motion to be adopted for the secondment of Randy Pritchard. And we will put that down as item no. 6, I guess.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Why don't . . . yes . . . sure. That's fine.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Or would it be more beneficial to do that immediately?

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — I was going to suggest we do it immediately.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Immediately? Okay.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Yes. Do it as the very first thing.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Okay.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — As you know, we had an informal meeting that involved all of us when we were discussing staff hiring, and as a result of the meeting, we made a decision to approach the Department of Social Services and request from the deputy minister that Randy Pritchard be seconded to work with us as the staff person to our committee.

And the understanding basically that has been informally reached with Social Services is that, first of all, they're agreeable to that, and we have to finalize financial arrangements. But the interim understanding was one in which when Randy was working for us on a part-time basis, Social Services would pay, and when he's working for us on a full-time basis, we would pay. That's the sort of the informal understanding that we're operating on right now. We have to obviously formalize that.

But I welcome . . . I think this was the decision that we'd all reached consensus on, but we should formalize it here this morning. So I'd entertain a motion from a member of the committee formally recognizing the secondment arrangements that we've entered into and approving them.

Don, would you like to . . .

Mr. Toth: — Okay, certainly. I'll move it.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Have you got a formal motion there that you'd like to read?

Mr. Toth: — I think there's one already written out here. I

move:

That the committee approve the secondment of Randy Pritchard, senior program consultant, Social Services, as a researcher to this committee.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Is there a seconder for that motion?

Mr. Harper: — I'll second that.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Any discussion on the motion? All those in favour of the motion? It's unanimous and Randy, we're delighted to have you on board.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Yes, welcome.

Mr. Pritchard: — Thank you. I look forward to working with all of you too. Thank you.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — I just should report to you that we also . . . Arlene and I also discussed with Dan Perrins — as deputy minister — the idea of involving Brian Williams in the seeking . . . obtaining his advice during this process when we got to the hearing stage and receiving some assistance from him from time to time in terms of shaping policy around this which he has a fair little bit of expertise in. And Dan Perrins has indicated that he would be open to that kind of an arrangement as well. So we have the prospect of being able to get some advice from Brian Williams during this process.

And I think that's something that we also had kicked around a little bit at our last meeting, and then Arlene and I discussed it in more detail. So we'll report to you further on those arrangements as they fall into place.

We should move now to a discussion on our March 6 hearing so I'll pass it over to you, Arlene.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Well, I have been in discussion as well as Peter has with Randy to determine what people in other provinces would be very valuable for us to hear from, and we have come up with three people that are confirmed. They are members of the legislature in Alberta. It's Heather Forsythe. Heather is the person that has worked tirelessly for many years on this child abuse situation in Alberta. She will be able to present for us through video teleconference . . . basically is what we're going to be setting up March 6.

I'm not going to go into too terribly much about, you know, describing their background and so on because I'm going to leave Randy do a little more than that . . . of that, rather.

But the people are Heather Forsythe from Alberta. We also have Sergeant Wayne Harrison from the Winnipeg police, and there will be a vice policeman from Alberta and — I'm not sure if we discussed this, Randy, but you can maybe fill us in after — whether or not we had located someone in Manitoba from the police. There's also people from community organizations in Alberta that we would want to have as part of that video teleconference.

I'm going to let Randy expand a little bit on what I've said here and fill you in, I guess, a little bit more in detail.

Mr. Pritchard: — Okay. First I'll start off with Manitoba.

I did confirm with the deputy minister's office for the Department of Highways in Manitoba that Sergeant Wayne Harrison would be doing a presentation to the committee. They recommended him based on his . . . based on his experience in helping the amendments to The Highway Traffic Act — helping implement it. As well as he would do a presentation on stats and how the Act is working, the impoundment of vehicles is working in Manitoba. So, he's confirmed.

And also I've confirmed with Doris Mae Oulton. She's chief executive officer of the child and Youth Secretariat in Manitoba. She's available that morning but not until after 10:30. And they're on the same time as us.

As far as community, other community members, we haven't confirmed with anyone yet. And I was wondering if anyone on the committee had any suggestions or anything for Manitoba. But we can get back to that later.

Alberta, we have confirmed with Heather Forsythe. She's the MLA (Member of the Legislative Assembly) with Calgary-Fish Creek in Alberta. She's available from 8 to 9:45 our time that morning. She's also going to try to get a couple of vice cops to help out as well. She hasn't confirmed. She'll get back to me later on this week.

I got a name from Peter Dwayne Brown as a community member. He's with Crossroads Outreach in Edmonton. He's highly recommended by Peter. As well as Randy Didum who's with the exit program in Calgary through Woodshome.

And community member out of Manitoba for a type of intensive safe house program. I got the name from Arlene as well. Her name is Jocelyn Como. Or his name is it?

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Jocelyn Como would be the person that would refer us to the . . . some more, I would guess I would say a more comprehensive program that they have set up in Winnipeg to assist girls off the street. So it's a work program. Sort of a farm program. But it involves drug and alcohol rehab, etc., etc.

We also have possibly the chance to talk with someone in Ontario who has a similar program that is very, very successful. There's supposed to be a 95 per cent success rate. So those are possibly two other presenters if we can reach them in time and get them to help us out. They may do just that, and I think it would be very valuable for the committee.

Mr. Yates: — . . . perhaps even at a later date if we can't get them on the sixth. If they have some valuable information to deliver, it would be worth having . . . (inaudible) . . . 95 per cent success rate.

Mr. Pritchard: — Yes. For instance, on . . . we tried to get Sergeant Ross Macinnis from . . . he's a former sergeant. He's retired now. Out of Calgary is it?

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Out of Calgary. He was with Street Teams. He organized Street Teams and so on, but he's retired from it now.

Mr. Pritchard: — We tried to get him for March 6 as well but he's not available. But he is available for March 22 so I'm going to set something up with him for March 22. So some of these other people likely we could probably get something together for March 22 as well.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Ross Macinnis is a police officer that just before his retirement he was working with vice in Calgary, I believe it was, and he certainly watched, you know, the streets, the children in trouble and so on. And he knew that something more had to be done, that there was a gap in the system somehow. Unfortunately he had to discover a girl dead that he had been quite concerned about, and after that time he was the one that sort of took the Street Teams unit out of the Calgary police. He then took full responsibility for it and he would be able to tell us how it was all organized and how beneficial it is.

He's retired now from Street Teams but at this time he's in British Columbia talking to them about the very same problem and they're trying to get a sort of a, I guess, a link throughout Canada so that everyone has the same information, everyone is working in the same direction in the same way and to really be successful at this. So he would be an extremely valuable source of information and knowledge.

Mr. Pritchard: — As far as a video conference, I don't know if I need to get into too much detail on this but I'll just pass on some price quotes on some of video conference. I checked out with SCN (Saskatchewan Communications Network) and they're \$750 per hour so they recommended we go with the SaskTel video conference. And it's a lot cheaper.

