

MINUTES OF MEETING #1/15 BOARD OF INTERNAL ECONOMY

January 22th, 2015 – 12:00 p.m.

Room 8, Legislative Building

Present: Members of the Board of Internal Economy

Hon. Dan D'Autremont, Speaker, Chair
Hon. Ken Cheveldayoff
Ms. Doreen Eagles
Mr. Warren McCall
Mr. David Forbes
Hon. Jeremy Harrison

Absent: Hon. Nancy Heppner

Staff

Ms. Sheila Sterling, Secretary to the Board

Officials in Attendance

Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner and Registrar of Lobbyists

Mr. Ron Barclay, Conflict of Interest Commissioner- Registrar of Lobbyists
Ms. Sandra Arberry, Deputy Registrar of Lobbyists

Office of the Ombudsman

Ms. Mary McFadyen Ombudsman
Ms. Andrea Smandych, Manager of Corporate Services

Office of the Chief Electoral Officer

Mr. Michael Boda, Chief Electoral Officer
Ms. Jennifer Colin, Deputy Chief Electoral Officer
Mr. Jeff Kress, Deputy CEO for Operations

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner

Mr. Ron Kruzeniski, Information and Privacy Commissioner
Ms. Pam Scott, Director of Operations
Ms. Diane Aldridge, Director of Compliance

Office of the Advocate for Children and Youth

Mr. Bob Pringle, Children's Advocate
Ms. Bernie Rodier, Director of Administration

Legislative Assembly Service

Mr. Gregory Putz, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Mr. Kenneth Ring, Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel
Ms. Melissa Bennett, Legislative Librarian
Ms. Lynn Jacobson, Executive Director of Member & Corporate Services
Mr. Brad Gurash, Director of Member Services
Ms. Ginette Michaluk, Director of Human Resources
Ms. Dawn Court, Director of Financial Services
Mr. Darcy Hislop, Chief Technology Officer
Ms. Lenni Frohman, Director of Parliamentary Publications
Ms. Pat Kolesar, Assistant Legislative Librarian
Ms. Lorraine deMontigny, Director of Visitor Services
Ms. Joelle Perras, Senior Communications Analyst.
Ms. Cindy Hingley, Senior Financial Analyst

Central Services

Mr. Richard Murray, Deputy Minister

Meeting called to order at 12:32

AGENDA Moved by Mr. McCall, and seconded by Mr. Cheveldayoff, that the proposed Agenda 1/15 be adopted. The question being put, it was agreed to.
Minute#1968

MINUTES Moved by Mr. Harrison, and seconded by Mr. Forbes, that the minutes of meeting 9/14, 10/14 and 11/14 be adopted. The question being put, it was agreed to.
Minute#1969

ITEM 1 **Table Item:** Tabling of response letter, Audit of the Board of Internal Economy Legislative Assembly Service for the Year ended March 31, 2014.

The Chair tabled the report.

ITEM 2 **Tabling and Decision Item:**

Moved by Mr. Cheveldayoff, and seconded by Mr. McCall;

That the 3rd Quarter Expenditure Report for fiscal year 2014-15 for Vote 021 - Legislative Assembly be approved.

The question being put, it was agreed.

Minute # 1970

ITEM 3 Table and Decision Item: Approval of Legislative Assembly Mid -Year Report on Progress 2014-2015

The Chair tabled the report.

Decision Item:

Moved by Ms. Eagles, seconded by Mr. McCall, that the Mid- Year Report on Progress of the Legislative Assembly Service for the 2014 -2015 be approved.

The question being put, it was agreed.

Minute#1971

ITEM 4 Tabling Item: The Chair tabled the Report of the Chief Electoral Officer pursuant to subsection 7 (6) of *The Election Act, 1996*, regarding actions taken during the constituency of Lloydminster by-election.

ITEM 5 (a) Discussion and Decision Item: Special Warrant Funding Request-Office of the Advocate for Children and Youth.

The board moved in camera from 12:38 until 12:55.

Moved by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Forbes;

That additional funding in the amount of \$133,000 be approved for Vote 076, Advocate for Children and Youth Office, for the 2014-15 fiscal year; and,

That the said amount be transmitted by the Chair to the Minister of Finance for approval as a special warrant by February 1, 2015.

The question being put it was agreed.

Minute # 1972

ITEM 5 (b) Decision Item: Review of the 2015-16 budget and motion to approve budgetary and statutory expenditures for the Advocate for Children and Youth.

