

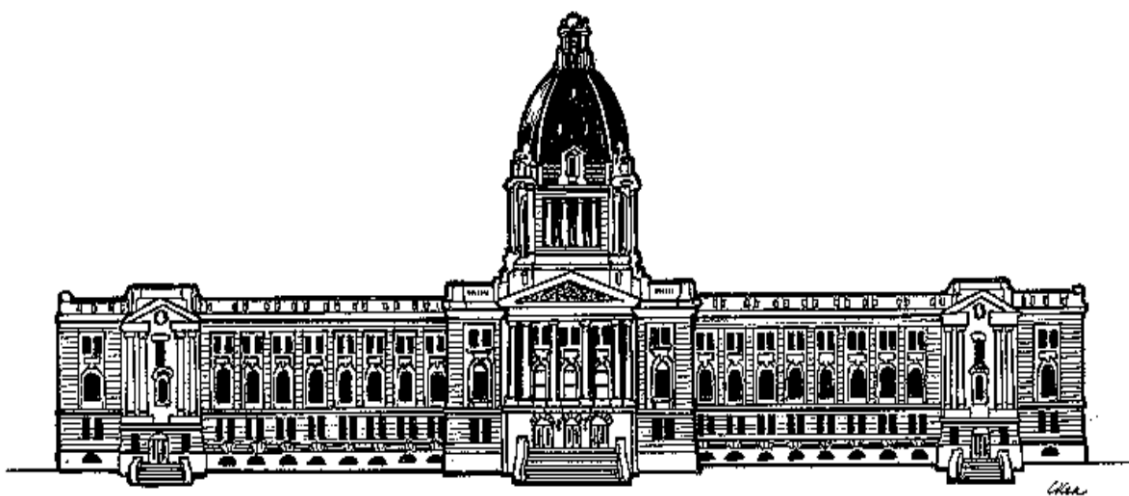


Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY

MINUTES AND VERBATIM REPORT

**Published under the authority of
The Honourable P. Myron Kowalsky
Speaker**



**No. 2 — April 18, 2005 (Minutes and Verbatim)
No. 3 — April 20, 2005 (Minutes and Verbatim)
No. 4 — May 17, 2005 (Minutes)**

**BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY
2005**

Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky, Chair
Prince Albert Carlton

Mr. Glenn Hagel
Moose Jaw North

Ms. Donna Harpauer
Humboldt

Hon. Deb Higgins
Moose Jaw Wakamow

Mr. Don McMorris
Indian Head-Milestone

Hon. Andrew Thomson
Regina South

Mr. Kevin Yates
Regina Dewdney

BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY

Monday, April 18, 2005

Present: Members of the Board of Internal Economy

Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky, Chair
 Ms. Donna Harpauer
 Hon. Deb Higgins
 Mr. Don McMorris
 Mr. Kevin Yates

Staff to the Board

Marilyn Borowski, Director, Financial Services
 Gwenn Ronyk, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
 Margaret Tulloch, Secretary to the Board

ITEM 1 Decision Item: Amendments to Directive #21 – Annual Indemnity and Allowances

Moved by Mr. Yates, seconded by Ms. Higgins:

Effective April 1, 2005, that Directive #21 – Annual Indemnity and Allowances be amended as follows:

- 1. In clause (1), delete the amount “\$66,431” and replace with the amount “\$64,175”;**
- 2. In clause (6), delete the amount “\$5,436” and replace with the amount “\$5,372”;**
- 3. Delete clause (7)(a) and replace with new clause 7(a) as follows:**

(7) Every Member with additional duties in the Legislative Assembly shall be paid:

- (a) an annual allowance for extra duties as follows:

<u>Positions</u>	<u>2005-06 Amount</u>	<u>2006-07 Amount</u>
Speaker	\$34,779	\$35,127
Deputy Speaker	\$11,859	\$11,978
Premier	\$57,967	\$58,547
Deputy Premier	\$46,375	\$46,839
Minister	\$40,578	\$40,984
Leader of the Opposition	\$40,578	\$40,984
Leader of the Third Party	\$20,289	\$20,492
Deputy Chair of Committees	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Legislative Secretary	\$11,859	\$11,978
Deputy Leader of the Opposition	\$11,859	\$11,978