Shall I get into detail on this?

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Sure, you can go into a little bit of detail.

Mr. Pritchard: — Okay. It will be a two-week conference and what we'll do we'll hold a conference . . . or video . . . We'll have to go — ourselves here — we'll have to go to the SaskTel building because the legislature here doesn't have special ISDN (Integrated Services Digital Network) lines, whatever that means; but they're required and the legislature doesn't have them but they can bring them in at a cost of \$1,500.

Otherwise we can go into the SaskTel site on Saskatchewan Drive which is equipped and they have a room there. We can either get a room for 16 people and that would be \$60 per hour for the room rental, or if we get . . . if we're going to have more than 60 people there we can get a room that holds 65. It would still be \$60 per hour plus an additional hundred dollar cost to have a larger room. So that would be \$280 for the three hours.

For Winnipeg and Edmonton, each site would cost a hundred dollars for each site. The set-up cost also at \$50 times three sites so it would be \$150. So altogether the total video conference, and this is based on three hours, would be \$630.

The long distant rates are also about that. They depend on the number of phone lines used for the conference. We can get away cheaper if we go with two lines — that's \$148. However, that's the poorest quality and it will cause a two- to three-second delay which means that you'll hear something and then their mouths will move afterwards. Be like kind of watching a Bruce Lee movie or something.

And then Winnipeg . . . And then the four lines is 297, and the six lines — that's the best quality — is \$446. So I think . . . and SaskTel recommended we go with that, with the six lines. And this is based on three hours though.

Mr. Toth: — That's over and above the 630.

Mr. Pritchard: — That's over and above the 630.

Mr. Toth: — Or the 750.

Mr. Pritchard: — If we went with the 750, 750 would be per hour, if we went with SCN.

Mr. Toth: — Oh, so, yes okay, right. That's right.

Mr. Pritchard: — So that could get pretty costly. If we flew everybody in as well . . . we flew them in and had hotel costs and meal costs, it would be quite more expensive than the video conference, I think. So, my recommendation would be the cheapest way to go would be the video conference.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — So what we have here, Randy, that we can go to a site at SaskTel which is equipped. Okay, where is that?

Mr. Pritchard: — That's on . . . that's their building at the Cornwall Centre, on Saskatchewan Drive there.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Okay.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — So we have a recommendation before us from Randy, that we use the SaskTel video conferencing technology. And Arlene and I were saying to Randy that we felt we would need more than three hours, you know, if we're going to have a mix of government and community people from both Manitoba and Alberta, three of which are confirmed now. But three or four more of which we're hoping to have confirmed by the time we're into this March 6th event, that we would need to go into the afternoon.

So if members are agreeable, I would be happy to accept a motion that we go with the SaskTel option and finalize the number of hours based on the number of witnesses we are looking at. With about three-quarters of an hour per witness, that would give us . . . that would be about a 20-minute presentation and then a chance to ask questions.

Mr. Toth: — That's the question I had in regard to this teleconference. Would you be kind of linking it up with, say Manitoba first for about an hour and a half and then Alberta for an hour and a half? That's kind of what you're anticipating?

Mr. Pritchard: — Yes. As well we can tape it all too, so we'll

have those presentations on tape as well. So if we need to use them at other, you know, presentations or consultations, we've got them. And then we can use those tapes too for *Hansard* if we want *Hansard* to record it.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Don, in respect to your question, we have just some preliminary discussion on the length of time the presenters could have. And we determined . . . we were trying to think this through a bit, and think about how long it would take for them to do a good presentation, and for us to ask some questions. And an hour and half in the morning might not necessarily be it, like, you know, we might not be able to get three or four . . . all the presenters from Alberta in, in the morning or in the afternoon.

If we give 45 minutes, 45 to 50 minutes for each presentation, that would allow the presenter, say 25 minutes to present and maybe 25 minutes for questions from the committee. And that takes us into 50 minutes for one presenter. But to make sure that we're not cutting anybody short, you know, and that we're thorough with this, I think it's important that we make sure we do allot an amount of time that's adequate.

So it may end up looking like, you know, 50 minutes per presenter, depending on the presenter and just how much of . . . When Randy contacts these people again, he may be able to deliberate with them just exactly how much time they feel they'll need for a presentation on their own behalf. And it will be gauged from that.

So we don't want to go over 50 minutes for any presentation because that's plenty and, you know, the day only has so many hours. But if there's one presenter that maybe only needs 15 minutes, we could then shorten that presentation because our questions would maybe take 15 or 20 minutes also, and so one presenter in that case would be done within a half-hour or 35 minutes.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Have members got any particular wishes with respect to the amount of time that we take for questions with these formal presentations from Manitoba and Alberta? Because question time can go by pretty quickly and I want to make sure that everybody gets a chance to ask questions.

Mr. Toth: — Well I think just one quick comment. The information I think we'll be given will be interesting but until you've heard it, you have a hard time trying to determine where you're going to head. And my fear is you tie up the funds rights now and let's say you decide you might need two hours so you book two hours, but that doesn't necessarily mean that I'll be prepared from after the presentation to give, to have the quality questions I'd like to present.

And the concern I have right now is, while I think it's important that we can talk to other jurisdictions, that we maybe need to leave the door open down the road to converse with them again. Once we've done some more research and had just some of our own studies following it, we'll get some of their advice as to where they've gone right now, but it won't necessarily mean that I'll have a real clear idea of where we should be heading as a committee.

So I don't know if we want to expand it too much beyond let's say the hour and a half, so that we're using our time wisely. And then maybe down the road have another conversation with these individuals, just relaying some of the things we've now found as we've discussed this issue with people on the street or in our province.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Those are some very good and valuable thoughts, Don, and I appreciate that suggestion because it's a wise one and I think it's good. What do the rest of the committee members think about that?

Mr. Harper: — . . . I do agree with Mr. Toth. He's happily . . . (inaudible) . . . right on it.

Ms. Draude: — Does that mean if you book an hour and a half, you can't go over?

Mr. Pritchard: — No, I don't . . . I'm not sure. I didn't check that one out, but I can check it out. I'm sure we could have it . . .

Ms. Draude: — What happens if you book two hours and we use an hour and a half?

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — See, I think what we'd really be looking at, June, is longer blocks of time anyway, because we're talking about, you know, by the time we fit in the community representatives as well as the government representatives from Alberta, there's no way we'll do that in an hour and a half.

Ms. Draude: — Even any length of time. I guess my question is more general: can you book eight hours and only use five? Is that . . .

Mr. Pritchard: — Yes, I can check that out.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — That's important to know.

Mr. Yates: — I've used video conferencing before through SaskTel.

Once you're done, you get billed for the time you use. I would also strongly recommend we go with the six lines. The quality of the transmission and the quality of the . . . your ability to hear clearly what people are saying is significantly increased.

We started in one teleconference with two lines. Midway through we upped it to four. Then right through, you know, put it up to six lines. And it wasn't till we actually had the six lines that you could clearly hear everything being said — picked up in the room.

