

STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

December 7, 1999

MINUTE NO. 1

4:00 p.m. – Legislative Chamber

1. **PRESENT:** Mr. Lingenfelter in the Chair and Members Boyd, Bjornerud, Harpauer, Harper, Melenchuk, Serby, Wartman and Weekes

2. The Clerk to the Committee presided over the election of a Chair. Mr. Boyd nominated Mr. Lingenfelter for the position. There being no further nominations, it was moved by Mr. Wartman:

That nominations for the position of Chair close.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to. It was then moved by Mr. Boyd:

That Dwain Lingenfelter, Honourable Minister of Agriculture, be elected to preside as Chair of the Standing Committee on Agriculture.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to and Mr. Lingenfelter took the Chair.

3. The Chair of the Committee presided over the election of a Vice-Chair. Mr. Harper nominated Mr. Boyd for the position. There being no further nominations, it was moved by Mr. Wartman:

That nominations for the position of Vice-Chair close.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to. It was then moved by Mr. Harper:

That Bill Boyd be elected to preside as Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on Agriculture

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

4. The Committee considered its Order of Reference from the Legislative Assembly, dated December 7th, 1999, which in part directed the Committee to receive representations from interested parties and individuals with respect to the farm income crisis. The Chair then distributed a list of organizations and persons which had made a request to make presentations to the Committee. The following document was tabled by the Chair:

AGC 01/24 – Special Presenters to the Standing Committee on Agriculture, December 7, 1999.

Standing Committee on Agriculture, December 7, 1999 – continued

It was moved by Mr. Boyd:

That the list of Special Presenters, as tabled, have opportunity to present when their name comes forward as listed.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to. It was then moved by Mr. Boyd:

That the Committee ask presenters to limit their time to a presentation, including questions from Committee members, of 20 minutes.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

5. The Committee took note of the authority it had been granted to broadcast its hearings on the Saskatchewan Legislative Network. It was agreed that the broadcast would be governed by the rules outlined in the *Rules and Procedures of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan*, with the exception that the broadcast would include the witnesses making their presentations and responding to questions posed by Members.
6. In consideration of which Members of the Assembly might be allowed to participate in the Committee hearings, it was agreed that participation would be restricted to Members of the Standing Committee on Agriculture. It was agreed that questions from other Members present should be directed through a Committee member.
7. Mr. Leroy Larson, representing the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, addressed the Committee and responded to questions. Mr. Larson tabled the following document:

AGC 02/24 – Opening Remarks of President Leroy Larson, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and written submission entitled "Action Plan on Farm Income, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, December 1999."

8. Mr. Sinclair Harrison, President, and Arita Paul, Manager Agriculture Services, representing the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities appeared before the Committee. Mr. Harrison addressed the Committee and responded to questions. Mr. Harrison tabled the following document:

AGC 03/24 – Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities Presentation to the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly, December 7, 1999.

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9. Mr. Bruce Owen and Mr. Richard Wright, representing SPI Marketing Group, addressed the Committee and responded to questions. Mr. Wright tabled the following document:

AGC 04/24 – Presentation to the Standing Committee on Agriculture, SPI Marketing Group, December 7, 1999.

10. Mr. Harry Bastness, representing the Saskatchewan Farm Support Review Committee, addressed the Committee and responded to questions. Mr. Bastness tabled the following document:

AGC 05/24 – Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly Presentation, December 7, 1999, by Harry Bastness, Saskatchewan Farm Support Review Committee.

11. Mr. Doug Thompson and Mr. Greg Douglas, representing the Western Canadian Wheat Grower Association, addressed the Committee. Mr. Thompson tabled the following document:

AGC 06/24 – A Ten-Point Plan for Farm Prosperity: Notes for an address to the Saskatchewan Legislature, Doug Thompson, Vice-President Western Canadian Wheat Growers Association, December 7, 1999.

12. Ms. Raquel Moleski and Ms. Noreen Johns, representing the Saskatchewan Women's Agricultural Network (SWAN), addressed the Committee and responded to questions. The witnesses tabled the following document:

AGC 07/24 – Submission to the Special Legislative Assembly on Saskatchewan Farm Income, presented by Noreen Johns and Raquel Moleski, Saskatchewan Women's Agricultural Network, December 7, 1999.

13. Mr. Stewart Wells and Mr. Terry Boehm, representing the National Farmers Union, addressed the Committee and responded to questions. The witnesses tabled the following document:

AGC 08/24 – The Future of Saskatchewan's Family Farms: The National Farmers Union Submission to the Legislature of Saskatchewan, Regina, December 7, 1999

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14. Mr. Roy Piper and Mr. Terry Youzwa, representing the United Grain Growers, addressed the Committee and responded to questions. The witnesses tabled the following document:

AGC 09/24 – United Grain Growers Presentation to the Saskatchewan Standing Committee on Agriculture, December 7, 1999.

15. Mr. Ray Bashutsky and Mr. Bob Thomas, representing the Saskatchewan Rally Group Inc., addressed the Committee and responded to questions. The witnesses tabled the following document:

AGC 10/24 – Saskatchewan Rally Group Inc: Seven Point Agenda.

16. Mr. Leon Lueke and Mr. Rene Labrecque, representing the Sask Pork, addressed the Committee and responded to questions. The witnesses tabled the following document:

AGC 11/24 – Sask Pork Address to Provincial Government December 7, 1999.

17. Mr. Ray Hilderman (1st Vice-President) and Mr. Wayne Bacon (President), representing the Saskatchewan Canola Growers Association, addressed the Committee and responded to questions. The witnesses tabled the following document:

AGC 12/24 – Presentation to Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly, presented on December 7, 1999, by Saskatchewan Canola Growers Association.

18. Mr. Robert Willick and Mr. Wayne Mastrachuk, representing the ProWest Rally Group, addressed the Committee and responded to questions. The witnesses tabled the following document:

AGC 13/24 – Speaking Notes, ProWest Rally Group presentation, December 7, 1999."

19. Mr. Mike Badham (President), representing the Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities (SUMA), addressed the Committee and responded to questions. Mr. Badham tabled the following document:

AGC 14/24 – Coming to Town: Impacts of the Farm Income Crisis. SUMA Presentation to the Emergency Debate on Agriculture, Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, December 7, 1999.

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20. Mr. Larry Hiles, representing the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce, addressed the Committee and responded to questions. Mr. Hiles tabled the following document:

AGC 15/24 – Speaking Notes: "Farm Income", December 7, 1999, by Larry Hiles, Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

21. Mr. Allan Kerpan, Member of Parliament for Blackstrap, Official Opposition Agriculture Committee, addressed the Committee and responded to questions.
22. Mr. Garry Shaddock, representing the Saskatchewan School Trustees Association, addressed the Committee and responded to questions. Mr. Shaddock tabled the following document:

AGC 16/24 – Saskatchewan School Trustees Association: The Future sits in Today's Classrooms.

23. Mr. Tom Cameron and Mr. Jack Ryckman, representing the South East Concerned Agricultural Producers (SECAP), addressed the Committee and responded to questions.
24. The Committee considered a draft First Report, which was distributed as follows:

AGC 17/24 – Standing Committee on Agriculture: First Report to the Legislative Assembly.

It was moved by Mr. Boyd:

That the Draft Report of the Standing Committee on Agriculture be adopted.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

25. It was moved by Mr. Lingenfelter:

That this Committee do now adjourn.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

26. The Committee adjourned at 9:50 p.m. to the call of the Chair.

Committee Clerk

Committee Chair