

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

February 21, 2000

**MINUTE NO. 4
10:45 a.m. - Room 10**

1. **PRESENT:** Ms. Julé and Mr. Prebble in the Chair and Members Draude, Harper, Jones, Toth and Yates.

Staff to the Committee

Randal Pritchard, Technical Advisor

2. The Co-chairs summarized their discussions with the Deputy Minister of Social Services on the possibility of seconding an official from the Department of Social Services to serve as the Committee's staff person. It was moved by Mr. Toth:

That the Committee approves the secondment of Randal Pritchard, Senior Program Consultant, Department of Social Services, as the technical advisor to this Committee.

The question being put, the motion was adopted.

3. The Co-chair, Mr. Prebble, advised the Committee that the Deputy Minister of Social Services was also agreeable to making Brian Williams, Senior Policy Analyst, Corporate Policy Unit, Department of Social Services, available to the assist the Committee during the public hearing phase and when the Committee is drafting its report.
4. The Committee discussed the arrangements for its March 6, 2000 meeting. It was agreed that this day would be devoted to hearing from out-of-province witnesses from Alberta and Manitoba via videoconferencing. The technical advisor suggested names of possible witnesses and summarized their respective backgrounds and areas of experience. A discussion ensued. The Committee was then advised by the technical advisor of the videoconferencing options available and of the costs associated with each of them.

It was moved by Ms. Jones:

That on March 6, 2000, a meeting of the Committee will be held from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. to hear from a mixture of out-of-province community and government presenters. The meeting will be held at the SaskTel videoconferencing facility, using the six long distance lines and the smaller room options.

The question being put, the motion was adopted.

5. The Committee discussed the arrangements for its March 7, 2000 meeting. A list of stakeholders was distributed and a discussion ensued over who the Committee might wish to hear from. Committee Members were asked to forward the names of possible witnesses to the technical advisor.
6. The Committee recessed from 11:25 a.m. until 11:40 a.m.

7. The Committee resumed its discussion on identifying stakeholders. It was agreed that the Co-chairs, in consultation with the technical advisor, would decide which groups would be invited to appear during the first phase of the Committee's deliberations to ensure that a broad mixture of interests were represented.
8. The Committee discussed the format and length of the presentations from witnesses. It was then moved by Mr. Yates:

That the witnesses would be scheduled at one hour intervals; that each one hour period would consist of a presentation of not more than 30 minutes, a question and answer period of not more than fifteen minutes, followed by a fifteen minutes recess; and further, that the duration of time for hearing presentations each day shall not exceed six hours.

The question being put, the motion was adopted.

It was further agreed that the technical advisor would have the flexibility to accommodate witnesses by scheduling their presentations during the daytime or evening as needed.

9. The Committee agreed to allow the Co-chairs the discretion to schedule the recognition of the "Stop the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth Awareness Week" declaration on either March 6th or 7th in order to accommodate the schedules of the Ministers and other Members of the Legislative Assembly who might be invited to attend.
10. The Committee considered its communications strategy and discussed ways in which to raise public awareness of its hearings through the use of press conferences, press releases and advertisements. It was moved by Mr. Yates:

That the Committee's communication strategy shall consist of: a press release to be sent to the local media at least one week prior to the Committee holding a hearing in that location; that advertisements announcing the hearings shall be placed in local print and radio outlets; and further that the Committee shall hold a press conference prior to the hearing in each community and that Committee Members should make themselves available to the media at the conclusion of the hearing.

The question being put, the motion was adopted.

11. The Committee discussed whether it would invite written submissions. It was moved by Ms. Jones:

That groups and individuals shall be encouraged to submit written presentations regardless whether an oral presentation is also made; and further that the technical advisor shall review, prepare and present a synopsis to the Committee on all written briefs that are received but which were not orally presented by their authors at a public hearing.

The question being put, the motion was adopted.

12. The Committee clerk provided an overview of a draft budget for the Committee's public hearing process. A discussion ensued regarding the payment of honorariums and/or expenses to aboriginal elders and youth witnesses.

13. The Committee considered whether additional meetings should be scheduled. It was moved by Mr. Toth:

That the Committee shall endeavor to schedule one and a half days of hearings in Saskatoon and one day of hearings in Prince Albert prior to the Assembly resuming its Spring session.

The question being put and a discussion arising, the motion was adopted.

14. It was moved by Ms. Julé:

That this Committee do now adjourn.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

15. The Committee adjourned at 12:25 p.m. until 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 6, 2000.

Arlene Julé
Committee Co-chair

Peter Prebble
Committee Co-chair

Margaret A. Woods
Committee Clerk