Ms. Draude: — I'd like to suggest that we book enough . . . book time, and then if we don't have to use it all, that's fine. But if there's valuable information we can be getting and we don't have enough time, that would be kind of ridiculous since we've already put the major overhead cost out.

Mr. Pritchard: — So I should book it from 9 o'clock till 5 o'clock for the day? And then . . .

Ms. Draude: — Whatever the Chair . . .

Mr. Pritchard: — Okay. Sure.

A Member: — Pay for what we use.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Are we agreed then that we're going to seek an option where we pay for what we use, that we'll go morning and afternoon, and that we'll continue to work on a balance of government and community representatives from both Alberta and Manitoba?

If anybody's got any suggestions about people that you would like to see brought here, please let us know. Because we'd be happy to take those into account. Let us know in the next couple of days because we need to start finalizing these arrangements.

Meta's recommending that we take our consensus and formalize it by way of a motion. And I'd welcome anybody making a motion on what we've in effect reached agreement on.

I think the elements of our decision, if anybody . . . Arlene's maybe writing this into a motion right now, but the key elements of our decision that we've agreed on, on doing a full-day video conference potentially from 9 to 5 through using SaskTel and inviting a variety of government and community witnesses from Manitoba and Alberta. And we've also agreed to seek to try to work out an arrangement whereby we only pay for the time we use.

Mr. Yates: — And use six-line.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — And that we use six-line technology, yes.

Ms. Draude: — And then SaskTel donate the time for their part of . . . their concern that this committee's work.

Ms. Jones: — So you need a motion to that effect? That's excluding the last portions.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — That's right, that's exactly right.

Ms. Jones: — Well if it's down in some sort of format, I would make that motion.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Carolyn, would you like to make this motion, please.

Ms. Jones: — Just for my information, were we going to put in the motion that clarification of unused time or just leave it? We talked about checking to see if we've booked eight hours and only needed five and a half, if we'd be charged, or does that matter in the motion?

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — I don't think it matters in the motion. I think there's an understanding that we want to try to just be as economical as we can on this.

Ms. Jones: — All right. Then in that event, I'll move that:

On March 6 the committee will have a full day of video conference from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., using SaskTel's facility with six lines of long distance.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Will someone second the motion? Don't we need a seconder? Pardon me.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Could you add into the motion, Carolyn, that we also have a mix of community and government representatives at the . . .

Ms. Jones: — Certainly. If I might, I would make a friendly amendment to my own motion, specifying that:

We have a mix of community and government presenters.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Sure. Thank you, Carolyn.

So I think you all understand the motion that's being introduced. Is there agreement on this? All agreed.

A Member: — Agreed.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — That's carried then.

I'm going to suggest that there's some other sort of more minor decisions to make that I was going to suggest, if you're agreeable, that we let the Co-Chairs and Randy work out so that we're not taking up your time. But I do want to just test one question with respect to this and that is room size. And I'll just let Randy give us the options here, which I think are spelled out on this sheet of paper.

Mr. Pritchard: — Yes. There's the large room, it holds 65 people and over. It's \$60 per hour. Like I said before it's a one-time \$100 cost for the large room that holds 65 people.

Otherwise we can get another room that just holds 16 people for the \$60 per hour. We don't have to worry about the \$100. Is 16 going to be enough, a room for 16 is that going to be enough for the committee here? That's including seven, myself, and Margaret and . . .

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — And any members of the media . . .

Mr. Pritchard: — . . . and any other members . . .

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — . . . who want to attend and the public.

Mr. Pritchard: — . . . media and public. That leaves six people. So do you think 16 would be adequate?

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — So we're satisfied with the smaller room option then? Okay.

Mr. Pritchard: — I'll book the small room then? Okay.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — So Randy, proceed with that.

Mr. Pritchard: — Okay. Yes.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Okay. This takes us to format. Why don't I pass it over to you for a little while, Arlene?

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — All right. When we . . . Again, Mr. Prebble and myself had some preliminary discussion surrounding the format, but it was just simply to bring to your attention that we would like the committee to assist in this endeavour too by giving us suggestions of organizations, individuals, and groups in Regina for the March 7 meeting, March 7 presentations.

Certainly Randy has a list of organizations and agencies in Regina that he could give you a lowdown on. We have determined that the FSI (Federation of Saskatchewan Indians) and the Metis association and the Women Of The Dawn be represented as far as presenting, and there will be some contact with them to do so.

We've discussed already a little bit about presentation times, but we can, we can bring that . . . we want to bring that back to committee too for further discussion.

And so I think that Randy would probably . . . oh, he does have a list here of stakeholders in community. And it might be valuable for the committee to run down this list and to give suggestions on what organizations or stakeholders that you feel would be valuable. Obviously we can't have everyone, but it's important that we select groups, individuals, or organizations that we think would be crucial to assisting the committee.

Mr. Pritchard: — Yes, this list here, I just handed out; it's got about 49 recommended stakeholders to consult with. They're located throughout the whole province so . . . I think we're looking at—for the March 7—I think we're looking at mainly Regina as well as some aboriginal organizations as well.

The top 10, or 8 or so, are Saskatoon agencies, and then below that, from 9 till about 16, are Regina agencies. As well as . . . you'll see I've mentioned like individual youth we could have come in, elders we could have come in, police services, health boards, Indian and Metis friendship centres in Regina, Youth in Care Network, a bit of this, there's lots we could get . . . you know, ask judges to come in.

You know there's also 72 First Nations bands throughout the province; you know, that's quite a few.

There's the All-nations Hope Network here in Regina, the Indian Metis Christian Fellowship Centre in Regina, the Circle Project in Regina. There's also the Saskatchewan Indian Federated College School of Social Work. That's located in Saskatoon but they do have some classes and students here in Regina at the U of R (University of Regina).

There's tribal councils that are close by Regina as well, like Touchwood Tribal Council and File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council.

There's the Soul Harbour Inn here in Regina. There's also the Metis Women of Saskatchewan that have an office in Regina here as well.

So there's quite a few there and I've got contacts with, I think mostly, everyone on this list here so I guess with that I would just open the floor.

Mr. Toth: — Yes, my question is: of this list of groups/organizations, how many are, if you will, fairly actively involved with children on the street?

Mr. Pritchard: — It would be the outreach programs such as the Crime Prevention Commission of Regina, the Action Committee for Children at Risk in Regina — that's ACCAR — they have an outreach van here. And the North Central Community Society, Safety Services, that's an outreach program as well; they have an RV (recreational vehicle), a mobile RV that goes around. It's kind of like . . . They like to refer to it as a mobile safe house.

Regina Treaty Status Indian Services, they have programming for youth here. Rainbow Youth Centre also has programming for youth in Regina. The Indian & Metis Friendship Centre in Regina also has programming.

A Member: — SWAP.

Mr. Pritchard: — Yes, well I don't have SWAP down there, SWAP.

