

Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY

HANSARD VERBATIM REPORT



No. 2 — April 19, 2016

BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY

Hon. Dan D'Autremont, Chair Cannington

Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff Saskatoon Willowgrove

> Mr. David Forbes Saskatoon Centre

Hon. Jeremy Harrison Meadow Lake

Mr. Warren McCall Regina Elphinstone-Centre

> Hon. Jim Reiter Rosetown-Elrose

BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY April 19, 2016

[The board met at 13:45.]

The Chair: — Welcome everyone this afternoon to the second meeting of the Board of Internal Economy for 2016. Present with us today we have the Hon. Jeremy Harrison, the Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff, the Hon. Jim Reiter. For the opposition, MLAs [Member of the Legislative Assembly] Warren McCall and MLA David Forbes.

Before you, you have the distribution of the agenda. I would like someone to move the approval of the proposed agenda, if they would please. Mr. Reiter. Seconder? Mr. McCall. All in favour?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Minutes of the last meeting were included in the handouts. Would someone move that we approve the minutes of the previous meeting 1/16? Mr. Cheveldayoff. Seconder? Mr. Forbes.

Moved by Mr. Cheveldayoff, seconded by Mr. Forbes, that the minutes of meeting 1/16 be approved. All in favour?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Item no. 1, tabling and decision item, approval of the Information and Privacy Commissioner's third quarter financial report for the fiscal year 2015-2016. This was also included in the handouts. If there are no questions, would someone move that we accept the third quarter financial report?

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — So moved.

The Chair: — Moved by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. McCall, that the third quarter financial forecast for the fiscal year 2015-2016 for the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner be approved. All in favour?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Item no. 2, tabling item, letter from the Chief Electoral Officer in regards to the Lloydminster by-election. This letter was sent to Mr. Cheveldayoff at the request he had to Mr. Boda at a previous meeting related to the financing and expenses of the Lloydminster by-election. So I so table

Item no. 3, decision item, resume consideration of the statutory expenditure estimates for the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan.

First directive, request from the government, I would ask the government to move this motion.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would move:

That directive #3.1, MLA travel and living expenses, be amended by adding a new clause (23) as follows:

The maximum annual accountable expense provision as

calculated in subclause (18) and (19) shall be reduced by \$6,000 per annum for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

I would move that.

The Chair: — Motion by Mr. Harrison:

That directive 3.1, MLA travel and living expenses, be amended by adding a new clause (23) as follows:

(23) The maximum annual accountable expense provision as calculated in subclause (18) and (19) shall be reduced by \$6,000 per annum for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

Can we have a seconder, please? Mr. McCall. Any discussion? If not, all in favour?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Okay. A motion again presented by the government. Mr. Harrison.

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — I move:

That directive #3.1, MLA travel and living expenses, be amended by deleting clause 15 and 16 and clause 17(a), (b), and (c) and substituting the following:

- (15) If a member travels between his or her constituency and Regina by means of a commercial scheduled airliner, the member shall be reimbursed or have direct payment made on the member's behalf for the actual cost of the air trip; the member's travel expense provision shall be reduced by this amount.
- (16) During periods when the Assembly is sitting, any member living 350 kilometres or more from Regina may travel by executive aircraft between Regina and his or her home in the constituency. The actual cost of the air trip shall be charged to the member's travel expense provision. A member's spouse may accompany the member on any of these air trips in accordance with executive air standby policy. In the event there is a charge for travel by the spouse, the cost of the airfare for the spouse will be borne by the member.
- (17) Notwithstanding clause (16), any member is entitled to claim the cost charged by executive air for each trip taken on executive aircraft at any time during the fiscal year; and that the member's travel expense provision shall be reduced by the actual amount of that air trip. An air trip:
 - (a) must be on a flight authorized by a member of Executive Council who is travelling on executive government business;
 - (b) may only be undertaken by a member if the air trip was scheduled prior to the member requesting the trip; and

(c) may be used by a member who is a member of Executive Council if that air trip was a previously scheduled air trip, if the member of Executive Council mentioned in the clause did not authorize the air trip and is travelling on MLA business and not executive business.