- 4. Delete clause (7)(b) and replace with new clause 7(b) as follows:**

- (b) a sessional allowance for extra duties, at the rate in effect at the time the Assembly prorogues, as follows:

<u>Positions</u>	<u>2005-06 Amount</u>	<u>2006-07 Amount</u>
Government House Leader	\$11,859	\$11,978
Deputy Government House Leader	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Opposition House Leader	\$11,859	\$11,978
Deputy Opposition House Leader	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Third Party House Leader	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Government Whip	\$11,859	\$11,978
Opposition Whip	\$11,859	\$11,978
Third Party Whip	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Government Deputy Whip	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Opposition Deputy Whip	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Chair, Standing or Special Committee	\$11,859	\$11,978
Deputy Chair, Standing or Special Committee	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989

A Member may assume any number of the extra duties enumerated above; however, no Member shall claim more than one annual or sessional allowance for extra duties pursuant to this clause.

5. In clause (8), delete the year “1997” and replace with the year “2007”.

And, effective April 1, 2006, that Directive #21 – Annual Indemnity and Allowances be amended as follows:

1. In clause (1), delete the amount “\$64,175” and replace with the amount “\$64,817”;

2. In clause (6), delete the amount “\$5,372” and replace with the amount “\$5,426”.

A debate arising, it was moved by Ms. Harpauer:

That debate be adjourned.

The question being put and there being an equality of votes, the Chair cast his vote against the motion and stated his reason to be:

That the Chair was voting to allow further debate on the motion.

The debate continuing, the board agreed to recess the debate, proceed to consider the next items and resume consideration of Item 1.

ITEM 2

Decision Item: Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program

Moved by Ms. Harpauer, seconded by Mr. McMorris:

That the Board of Internal Economy approve the following request for 2005-06 funding for the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program:

1. Core program funding of \$36,055 be provided to the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program for the 2005-06 fiscal year, recognizing that this is partial funding for the 2006 program and will require additional funding in 2006-07 (i.e. estimated full-year core program costing of the 2006 program being \$77,500 over the two fiscal years); and

2. A one-time contribution of \$4,000 to the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program’s Intern Development Fund for allocation to the 2005 program; and

3. Additional funding in the amount of \$2,000 for each caucus to offset the costs of computer support and internet expenses:

For a total for the fiscal year 2005-06 of \$44,055.

A debate arising, it was moved by Mr. Yates:

That debate be adjourned.

The question being put and there being an equality of votes, the Chair cast his vote against the motion and stated his reason to be:

That the Chair was voting to allow further debate on the motion.

The debate continuing, the Chair interrupted proceedings at the previously agreed adjournment time.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m. to the call of the Chair.

BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Present: Members of the Board of Internal Economy

Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky, Chair
 Ms. Donna Harpauer
 Hon. Deb Higgins
 Mr. Don McMorris
 Hon. Andrew Thomson
 Mr. Kevin Yates

Staff to the Board

Marilyn Borowski, Director, Financial Services
 Gwenn Ronyk, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
 Margaret Tulloch, Secretary to the Board

MINUTES Moved by Ms. Higgins, ordered, seconded by Mr. Yates, that the Minutes of Meeting #1/05, and #2/05 be adopted. Agreed.

ITEM 2 Decision Item: Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program

Debate resumed on the motion previously moved by Ms. Harpauer, and seconded by Mr. McMorris:

That the Board of Internal Economy approve the following request for 2005-06 funding for the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program:

1. Core program funding of \$36,055 be provided to the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program for the 2005-06 fiscal year, recognizing that this is partial funding for the 2006 program and will require additional funding in 2006-07 (i.e. estimated full-year core program costing of the 2006 program being \$77,500 over the two fiscal years); and
2. A one-time contribution of \$4,000 to the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program's Intern Development Fund for allocation to the 2005 program; and
3. Additional funding in the amount of \$2,000 for each caucus to offset the costs of computer support and internet expenses:

For a total for the fiscal year 2005-06 of \$44,055.