Mr. Yates: — City social development agencies as well. The city of Regina definitely will want to make a presentation.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Under the Regina crime prevention unit, they had a committee and they had issued reports. I think they issue reports quite frequently, every year, every second year. I think that's somewhat of an umbrella group and the people on that committee may include some of these others, representatives from the others.

So I think what we need to do is maybe look at umbrella groups that have been organized that do include a number of agencies and people concerned and see if we can identify them. As well, we definitely need to have police officers, and I think in the Crime Prevention Commission of Regina, there is, you know, police officers on there. So I feel that that's one agency that we definitely have to tap into.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Do members have specific suggestions for other groups? Kevin's mentioned that we want to add the social development unit for the city.

Mr. Yates: — Rick Coffey, Sergeant Rick Coffey of the city police, who's in charge of street crimes in the city of Regina, has phoned a couple of times. I've passed the message on to Peter. He deals with these issues in the city of Regina. He'd very much like to make a presentation and talk about what he sees on the streets here.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — What's his name again please?

Mr. Yates: — Rick Coffey, Sergeant Rick Coffey. Do we still have the note with his number?

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Yes. I've got his cell number,

everything on it . . .

Ms. Draude: — I'd like to see more just of the ordinary people there. And I'm wondering if the schools that have more children involved in the, you know, sex trade, if they have any groups within the schools, like the SRC (student representative council), or somebody who would talk to us that deal directly with the children every day, from their side of it rather than just from the authority side of it.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — That's a good suggestion, June, because these are people who do deal with it everyday. As well, I'd like to suggest that possibly we get in contact with possibly a principal. I think a principal would have a good handle on what kind of effect this activity is having on . . .

Mr. Yates: — Guidance counsellors.

Ms. Draude: — That's great, and we need those, but I'm also thinking about the children, the students that may be dealing directly with the children rather than the authority side of it.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Well a lot of children are being affected in neighbourhoods by having, you know . . . I mean johns approach children during the daytime while they're going to school and on the way home from school. And so I think your suggestion is very important, Jean, that we want to hear from children who are being impacted, who aren't necessarily been drawn into the sex trade, but their lives are being impacted by this activity taking place in their neighbourhoods.

I think, Arlene, your suggestion of hearing from principals is important too. So to define it a little more clearly: we want to hear from principals in schools in neighbourhoods that are being impacted by the problem. And I think I would add to that community associations in neighbourhoods that are being impacted by the problem.

I think that should be a kind of a rule of thumb in whatever, you know, community we're going to. And that would draw on your suggestion, June, that we then hear from kind of more grassroots, ordinary people who aren't necessarily intimately involved in trying to address the issue, but are being impacted by the issue.

Ms. Draude: — Will there be letters going out to the schools in Regina saying that we're going to have these meetings so that children or young adults may have the opportunity to know that they could meet with us whether it's on, even on a private basis if they would like to?

Just to let them know. I was wondering how we get to the kids, or to the kids that are affected, not just to the authorities but themselves. and let them see that we are real people wanting to really get involved in the issue and help.

Mr. Harper: — Mr. Chair, what action would we take if we were approached — I say we, I mean individual members — approached by somebody from the community who would like to talk and make a presentation, personal presentation to the committee but is reluctant to do it in a public setting but would

like security of a certain degree of privacy.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — We had agreed, Ron, that we hold private hearings in each . . .

A Member: — In camera.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — In camera sessions in whatever community we went to. So now at this point, we haven't built that into the first Regina hearing but we should talk about that now.

Mr. Harper: — That's my question. Are we going to tie that in to have those meetings coincide with the same time frame or are we looking at separate time frames for this?

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — I think we'd have to look at a separate time frame. We can't possibly do all of that in one day. It's impossible. I think if it's a private hearing, we want to give our undivided attention to those individuals that are willing to do that, and I think we would have to set aside another day for that.

There is in respect to, you know, ensuring that people that have experienced the repercussions, I guess, or whatever we want to call it of this . . . of having children in this lifestyle, I think it's important that we speak to parents of children that have entered this lifestyle or been drawn into it. And there are, I know, parents that would like to come forward and speak to the committee as far as their experience and the loss of their children — eventual loss of their children because of this exploitation. So those are grassroots people too that I think are very important just now.

And there may be a group here — I'm not too sure, Randy — of a parent support group or anything like that that you have knowledge of?

Mr. Pritchard: — No, not offhand, no.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — No? Okay.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — My guess is that we will likely need a second Regina hearing date. So that's something we may want to keep in mind as well . . . (inaudible interjection) . . . Yes. That's quite possible. We're clearly going to need part of a second day for private hearings. And if the majority of these organizations that are approached make a presentation, together with other groups and individuals that we're now talking about contacting, as Kevin says, we may be looking at more than one additional day.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — I wonder if I . . . Could we please entertain about a five-minute break and I'll be right back. I have some papers that I wanted to get from my office. If you'd like to go on, that's fine.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — No, we'll wait. Let's have a break for five minutes and come back at it.

The committee recessed for a period of time.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Could we resume our committee meeting? And please just throw out some ideas, or from the paper that you have in front of you, some suggestions about what groups we want to contact to present. I mean, some absolutes.

I've mentioned the crime prevention committee. I think that we need to ensure, as June has suggested, that we have representation from individuals that are presently experiencing exploitation, as well as possibly their relatives or their friends and how this is impacting on the community.

The schools. We need representations from the schools and I think principals or guidance counsellors there would be very important.

So we have three there. Now could I get suggestions from the rest of the committee on what other presenters we may have.

Mr. Toth: — Excuse me, Arlene. We were just kibitzing a bit back and forth while we had the break here. Personally I would like to see that on the first day we have some meetings, I would like to sit down with some groups that are actively — more actively involved in dealing with children who are being exploited just to get a better understanding of what we're dealing with.

And then down the road, whether it's a day later, start expanding it to individuals, simply because I don't have a lot of knowledge in this area. While I hear about it, I'm really not aware of what's going on. And I guess for my benefit, I think I'd prefer to hear or talk to some people who are actively . . . and maybe finding it a little annoying. They're trying to address this, but the concerns they have as well. So we get a better understanding of and a better picture of the problem we're facing.

So that's what my recommendation would be. And as I had mentioned, Randy, and I mentioned earlier, if there's some groups on this list who are more involved — like there's a number of agencies here that are dealing with a lot of the social problems but not necessarily strictly children that are exploited in the sex trade.

And so . . . and because I don't know who they are, maybe I'd ask Randy or someone else who might have a knowledge. Let's see if we can get three or four — whatever we feel we could accommodate — groups who are more actively involved, who could give us just more information of the problems and maybe some of their suggestions and then work from there.

Mr. Pritchard: — Well certainly the Action Committee for Children at Risk, like that's an outreach program. They deal directly with the children, as well as the north central community safety services. That's that mobile safe house. They deal directly with the children. And as Kevin mentioned, the police of course and youth themselves. And we could line up some youth, I'm sure, through Delora Parisian and Christine Diter, they're from ACCAR as well as the north central community safety services. Elders too.