I so submit. You've got the one spelling, typo there.

The Chair: — Okay. Thank you. Can we have a ... Let me first ask, can we take it as read?

An Hon. Member: — Yes.

The Chair: — Would someone second that motion please? Mr. Forbes. All in favour with the typo correction?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. The next motion as well is a government motion. Mr. Reiter.

Hon. Mr. Reiter: — I'd move:

That directive 4.1, constituency service expenses, be amended by adding new clauses 25 and 26 as follows:

- (25) Clause (4) shall not be applied in the fiscal year 2016-17, and the term amount specified shall be decreased to a maximum of \$7,500 for the duration of the twenty-eighth legislature.
- (26) Notwithstanding clause (24), the amount specified in clause (2) shall be \$54,252 for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

The Chair: — The motion by Mr. Reiter:

That directive #4.1, constituency service expenses, be amended by adding new clauses 25 and 26 as follows:

- (25) Clause (4) shall not be applied in the fiscal year 2016-17, and the term amount specified shall be decreased to a maximum of \$7,500 for the duration of the twenty-eighth legislature.
- (26) Notwithstanding clause (24), the amount specified in clause (2) shall be \$54,252 for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

Can I have a seconder please? Mr. Forbes. Any discussion? If not, all in favour?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. I will ask for someone to move this motion:

That the statutory 2016-17 expenditure estimates for vote 021, Legislative Assembly be approved in the amount of 18,756,000; and further, that such estimates be forwarded to the Minister of Finance by the Chair.

Can I have someone move that please? Mr. Harrison.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — So moved as read. I'll just read it. I would move:

That the statutory 2016-17 expenditure estimates for vote 021, Legislative Assembly be approved in the amount of 18,756,000; and further, that such estimates be forwarded to the Minister of Finance by the Chair.

The Chair: — The motion by Mr. Harrison:

That the statutory 2016-17 expenditure estimates for vote 021, Legislative Assembly, be approved in the amount of 18,756,000; and further, that such estimates be forwarded to the Minister of Finance by the Chair.

Seconder please? Mr. Forbes. Any discussion? All in favour?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. Item no. 4, decision item, recruitment of Advocate for Children and Youth. Since this is a personnel matter, I would ask that someone move that we go in camera.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — So moved.

The Chair: — Mr. Harrison. All in favour?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. This committee now moves in camera.

[The board continued in camera from 13:59 until 14:14.]

The Chair: — Okay. This meeting of the Board of Internal Economy is reconvened. Could I have someone make a motion dealing with the recruitment of a new Advocate for Children and Youth? Mr. Harrison.

Hon. Mr. Harrison: —

That a national open competition be conducted by the Board of Internal Economy for the recruitment of an Advocate for Children and Youth as follows:

- (1) That the board utilize the budgeted amount of \$30,000 for a national open competition; and
- (2) That a subcommittee of the board to be chaired by the Speaker and consisting of a government member of the board, Mr. Cheveldayoff, and an opposition member of the board, Mr. Forbes, be established as the selection panel for the competition; and
- (3) That the Legislative Assembly Service be requested to provide human resource assistance to the selection panel for the competition; and
- (4) That the subcommittee may identify a member of the public with subject matter expertise to provide assistance to the selection panel for the competition; and
- (5) That the recruitment process be concluded by September 30th, 2016 so that the board is able to

recommend a candidate for appointment as the Advocate for Children and Youth to the Legislative Assembly.

I so move.

The Chair: — Can I have a seconder please? Mr. Forbes. Will you take the motion as read?

Hon. Mr. Harrison: — As read.

The Chair: — All in favour?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. There is one final motion to be made and that is to adjourn the meeting. Would someone care to make that motion? Mr. Cheveldayoff.

Hon. Mr. Cheveldayoff: — I so move.

The Chair: — All in favour?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. This committee, the Board of Internal Economy, stands adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

[The board adjourned at 14:15.]