The debate continuing and the question being put, it was agreed.

Minute #1621

ITEM 1 Decision Item: Amendments to Directive #21 – Annual Indemnity and Allowances

Debate resumed on the motion previously moved by Mr. Yates, and seconded by Ms. Higgins:

Moved by Mr. Yates, seconded by Ms. Higgins:

Effective April 1, 2005, that Directive #21 – Annual Indemnity and Allowances be amended as follows:

1. In clause (1), delete the amount “\$66,431” and replace with the amount “\$64,175”;
2. In clause (6), delete the amount “\$5,436” and replace with the amount “\$5,372”;
3. Delete clause (7)(a) and replace with new clause 7(a) as follows:

(7) Every Member with additional duties in the Legislative Assembly shall be paid:

(a) an annual allowance for extra duties as follows:

<u>Positions</u>	<u>2005-06 Amount</u>	<u>2006-07 Amount</u>
Speaker	\$34,779	\$35,127
Deputy Speaker	\$11,859	\$11,978
Premier	\$57,967	\$58,547
Deputy Premier	\$46,375	\$46,839
Minister	\$40,578	\$40,984
Leader of the Opposition	\$40,578	\$40,984
Leader of the Third Party	\$20,289	\$20,492
Deputy Chair of Committees	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Legislative Secretary	\$11,859	\$11,978
Deputy Leader of the Opposition	\$11,859	\$11,978

4. Delete clause (7)(b) and replace with new clause 7(b) as follows:

(b) a sessional allowance for extra duties, at the rate in effect at the time the Assembly prorogues, as follows:

<u>Positions</u>	<u>2005-06 Amount</u>	<u>2006-07 Amount</u>
Government House Leader	\$11,859	\$11,978
Deputy Government House Leader	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Opposition House Leader	\$11,859	\$11,978
Deputy Opposition House Leader	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Third Party House Leader	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Government Whip	\$11,859	\$11,978
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Opposition Deputy Whip	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Chair, Standing or Special Committee	\$11,859	\$11,978
Deputy Chair, Standing or Special Committee	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989

A Member may assume any number of the extra duties enumerated above; however, no Member shall claim more than one annual or sessional allowance for extra duties pursuant to this clause.

5. In clause (8), delete the year “1997” and replace with the year “2007”.

And, effective April 1, 2006, that Directive #21 – Annual Indemnity and Allowances be amended as follows:

- 1. In clause (1), delete the amount “\$64,175” and replace with the amount “\$64,817”;**
- 2. In clause (6), delete the amount “5,372” and replace with the amount “\$5,426”.**

The debate continuing and the question being put, it was agreed.

Minute #1622

ITEM 3

Information Item: Report on Second Committee Room

The Clerk reported on the proposals for the second committee room in the Legislative Building.

ITEM 1 (con't) Decision Item: Amendments to Directive #21 – Annual Indemnity and Allowances

Moved by Mr. Yates, seconded by Ms. Higgins:

That effective upon the coming into force of the applicable amendments to *The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, Directive #21 – *Annual Indemnity and Allowances* be amended as follows:

(1) Delete clause (7)(b), and add the following to clause (7)(a):

Government House Leader	\$11,859	\$11,978
Deputy Government House Leader	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Opposition House Leader	\$11,859	\$11,978
Deputy Opposition House Leader	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Third Party House Leader	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Government Whip	\$11,859	\$11,978
Opposition Whip	\$11,859	\$11,978
Third Party Whip	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Government Deputy Whip	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Opposition Deputy Whip	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989
Chair, Standing or Special Committee	\$11,859	\$11,978
Deputy Chair, Standing or Special Committee	\$ 5,930	\$ 5,989

(2) Add the following new clause (7)(b):

Annual allowances for extra duties shall be payable in 12 equal installments, in arrears, on the first day of each month for the previous month.

(3) Add the following new clause (7)(c):

A Member may assume any number of the extra duties enumerated above; however, no Member shall claim more than one annual allowance for extra duties pursuant to this clause.

(4) Delete clause (7.2).

A debate arising and the question being put, it was agreed.