I also mentioned to Peter and Arlene this morning that I thought it'd be important if we actually did have an elder come in and

open the meeting with a prayer and offer up tobacco. But perhaps we could think about this. Actually I would recommend that we do that to all our meetings, community meetings.

Ms. Draude: — Can I suggest that rather than the committee decide, you know, which groups are going to be asked to come that day, we leave it up to Randy and the Co-Chairs to see if it works for those people to come. Most of these people would probably have busy schedules as well, and I'm sure that you're aware of what the committee wants. So rather than us deciding that this is who we want that day, we better be a little more flexible and see if they want to see us that day.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Yes, thank you, June. In respect to Don's comment, when we have the video conference with Alberta and Manitoba representatives, you will be receiving a great deal of information from community groups, or on behalf of community groups that are represented, because these people have already received information and an overview on the situation from the gamut of community groups in those provinces. And I'm hoping that their presentations will be representative of those very groups. And in fact I think they are, because each of them are in a position where they would have already spoken with their own people. And we need to do that as far as Saskatchewan is concerned also. So I think that's what you're talking about.

For instance, are you thinking of Egadz in Saskatoon and groups like that that are dealing with this on an ongoing basis, and groups in Regina that might be dealing with it on an ongoing basis on the streets?

Mr. Toth: — Well basically what I am talking about is the first few groups we talk to, talking to individuals who are more actively involved and then expanding from there, just for my own information and knowledge rather than . . . Some of the groups that are listed here are more social agencies and they may not be specifically dealing with that one topic. Maybe in generalities, but not as specific as some other agencies or groups are.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — So you'd like to target agencies that are dealing specifically with exploitation of children . . .

Mr. Toth: — Originally, and then we can expand from there, yes.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — We'll go into further discussion then, Don, on that — the Chairs as well as Mr. Pritchard.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Now there was . . . I think we should make some decisions with respect to . . . I think we've had a good discussion on groups that might be contacted. We'll proceed with the direction that you've been good enough to give us.

Is there any other comments on that area before we close? There's other elements of this whole format issue around the hearings that we need to make decisions on. But just on the question of groups to be consulted with, any other comments?

Mr. Yates: — The only comment I'd make is I think we have

to make sure we're not exclusive and exclude anybody from this process that wants to make a recommendation in the end. Because we need to be seen to be willing to meet with anybody. And it may mean, like I said, several days of hearings. I don't know what we're going to find; I don't know how many groups we're going to find. But I would suspect there's going to be a significant number.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Well I agree with you very much so. I agree also with Don's suggestion though, that for the benefit of the committee we have presentations first from individuals and people that are working on the streets. So then any other social agencies possibly will have it at a further date.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Let's talk about length of presentations. I'd like to suggest that we try to have some kind of a standard format for our hearings so that we don't get into a situation where we're hearing groups in Regina for 15 minutes and groups in Saskatoon for 30 minutes or whatever, you know, later on. Why don't we see if we can arrive at a standard arrangement, a standard agreed upon time for presentation and for questions.

Obviously if people want to use a shorter period of time, that's not a problem but . . . Arlene and I were talking about the idea of maybe either a 45-minute presentation or a one-hour presentation, and that would include all time for questions and it would include a little break in between for members of the committee for five minutes in between presentations.

What's your feelings about that suggestion and other thoughts that you might have on presentation time, presentation format?

Ms. Draude: — I think 45 minutes is good because if they do go over a little bit, well then we have a little bit of leeway. We also might have an opportunity then, if they're thinking about an hour, that we can talk to somebody individually or whatever. I'm thinking somewhere around 45 minutes.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — And that would include questions?

Ms. Draude: — Yes, but then we wouldn't schedule another group. And it'd look like it's an hour, but we'd only give 45 minutes.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — So we'd schedule an hour a party.

Ms. Draude: — Yes, but tell them 45 minutes.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Any other thoughts on this? And about how many hours a day do you want to hold hearings?

Mr. Yates: — You want to make sure that everybody's very . . . you know, continues to be sharp and listening and giving their full attention to the issue, and I don't think you can do that for more than about six hours a day. And six is about the maximum and five is even probably better.

And you know, I'd be more than willing at five or six, but no

longer than six because that will just absolutely drain everybody.

Ms. Draude: — I agree.

Ms. Jones: — It's not only difficult to maintain attention but it's also we're going to be hearing some pretty horrific stories; it's going to be very emotionally draining as well.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Okay. I'd like to invite someone to make a motion then to formalize this. The suggestion is that we schedule witnesses before our committee every hour with the principle of targeting a 45-minute period for presentation and questions. And that we sit in the range of five to six hours a day, not to exceed six hours so that we don't exhaust everyone in the process.

Would somebody like to make that a motion?

Mr. Yates: — I'll make that motion. Arlene is writing it down now and when she's done I'll read it.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Okay, I'm just going to ask you to repeat that we schedule witnesses every 45 minutes.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — We schedule witnesses every hour with a targeted block of 45 minutes for question, for presentation and questions but with some flexibility in there. And then a small break for committee members in-between presentations.

And that we sit a maximum of six hours a day. I think people are clear we don't want to go beyond six hours in terms of being able to properly listen to people.

Mr. Yates: — If we have one additional to take the six hours, we'd go, but if we have two or three . . .

A Member: — Right.

Mr. Yates: — . . . maybe an extra day but no more than six hours.

Ms. Jones: — What, if I may ask, what format would you — these I take it are for major centre presentation days — would you . . . you wouldn't consider the same thing in a rural community or would you?

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — I think the same kind of general arrangements would apply to the . . .

Ms. Jones: — Same, same presentation time.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Same arrangements . . . same times would apply in any centre we went to.

Ms. Jones: — Okay.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — This just gives organizations and individuals that we're approaching some sense of format. And do we want to, do we want to sort of set a maximum in terms of length of actual time for the presentations?

Mr. Yates: — I would think if you're going to allow 45 minutes and if you go over a little bit, that's fine. The maximum you'd want for the presentation is 30 minutes to make sure that there is at least some time for questions.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — So are we agreed then that maximum presentation time is 30 minutes for witnesses?

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Oh, I don't think I put that in.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Well I'll just add that in, yes. So a maximum presentation time, are we agreed, of 30 minutes?

Ms. Jones: — A question, if I can, I assume that there'll be some flexibility in the day, like so we'll have some evening presentations and day presentations. And how will we kind of determine . . .

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Why don't we give our staff person some flexibility in this regard, because he's going to need to organize evening presentations. Is it the preference of members that we schedule as many of the presentations as possible during the day and then go into the evening as we need to? Or is it your preference that we . . . or does it matter?

Ms. Jones: — I think we should try to accommodate people as best we can. There will be particularly individuals I think who won't be able to present during the day, and I think it's important to hear from them.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Yes, I agree.