Minute #1623

ITEM 4 Information Item: Update on the Recruitment Process for the Children's Advocate

The Clerk provided an update on the recruitment process for the position of Children's Advocate.

Moved by Mr. Yates that the meeting adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m. to the call of the Chair.

BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY

Wednesday, May 17, 2005

Present: Members of the Board of Internal Economy

Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky, Chair
Mr. Glenn Hagel
Ms. Donna Harpauer
Hon. Deb Higgins
Mr. Don McMorris
Hon. Andrew Thomson
Mr. Kevin Yates

Staff to the Board

Gwenn Ronyk, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Margaret Tulloch, Secretary to the Board
Linda Kaminski, Director of Human Resources & Administrative Services

The committee agreed to meet in camera.

ITEM 1 Decision Item: Recommendation for the Appointment of the Children's Advocate

Moved by Mr. Yates, seconded by Ms. Harpauer:

That the report of the Children's Advocate Selection Panel recommending the appointment of Marvin Bernstein be approved; and

That the Chair of the Board of Internal Economy be authorized to forward a recommendation to the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition (and House Leaders) that a resolution of the Assembly recommending the appointment of Mr. Bernstein be passed during this spring session, with the effective date of the appointment to be September 6, 2005.

A debate arising and the question being put, it was agreed to unanimously.

Minute #1624

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

[The board met at 09:10.]

The Chair: — Good morning, everybody. I think I'll call the meeting to order. We only have till 9:30 for this room and I'd like to be able to deal with these issues. I expect that a couple of members who are not yet here will arrive. I also received communication from Mr. Hagel who has a dental appointment and has indicated he wishes to call in. So should he call in, we will be putting him on a speakerphone. Margaret's figured out how to work this thing and we'll involve him in the meeting in that way.

There are three main items on the agenda, two decision items and one information item. Time permitting, I'll have another information item at the end as well.

The first item dealing with MLA [Member of the Legislative Assembly] indemnities and allowances. Okay. I just want to make a remark, and then I'll recognize Mr. Yates.

The current situation is that the directives authorize pay based on a 2.3 per cent raise. It's my belief that members desire to amend this. I have provided two options to facilitate discussions.

Option 1 is to make provisions for the 2005-2006 year by adding 1 per cent to the amount paid in the year 2004 and 2005 and also for the following year, for the 2006-2007 year to add another 1 per cent to the amount paid for the 2005-2006 year. And also to provide for indexing to start on April, the year 2007.

Option 2 is for the year 2005 and '06 to add 1 per cent to the amount paid in the years 2004-2005 and then the indexing would start on April 1, 2006. The Chair recognizes Mr. Yates.

Mr. Yates: — Thank you, Mr. Chair. I would advocate and move that we do option 1. And such I would move a motion:

Effective April 1, 2005 that directive no. 21, annual indemnity and allowance be amended as follows:

In clause (1) delete the amount 66,431 and replace with the amount 64,175;

In clause (6) delete the amount 5,436 and replace with the amount 5,372;

Delete clause 7(a) and replace with a new clause 7(a) as follows:

Every member with additional duties in the Legislative Assembly shall be paid an annual allowance for extra duties as follows: Speaker in 2005-06, 34,779; 2006-07, 35,127. Deputy Speaker, 2005-06, 11,859; 2006-07, 11,978. Premier, 2005-06, 57,967; 2006-07, 58,547. Deputy Premier, 2005-06, 46,375; 2006-07, 46,839. Minister, 2005-06, 40,578; 2006-07 . . .

The Chair: — Order. Mr. Hagel, I wonder . . . pardon, Mr. Yates, I wonder if we could just take it as read. I think we've all followed where you're coming from just in the purpose of

saving time.

Mr. Yates: — All right.

The Chair: — So we have the motion option 1 which has been partly read and the rest which is in your folders. Discussion on the motion of Mr. Yates? Okay, Mr. McMorris.

Mr. McMorris: — Thank you, Mr. Chair. I would recommend that we wouldn't go with option no. 1. And I would recommend that we go with option no. 2, changing the 2004-2005 pay up 1 per cent for 2005-2006, not mentioning anything about 2006 and 2007 — because there are many, many reasons for that I think. Number one, the whole argument and the whole basis of the argument to go over the next two years is that the government has mandated a 0, 1, and 1 contract for, you know, all the negotiations going forward. I think we're all aware, both in this building and outside the building, that 0, 1, and 1 hasn't been the issue. There has been increases where it may not be on the 0, 1, and 1 but on the many other benefits.

So we would suggest that going only for one year because I know there are a number of contracts coming forward. One, the teachers' contract which has just been negotiated — not ratified yet but negotiated — and it's our understanding that 0, 1, and 1 wasn't followed in that one. And I would certainly ask the government members to comment on that just, you know, to give us a heads-up as to where that negotiation is, because we don't believe it's anywhere near 0, 1, and 1. So to tie ourselves for two more years at 1 per cent, I just don't think makes a whole lot of sense when we know that the government in its own negotiations hasn't been following that.

I think the other issue that needs to be brought up is we've got ourselves away from the McDowell Commission. That doesn't mean we should continue to ignore it but I think we need to have something put in place so that MLAs are not setting their own wages at this table. Maybe it's 1 per cent this year and maybe it's 1 per cent next year but maybe it should be 10 per cent the year after. That's not, shouldn't be our say and until we get off of this, we're going to continue to have trouble.

So we would agree with 1 per cent for the next year and then a commission to get back on some sort of structure that sets MLA wages, that isn't done by ourselves as MLAs. That's why we will agree with, you know, the 1 per cent for one year. But there's absolutely no need to go 1 per cent and then 1 per cent, when I don't believe the government's following its own mandate. And I think that'll come true with the teachers' contracts. And as I said, I would be very glad to hear what you have to say about that negotiation because I don't believe it's 1 and 1.

The Chair: — Thank you. Just before I proceed, we have a mover by Mr. Yates. Do I have a seconder to that motion? Ms. Higgins. And then, I'll take — Mr. Yates has the mike and followed by Ms. Harpauer.

Mr. Yates: — Well thank you very much, Mr. Chair. The mandate as we have it today is 0, 1, and 1 and the zero year has passed. If at some point in the future the mandate is amended in a formal way, then nothing precludes us from coming back to

the board and adjusting our own salaries to the mandate. But in the absence of a change to that mandate, we are in a position today to only increase our salaries by the level of the mandate. And the motion before us does that. The motion before us also returns us to McDowell at the end of this mandate, putting us . . . the clause that deals with cost of living allowances kicking in in 2007. So it would return us to McDowell at the conclusion of this mandate period.

And if in fact the mandate changes between now and then, this committee will revisit this issue, and will appropriately adjust our salaries at that time. So this puts in place the mandate as it's understood by both the public and the members of the legislature today. If in fact that mandate changes, this committee will revisit this issue and will change that mandate, will change correspondingly our own salaries as well. This reflects the mandate as we understand it today.

The Chair: — The Chair recognizes Ms. Harpauer.

Ms. Harpauer: — Thank you, Mr. Chair. It's interesting that the government member keeps saying that this is the mandate. Just because they have spoken, it doesn't bring it into existence because we question whether or not it is indeed what is happening. Although they say it is, the facts are flying in the face of that.

It's a slippery slope when the MLAs start setting their own wages. We started down that slope; both sides agreed to it last year. However to just continue down that road year after year is very questionable whether that's a good practice.

The NDP [New Democratic Party] caucus members have obviously determined that they want to intervene with the independent McDowell Commission for three consecutive years. And they say they want to be bound to the civil service mandate, even though the McDowell Independent Commission that we're going to supposedly return to, warned against this very thing. It warned against tying the MLA compensation to any other job category.

Now, as Mr. McMorris mentioned, we've heard that the teachers' settlement is more than 0, 1, and 1, and we're wondering if they can shed any light on whether or not that indeed has been the case.

The Chair: — The Chair recognizes Mr. Yates.