Ms. Jones: — So I think we have to be quite flexible in terms of day and evening.

Mr. Pritchard: — Especially youth too that are going to school and stuff, you know, we'd have to, we'd have to accommodate that. We don't want to take them out of school to . . . Yes.

Ms. Jones: — Yes, exactly.

Mr. Pritchard: — Yes.

Mr. Yates: — Well, I would move:

That we schedule witnesses every hour with a targeted block of 45 minutes for each group, with maximum presentation time of 30 minutes, allowing 15 minutes minimum for questions with a small break in-between presentations. The total duration of time for presentations on any day shall not exceed six hours per day.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Thanks, Kevin. Is there a seconder for that motion? Okay. All those in favour of the motion?

Mr. Toth: — And I agree with the suggestion about flexibility, and we'll leave that up to Randy and the Co-Chairs. I'm prepared to do that. Just from the contacts, if an evening presentation would be much more easier for the presenter, let's be flexible.

Mr. Pritchard: — Okay. Should I try for let's say 9 to 12 and then 1:30 to 4:30? And then we'll be flexible that way if we need evening ones or something. That's six hours right there.

Mr. Harper: — Yes. I think basically that you will have at your disposal the flexibility needed to meet the needs of the . . . those witnesses coming forward. And we'll just simply leave it in your hands to do what's most flexible and most accommodating.

Mr. Pritchard: — Okay.

Mr. Yates: — Keeping in mind on March 6 we need to have time for this declaration so we're probably only looking at a couple of presentations. Or pardon me, pardon me — the 6th we're listening to the other jurisdictions; on the 7th we can have all day I guess.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Could members of the committee give us some flexibility in terms of whether the formal declaration is announced on the 6th or the 7th? Then we'll try to work it into one of those two days, and we'll, we'll obviously not schedule presentations during that time. So if the members are fine about which day that's . . . that will give me and Arlene a little bit of flexibility in terms of dealing with various ministers' offices and getting this finalized.

Now there were, there were some other questions around format. And those were . . . One of those was around media and communications. I think, Kevin, you had raised that.

Mr. Yates: — Well one of the things, I think, we want to achieve out of this committee is to raise the level of awareness. And one of the key ways to do that I think is — as we're doing presentations around the province — to have a press conference where the media can . . . Before we, we actually start the presentations that day and make people aware that we're in their community, what we're doing, give them a chance to find out what the mandate of the committee is, what we're trying to do in a formal sense.

And then I would think after we've been there for the day, at the end of the day to make comment about what, you know, not specifically what we've heard perhaps, but make . . . if they have some questions, an opportunity for question and answer period about, you know, the presentations in their community.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — If we're going to do a press conference it might be beneficial to do it maybe a week prior to the presentations. If we are trying to raise awareness and allowing people an opportunity to, you know, to follow up or to pay attention, I think that it might be . . . I mean if we have a press conference the morning of the presentations that will certainly be good for the press, but for people that may want to present at a further date or anything, it'd just give them a little bit of lead time, I think.

Mr. Yates: — I agree. But I think in Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert at least, we're probably going to be there more than one day, and on more than one occasion during the hearing. It's very expensive to have a press conference for local media in Prince Albert and just go up there to have a press

conference without doing any hearings.

So I'm not saying we wouldn't send out, you know, a press release a week earlier to the papers and the local media in an area. I mean when we get there in the morning just to make sure that, you know, it's on the local radio stations and the local TV channels that we are here today holding hearings. And at that point we could perhaps announce even when we're coming back and who to contact if they'd like to make a presentation as part of that presentation as well.

And we can do that in the press release prior to. But just to give the local media an opportunity and again raise the awareness. Actual two minutes of TV coverage, or the 30-second blip on the television is going to get more awareness in a lot of communities than anything else.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — So Kevin, your suggestion is that we send out a press release ahead of time and that we hold . . . that the committee hold a media conference . . . Sorry, just explain what you have in mind there.

Mr. Yates: — A press conference or media conference in the morning. If we're going to, say, Saskatoon, and our first hearings are at 10 o'clock in the morning or whatever, at 9:30 we hold a press conference and give just an overview of why we're here and what we're trying to do. So that's on the noon news, it's on the 5 o'clock news, it's on the 10:30 news, it's on the radio stations, it's in the paper the next morning and it's raising the awareness of the issue; that there is a concern, that we're looking into this issue. Starts bringing . . . (inaudible) . . . more aware that there is an issue.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Okay. And Arlene, your suggestion is somewhat different I take it. You're . . .

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Well as long as we have a press release or some venue for notifying the public before the actual day of presentations, that is good. That is the point I was making that should be done.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Do we want to do some advance advertising for each presentation as well, in the local paper in each community?

Mr. Harper: — Yes, Mr. Chair. That was going to be my suggestion that we look at doing, perhaps at the same time frame as the release of the press release. That we have an ad in all the local newspapers, perhaps even something on radio, to inform the community that we will be there as a committee at a certain date, the location, time, so on and so forth.

That way it would give interested groups within that community, I think, the opportunity to put a presentation together so that they would not be having to rush to put something together. That they would have at least a week's lead time that we are going to be there.

I would also suggest that we may want to look at, once we've formalized our agenda for meetings within Saskatchewan here, that perhaps we'd want to just simply advertise that fact right across the piece — that we are going to be holding meetings in

various communities and debates and so on and so forth, even if it's a fair amount in advance.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — So with your suggestion then, you are saying that as the Co-Chairs along with Mr. Pritchard review the existing community agencies that we would like to target for presentations, that we will also have an open invitation to other organizations from any city or surrounding cities that would like to make presentations also.

If that's what you're saying, then we have to be considering again, I guess, the time frame of when, you know . . . Because if we're talking to targeted groups and we slot them in on the agenda for a specific date, we would have to be prepared to tell any other organizations that come forward that their presentations would have to be at a later date. Because, again, we can't have, we won't have time to have everybody present within one day.

And you know, there might have to be, I don't know, a time frame where people can put forward that they want to present. Because if we have someone, for instance a group outside of or around Prince Albert, that wants to present and they let us know some time, you know, two or three months down the road when we're organizing something else in other centres, it's going to be very difficult to accommodate them. So I think we're going to have to put a sort of time frame on requesting a presentation.

Mr. Harper: — I think you're absolutely correct. My thoughts on the matter was that if we were able to put together a schedule well in advance of actually exercising that schedule and we were able to advertise that throughout Saskatchewan, that would give interested groups within the communities the opportunity to contact us in regards to their wishes to make a presentation. And then before we actually finalized the length of time we'd spend in that community, we'd have a reasonable idea of the number of groups we're going to be dealing with. And if in the event we thought it was going to take us two or three days, we could simply schedule that period of time in that community.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — All right. We'll ask Mr. Pritchard to take down those comments. It's a good suggestion.