Mr. Yates: — Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. All I can say is that at this point I have not seen the teachers' settlement. And I'm not in a position to comment exactly what the teachers' settlement is. The government never comments on settlements while they're before the respected parties for ratification, which in this case deals with the members of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation as well as the members of Saskatchewan School Trustees Association, the SSTA. And both sides need to ratify this collective agreement yet. And at this point, I can say that I am not familiar with the detailed content of the settlement, and at this point not in a position to comment.

The Chair: — The Chair recognizes Mr. McMorris.

Mr. McMorris: — I can understand the point about, I mean, we don't know what the teachers' contract is at right now. But I find it interesting that you're saying okay, we're going to go 1 — we've already been through the zero — we're going to go 1 and 1, and then if there are changes in the government's mandate, we'll reverse what we've just decided. Why would we do that? Why wouldn't we agree just to 1 per cent, and if there are no changes at the next board meeting, the next February board meeting, we set our wage again at 1 percent. There's nothing saying that we can't do that.

It makes absolutely no sense to say we're going to tie ourselves to the government mandate at 1 per cent, 1 per cent, and then if it changes, roll it back. It only makes sense to me that we would go to the 1 percent for the one year, and if nothing changes we continue on with that at the next board meeting.

To set it four year or five years down doesn't make any sense. Why wouldn't we set it at one year and then return to the McDowell Commission if the government's mandate changes? If it doesn't change, then we go ahead and roll the next year into the 1 per cent. It doesn't make any sense to go two years down the road because there's a good chance . . . And as you said, as of today, well as of tomorrow it may have changed, and so it makes no sense to roll it over two years when one year would do.

The Chair: — The Chair recognizes Ms. Harpauer and then Ms. Higgins.

Ms. Harpauer: — Mr. Yates mentioned himself that if this changes we'll revisit this. And I think we've visited it a number of times now and are probably all getting quite sick of visiting this particular topic.

I really want to stress the principle of MLAs setting their own wages and the problems with that. The MPs [Member of Parliament] have tied their wages to the judges in the Court of Queen's Bench. The city's mayor and councillors have tied their wages to the cabinet ministers. And that is in essence to stop this from happening, where public pressure decides what MLAs are being paid and therefore the MLAs are making decisions and it causes a lot of dissension.

I would suggest that at this point that until we know what the teacher's contract is — so that we don't have to revisit this if it changes — that we table this motion for now until we know what that is.

The Chair: — That's a motion to table, motion to table by Ms. Harpauer. A motion to table is not debatable.

The motion in our practice would have to be a motion to adjourn rather than a motion to table. I will accept a motion to adjourn which is before us right now then, moved by Ms. Harpauer. Do we need a seconder? . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . Not an adjournment motion. This would mean to adjourn this particular debate. Is that, would that be your intent, because I . . .

Ms. Harpauer: — Yes.

The Chair: — The Chair recognizes Mr. McMorris.

Mr. McMorris: — Well I guess, unless the government members want to agree with the arguments that we put forward, that we will just go with the one year, option no. 2.

The Chair: — Well there is no debate on this particular adjournment motion, so we're not going to get into that.

Let's call for the vote. Those who favour the adjournment of the debate at this time? There being two of those opposed to the debate, being two of those cast, the Chair is obliged to cast a deciding vote. The Chair votes for a continued debate. Motion is defeated. Mr. Yates.

Mr. Yates: — Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. We have before us a motion that puts to rest this issue with the information we know today. And I would urge the members opposite to support this motion. As I said in my first comments, if in fact the situation changes we will revisit this issue. And that the position before us, if it changes and the mandate in fact changes, we will revisit this. And that's on the public record, it's our position, and that should satisfy any concern that you may have about what may or may not be in any collective agreement.

The Chair: — Members, I just wish to advise that I would . . . unless there are new arguments, there's no point in rehashing. I think members have placed their positions quite clearly on the table. What I'd like to do is leave it on the table for a moment, in the event some other members might arrive, and proceed to item 2 and come back before we cast the vote, with your agreement.

I will proceed to item 2 on the internship program. Thank you very much.

With respect to the internship program, item 2, I did not present a proposal on February 10 meeting, which was at budget time, due to the fact the advisory committee had not provided a recommendation to me at the time. Since then, the advisory committee on the internship program has held a meeting at which Mr. Dearborn gave his approval. Ms. Morin had reserved her decision pending further consultation with the director about amending the program.

Since that time, Ms. Morin has advised me and has provided me with a letter indicating that she is willing to support the program contingent on several changes to the program, the changes being that the interns also have scheduled time with a minister and with the Clerk's office. The details of this is to be worked out in the future.

Therefore at this time, I am prepared to make a recommendation. The recommendation is the motion that you have before you . . . oh, pardon me, the motion that I'll provide for each side. I've got one here. And the motion would be:

That the Board of Internal Economy approve the following request for the year 2005-2006 funding for the Saskatchewan legislative internship program:

One, core program funding of \$36,055 be provided to the Saskatchewan legislative internship program for the 2005-06 fiscal year, recognizing that this is partial

funding for the 2006 program and will require additional funding in 2006 and '07, the estimated full-year core program consisting of the 2006 program being 77,500 over the two fiscal years.

And a one-time contribution of \$4,000 to the legislative internship program's interim development fund for allocations to the 2005 program.

And an additional funding in the amount of \$2,000 for each caucus to offset the costs of computer support and Internet expenses.

Therefore the total being \$44,055 that is recommended.

Is there a mover for the motion? Ms. Harpauer. Thank you. Is there a seconder for the motion? Thank you very much, Mr. McMorris. Discussion on the motion.

Mr. Yates: — Thank you, Mr. Chair. A couple questions as to how we would fund this at this point, having submitted a budget that doesn't have this contained within. Could you explain to me where we would get funding . . . get the funding for this at this time?

The Chair: — There are several options, two of which are familiar to me, and I'll ask the Clerk to maybe assist on this. One option would be to actually go back and revisit the budget. Another option would be to wait until a later time and at that time make a decision based on whether there's funding left in the Legislative Assembly budget or whether the Legislative Assembly budget has been limited out. And if it was limited out, at that time we would come back with a request for a special warrant.

And my recommendation would be that we not go back to the budget at this time but leave it in the hands of the Legislative Assembly Office until a later time because it's very hard to predict exactly what will happen, and we may have to come back for an adjustment to the budget at a later date in any event, depending on the decisions of the board.

Is there any other comment to that?

Ms. Ronyk: — No. The only way to get the funding now is to go forward to the House with a supplementary estimate. It's not a large enough money to probably justify that. However, if we don't do that it does make our budget problem bigger next year because then we'll need an increase in the Assembly budget of the whole amount of the internship program — the whole 75,000 — rather than adding only half of it. But as long as the board keeps that in mind, you have the choice of recommending a supplementary estimate now or doing a special warrant later if it's required.

The Chair: — The Chair recognizes Mr. Yates.

Mr. Yates: — Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. It causes a dilemma without knowing whether or not we can actually afford this within the existing budget, to move forward with this at this time. We have now two motions before us — one which would save money and one which would spend money. And it is difficult to know what we can do without knowing first what

happens with the first motion as well as the . . . before dealing with the second motion. So, Mr. Speaker, at this time I would move to adjourn debate.

The Chair: — It has been moved by Mr. Yates that debate on this motion be now adjourned. Is it the pleasure of this group to adopt that motion? Motion is . . . [inaudible interjection] . . . We are taking a vote. Those in favour of the motion? Anybody opposed to the motion? Two for, two against. The Chair is obliged to vote for additional debate. The Chair casts a negative vote. The motion is defeated.

However, members, I have to put it this way. The time has elapsed for the amount of time for the meeting and I'm simply going to have to call the clock at this time. And we will have to reconvene at the time that I'll find convenient for other members to come. The meeting stands adjourned.

[The board adjourned at 09:34.]

[The board met at 10:30.]

The Chair: — The meeting will come to order. Good morning, members of the Board of Internal Economy. I have before you an agenda which is comprised of minutes, adoption of minutes for the first meeting in '05; two decision items, one on directive 21 on the Saskatchewan legislative internship program, and two information items which are probably only a minute each unless there are questions.