Mr. Yates: — We have also already decided we were going to send a letter to all the communities over 5,000. I think that should be done to see if they want us to have hearings in their community, to expand it beyond those major centres. I think we need to do that relatively quickly so we can start developing some sort of work plan. That should be done probably in a couple of weeks.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Any more general discussion on this before we begin to formulate motions around it?

Ms. Jones: — I do have one thing you may have talked about at your last meeting which I regret I was absent for, but I wondered if . . . will people also be invited to submit briefs to the committee if they, you know, were in a community where they can't, can't make a meeting or we can't accommodate them. Perhaps there's only one group or individual that wants to present in a certain location. Are we inviting written submissions from people?

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — My feeling is that we should. And that we should encourage written submissions wherever possible because I think it'll make it a lot easier for us and our staff to analyze those submissions.

But that raises an important question, Carolyn, of inviting particularly written submissions from outside the places that we may hold hearings in. And whether, at any point, we want to . . . do we want to hold all our hearings, you know, with all seven of our members together? Or if we've got persons who are interested in . . . if we've got one or two presenters out in a smaller community, you know, do we want a sort of a subgroup of the committee to go and listen to those presentations?

If anybody's got any thoughts on this, please . . .

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — I think that's another good suggestion. Simply, it is a very good suggestion because we could very well have a great number of presenters here and people wanting to put forward their views and their suggestions. And I think that we are going to be very, very busy and the breaking up into subgroups might be an answer to helping us to make the best use of our time.

Ms. Jones: — It might be that we could make that decision as we see the response from communities and groups. And certainly keep that in mind that if necessary we would look at that as an enabling tool to help us reach as many people as possible.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Carolyn, with respect to your suggestion about written briefs, maybe you'd want to consider a motion around the notion that any member, you know, any resident of the province, should feel free to . . . that we would receive written briefs from any member of the . . . any resident of the province who wishes to make a submission.

And I'd like to make an additional suggestion because I think we've all been on these kind of committees and you know what an enormous paper flow there is. And I also know that a written brief, without an oral presentation, never has as much impact. So I was going to suggest that if we had written briefs that are submitted, but don't have an oral presenter, that we invite Randy to give us a sort of a three-or four-minute synopsis of the brief so that every brief has some sort of oral presentation associated with it. And if the presenter isn't able to present in person, you know, that our staff person give us a little synopsis, a verbal synopsis of the brief, so that we don't fall into the trap of somebody's brief not being considered by all members of the committee.

And I've been guilty of getting briefs and, you know, when you're getting hundreds of briefs sometimes you may not fully read a brief. You might just glance over it. So I think to have some sort of an oral presentation would be helpful and then everybody's concerns have been heard by the committee in some way. So that's just another suggestion that maybe we can note.

I'm feeling that we should . . . there's some of these things that we should formalize by way of motions because they involve standard procedures. So Carolyn, could you consider drafting

something around written presentations? Would you consider it? Kevin, could you consider drafting something around the handling of our press conference arrangements in respect of this committee?

Are there any other suggestions from members relating to media communications, how we should receive presentations?

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — I think . . . I'm sorry. Unless you have, I just think we've covered . . .

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — We've covered a lot of ground. Randy, did you have any advice for us on this one?

Mr. Pritchard: — Well I think any requests that come in I think should be funnelled to me so I can, so you know, I can coordinate all of it and then . . . I'm going to be setting it all up anyway so I'll coordinate it and set it up and then run it through the Co-Chairs. And then I can do updated presentations or update the committee at our regular committee meetings.

Ms. Draude: — . . . and press releases. I think it is important that we have phone number that people can get a hold of us through, you know, that would be well advertised and something that people can contact.

Ms. Woods: — Actually on just that point — if I could address the committee — what the standard procedure is for the researcher will be working in-house. He will have an office. It likely will be in room 119. He will have his own workstation and phone number will be set up once his secondment is finalized. So that that would be the place where he could be contacted, or you could direct any inquiries or written submissions to be sent care of the Clerk's office, the committee researcher for this committee.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Will the committee members be issued information about that so that they have that at hand?

Ms. Woods: — Yes.

Ms. Draude: — When you book the phone number, is it going to be something that would be easy for people to remember? You can usually ask, you know.

A Member: — Is that right?

Ms. Draude: — Yes, they will give you an opportunity to pick a number, or pick from a number of numbers and if you can get 787-0000, well that makes it easy.

A Member: — Yes, yes.

Mr. Harper: — Chair, I'm just thinking here that I'm beginning to believe that one of the yardsticks to measure the success of this committee might be that our staff person will require a staff person.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Let's cross that mountain a little later on. While these . . . Margaret's suggesting, and I think it's a good suggestion, that we're not done with the current agenda item, but we just move . . . while the motions are

being drafted . . . unless somebody has their motion ready.

Mr. Yates: — I'm ready.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Okay. Why don't we take that then, Kevin.

Mr. Yates: — I would move:

That we send out a press release to local media at least one week prior to the committee hearings at that location; we would also advertise in local papers and media prior to hearings in that community; the committee hold a press conference the morning prior to hearings in each community and be available for a few minutes at the end of the day for questions from the media.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — As a full committee — is what you're suggesting?

Mr. Yates: — Yes.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Okay.

Mr. Yates: — . . . committee.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Yes. So that's been moved by Kevin. Is there discussion on that motion? All those in agreement with the motion? Okay. This motion is agreed to.

Carolyn, do you need a little more time on your motion?

Ms. Jones: — I'm just trying to get that . . . Randy has read them and tell us what they say.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — While we're waiting for Carolyn to have a little more time to draft her motion, with your permission we'll just move off this topic for a moment, get a short briefing from Margaret on the budget, which will be a major topic of discussion at a subsequent meeting, and then go back to Carolyn and her motion.

So, Margaret, why don't you — if it's agreeable to all members of the committee — we'll move to budget for just a moment.

Ms. Woods: — What I've handed out is just a summary form which will be used to put the numbers into, but it was based upon what we have used for the Tobacco Committee. I think what is useful with it is that it identifies the costs that the committee will be incurring as it goes through its process.

Generally, just to run through them, the first heading would be the public hearing cost. That would involve the transportation of getting the members and any equipment we'd need to the location of the hearing.

There will be rental costs associated with finding a suitable hall or a room in which to hold the hearings. There normally is advertisement that is sent out ahead of time of any public hearing, and we do have examples from the Tobacco Committee and that procedure that we followed there, which might be able to speed up the process somewhat. And then any

other items related to the hearings. Under this heading the video conferencing costs would be included.

With regard to transportation, normally legislative committees would be travelling by bus or van. The Tobacco Committee did find that the use of a charter aircraft worked well in that they were able to leave Regina, go to a location, then on to a second location, and back to Regina within one day. If the committee wants to hold a hearing, let's say in Prince Albert or further north, actually chartering a small aircraft might be as economical as going by road. So that's something that can certainly be looked into.