I would propose that as we get into the items that . . . looking back at the minutes of last day which, that we could start with item 2 because what we did there is we agreed to recess debate and proceed to consider the next items and resume consideration then of item 1. So what we did is we went from . . . We debated item 1, then we went . . . recessed debate, were debating item 2, and then we called the clock.

So I would propose that I would call item 2 first, we finish that one and then go back to item 1, then go to information items. Of course preceded by that would be . . . that's with the concurrence of the committee, of course. But if the committee objects we'll go through it as it is here.

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — As approved?

Hon. Mr. Thomson: — Do you want us to vote on the internship program first?

The Chair: — That's right.

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Okay. Then, first of all, are we agreed on the agenda?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Agreed upon the agenda. I need a motion to approve the minutes from meeting 1, '05.

Hon. Ms. Higgins: — I so move.

The Chair: — Moved by Ms. Higgins. We need a seconder for all motions in this committee. Mr. Yates. Any discussion on minutes of meeting 1, '05?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

The Chair: — The question has been called. Those in favour of adopting the minutes. Motion is carried. The minutes have been adopted so we proceed to item 2, decision item Saskatchewan legislative internship program. The motion before the . . . and the question before the committee, before the board, is on record. Is there any debate, further debate?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

The Chair: — It's the motion by Ms. Harpauer and Mr. McMorris for a total of \$44,055. Question has been called.

Those in favour of the motion — 5 for. Any opposed? None opposed. The motion is carried.

Then we go to item 1. Amendments to directive 21. This is the motion by Mr. Yates, seconded by Ms. Higgins. Is the committee ready for the question?

Some Hon. Members: — Question.

The Chair: — Question has been called. Those who favour the motion. I see three. Those who oppose the motion? None. Motion is carried with two abstentions.

Proceed then to information item 1, report on second committee room. There's been . . . pardon me, item 3, information item . . . first information item 3, report on the second committee room. There has been some information that's distributed. And I'd ask Ms. Ronyk if she'd just give us a quick rundown on this.

Ms. Ronyk: — The information item was distributed just in response to the board's indication to me at the last meeting that . . . as item 3, that we should be exploring areas in the building that could be capable of housing a second television-ready committee room. And as I've noted, the agreement to consider other, certain other spaces has not been secured so we haven't yet been able to assess the suitability of other spaces, and we wait for the direction.

The Chair: — Thank you. And if there aren't questions, we can proceed to item 4, an information item regarding the recruitment process for the Children's Advocate. I don't think there were any materials distributed on this item 4.

Ms. Ronyk: — No. I will give an oral report. But we do need to go back to item 1, directive #21. We need to pass the second motion that's in your package there because it is enabling the changes to occur that will come into place once the legislature has approved the new Legislative Assembly Act. And the board won't have to meet again. And all that it is doing is moving certain sessional allowances to annual.

The Chair: — So the . . . referring back then to item 1, regarding directive #21. I have a motion by Mr. Yates. And that is with respect to the coming . . . the effective coming into force of the applicable amendments to The Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, as attached.

Mover. Do I have a seconder? Ms. Higgins. Any debate on the question? Those who favour the motion please raise their hands. Any opposed? None opposed. Motion is carried unanimously.

Going back then to item 4, information item. Would you like to give us just a little report on that, please?

Ms. Ronyk: — Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chair. The board established the selection process for the Children's Advocate at its last meeting. The committee has been completed, compiled of the Clerk of the Assembly; the Chair of the Public Service Commission, Clare Isman; a representative from the opposition, Arlene Julé; and representative from the government, Judy Samuelson.

The position was advertised nationally. Our HR [human resources] people developed an excellent job description, a good ad, a position profile, and developed the competencies, and have been developing the interview questions and processes. The competition closed last Monday, April 11, the advertising having occurred prior to that. We received 131 applications. So we have a lot of excellent candidates to choose from.

The goal of the committee is to try to get a name back to the board in time for the House to address it before they conclude the spring session.

The Chair: — Thank you very much. A motion to adjourn? Are there any other business?

Mr. Yates: — I move to adjourn.

The Chair: — Mr. Yates, moved to adjourn. Those in favour of the motion? Motion is carried.

I thank everybody for their efficiency this morning.

[The board adjourned at 10:44.]