The committee publication costs would be the cost associated with producing the *Hansard* of each meeting — both the public hearings and the meetings here in the legislature — as well as the cost associated with preparing a final report. Generally those costs are based upon an estimate of how large we think the report will be at the end. And right now I don't have any idea of what the committee is thinking in that lines but if I could get some feedback on that we can arrive at an estimate cost for that.

Those costs, of course, would include any cost associated with the labour of the typing by the *Hansard* personnel. The committee staff expenses, those would primarily be the cost of our researcher and also any living expenses that the staff of the committee would incur when they are travelling with the committee. Generally there will be both the Clerk and the researcher attending all the meetings as well as two *Hansard* individuals and then someone else that is used to set up the recording equipment.

At the moment with the Tobacco Committee we have one of the broadcast people that is travelling but if we have to rent private equipment we might just get someone from that organization who is most familiar with the equipment to travel with the committee.

Many of the costs, such as my salary and the other Legislative Assembly employees' salary, that sort of the stuff is just borne by the Assembly; it won't show up in the committee budget.

The biggest heading is actually the members' expenses. The members will be getting their per diems, plus any travel expenses that are incurred as they're attending the meetings. Once again that cost can be estimated to a fairly high degree of accuracy once we know the number of meetings that are being planned and where they're located. It's only once we know the number of meetings and where they're going to be that we can actually start contacting hotels and other facilities as to rental costs and accommodation and so on.

One other thing I think I should mention is that if any of the hearings are held outside of room 10 there will be the cost associated with renting recording equipment. The Assembly does have one set of travelling *Hansard* equipment which presently is being used by the Tobacco Committee. They will likely be using it until the House resumes. So if we do have meetings after the spring session then that equipment can be used at no extra cost but prior to that time we will have to be renting equipment and that is a fairly substantial fee with that.

Just a final note on that, if I can get a feel as soon as possible when we would be needing it. There is usually a two-week lead-in to get the equipment. So for the March 6 date, we're really cutting it close, but we have contacted different organizations so they are aware that we might be needing it.

So that's just an overview of the budget then for you.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Margaret, thank you. Do members have any . . . we're obviously going to be dealing with this in a lot more detail in a subsequent meeting, but do members have comments now that they want to share with us before we move back to Carolyn's motion?

I have just one very quick suggestion and that is — and I just wanted to flag it now so you can consider it — I've wondered whether we might want to consider paying an honorarium to youth. I'm not talking about regular citizens, but youth who've been involved in the sex trade and who might come before the committee as a . . . Most of whom will, I think, have very substantial financial needs.

It'll be a very, very sort of stressful experience for them to come before the committee and it's kind of just a little way of saying thank you. And I'm not thinking of a large amount, but a few dollars or something like that. Just think about that.

We may . . . (inaudible interjection) . . . For testimony, yes. Okay. We'll investigate that; I just wanted to flag it because I know it's a rather unusual sort of proposal but it's something that we may want to consider in this particular circumstance.

Mr. Pritchard: — And that's including honorariums for elders too? Did I mention that this morning?

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — And thank you, Randy. The other thought that Randy had was that we may want to consider a small honorarium for elders. That is standard practice. If you have elders working with you in the committee, they will expect to receive some sort of financial payment, I think.

I'm not suggesting any other kind of honorariums for any other groups of people, but I thought those two we may want to give some thought to. We'll obviously want to discuss that in more detail next time, so just think about it right now.

Let's move back to Carolyn's motion, and there's one other issue that's come up during the course of our discussion and that is whether we should hold hearings in another location prior to the legislature sitting. And I thought, if we're going to do that, we should make a decision on that today, and then I'm going to suggest we adjourn.

But Carolyn, are you ready with your motion?

Ms. Jones: — I believe I am. I would move:

That groups and individuals be encouraged to submit written presentations in conjunction with or in spite of lack of ability to make oral presentations; and further, that briefs that do not have an oral presenter be reviewed by Randy Pritchard and a synopsis presented to the

committee.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Thank you, Carolyn. Any discussion on that motion? Is that motion agreed to?

Members: — Agreed.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — That's unanimously agreed to.

There was one other item and that was that a couple of people have suggested during the course of our discussions that we may want to look at a hearing in Saskatoon or Prince Albert, or some other location prior to the legislature sitting, and I just thought if we are going to look seriously at that, we need to discuss it now.

Arlene, did you have thoughts on this that you wanted to share at all?

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Yes, I'm just going to ask you to repeat that. I'm sorry, I was . . .

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — Okay, no, that's fine . . . (inaudible interjection) . . . Yes Don, please do.

Mr. Toth: — I'll make a quick motion, then we can discuss it, and you can vote for or against. I would move that, and I'll break this down quickly:

That the committee schedule at least a day or a day and a half of hearings in Saskatoon and at least one day in PA, prior to sitting.

I'm suggesting the week of the 13th to the 17th, but leaving it open to the discretion of Randy, and the Co-Chairs. Well, that's where we'll leave it. I'll leave the date out; I'll just suggest a day or a day and a half in Saskatoon, one in PA, dates to be finalized for the Chairs.

Ms. Draude: — I'd like to speak to it. I agree with him because I think it's very important that, for public awareness of what the committee is doing, if we just hold one conference here or one meeting here in Regina, it may not get the public impact that we need it to.

So knowing that we are going to have to go back to both Saskatoon and Prince Albert, and bearing in mind that I know it'll be an additional cost, I still think it will be worth it, because it'll make people aware that we're coming and what we're about.

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — Is everyone agreed on that?

Ms. Jones: — Is there something we don't know about budget day?

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — That's the only . . . I think when that motion is being drafted and I think that will require a motion, we might want to make that contingent on, you know, the legislature not already sitting. I think that's understood.

Mr. Toth: — That the motion reads prior to session.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — I am wondering what the week of the 20th is like for members if the 13th is not good. What's the week of the 20th like? We're getting into . . .

Ms. Draude: — The tobacco meetings are right up till the 24th, the Tobacco Committee is meeting.

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — So we could look at that week of the 20th as, you know, as a possibility. What are member's schedules like during that week?

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — I would have to look at my agenda.

Mr. Toth: — I can tell you right now the 20th would be a difficult time for me. I have a meeting, a banquet in my constituency on the night of the 20th, but other than that . . .

The Co-Chair (Mr. Prebble): — So if we looked at that week of the 20th, perhaps starting on the 21st, the 22nd, the 23rd, the 24th, that is, I take it, a possibility for all of us.

So the Co-Chairs will examine the possibility of those dates. I think it's understood that we won't try to do it in the previous week, but if we can work it into this week we will.

Is that fine with you, Don? Would that recognize the intent of your motion?

The Co-Chair (Ms. Julé): — I would suggest that we adjourn the meeting because it is now 25 minutes after 12 and I know that there are members here that have other business they have to attend to very quickly. So I would move that we adjourn the committee for today.

The committee adjourned at 12:25 p.m.