The budget in the amount of \$2,972,000 was presented by Mr. Pringle Advocate for Children and Youth Officer.

The Advocate for Children and Youth Officer answered questions put by the BOIE members.

The decision was deferred.

ITEM 6: Discussion Item: Joint funding request for shared tenant space in Regina, Office of the Ombudsman, Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner, Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner and the Lobbyist Registrar, and the Office the Advocate for Children and Youth.

Presentations were made to the BOIE of Internal Economy by Ms. Fadyen, Ombudsman, Mr. Kruzeniski, Information and Privacy Commissioner, Mr. Barclay, Conflict of Interest Commissioner and Lobbyist Registrar and Mr. Pringle, Advocate for Children and Youth.

The BOIE asked questions. Mr. Richard Murray Deputy Minister Central Services assisted in answering the questions in regards to building requirements.

ITEM 7: **Decision Item:** Review of the 2015-16 budget and motion to approve budgetary and statutory expenditure estimates for the Office of the Ombudsman.

The budget in the amount of \$3,533,000 was presented by Ms. McFadyen, Ombudsman.

The Ombudsman answered questions put by the BOIE members.

The decision was deferred.

ITEM 8: **Decision Item:** Review of the 2015-16 budget and motion to approve budgetary expenditure estimates for the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner.

The budget in the amount of \$1,605,000 was presented by Mr. Ron Kruzeniski, Information and Privacy Commissioner.

The Information and Privacy Commissioner answered questions put by the BOIE members.

The decision was deferred.

ITEM 9(a) **Decision Item:** Review of the 2015-16 budget and motion to approve budgetary expenditure estimates for the Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

The budget in the amount of \$176,709 was presented by Mr. Ron Barclay, Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

The Conflict of Interest Commissioner answered questions put by the BOIE members.

The decision was deferred.

ITEM 9(b) **Decision Item:** Review of the 2015-16 budget and motion to approve budgetary expenditure estimates for the Office of the Lobbyist Registrar.

The budget in the amount of \$457,092 was presented by Mr. Ron Barclay Office of the Lobbyist Registrar.

The Lobbyist Registrar answered questions put the BOIE members.

The decision was deferred.

The Board recessed from 14:45 to 15:19

ITEM 10: **Decision Item:** Review of the 2015-16 budget and motion to approve statutory expenditure estimates for the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer.

The budget in the amount of \$23,100,000 was presented by Mr. Michael Boda, Chief Electoral Officer.

The Chief Electoral Officer answered questions put by the BOIE members.
The decision was deferred.

ITEM 11: **Decision Item:** Review of the 2015-16 budget for the Legislative Assembly.

The budget in the amount of \$27,034,000 was presented by Mr. Greg Putz Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. The Clerk and various officials answered questions put by the Board members.
The decision was deferred.

The Board met in camera from 16:22 until 18:15

Item 5(b):cont: **Approval of 2015-16 Budget for the Office of the Advocate for Children and Youth.**

Moved by Mr. Cheveldayoff , seconded by Mr. Forbes;

That the 2015-16 Expenditure Estimates for vote 076, Office of the Advocate for Children and Youth be approved in the amount of \$2,598,000 as follows:
budgetary to be voted, \$2,354,000; statutory, \$244,000.

And further,

That such estimates be forwarded to the Minister of Finance by the Chair.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

Minute # 1973

Item 7: cont. **Approval of the 2015-16 Budget for the Office of the Ombudsman**

Moved by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Forbes;

That the 2015-16 Expenditure Estimates for vote 056, Ombudsman be approved in the amount of \$3,518,000; statutory \$244,000; and further, that such estimates be forwarded to the Minister of Finance by the Chair.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

Minute # 1974

Mandate Ombudsman

Moved by Ms. Eagles, seconded by Mr. Forbes;

That the mandate statement for the Ombudsman (Vote 56) that is displayed in the Main Estimates document be amended to read as follows:

Mandate Statement

The Ombudsman, an Independent Officer of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, helps to ensure the government is accountable and fair when it provides services to the public. As Public Interest Disclosure Commissioner, the Ombudsman also helps to ensure the government provides a workplace where wrongdoings can be safely raised and appropriately addressed.

SubVote Description

The *Ombudsman Act, 2012*, gives the Ombudsman the authority to investigate or informally address complaints of unfairness in government actions. *The Public Interest Disclosure Act* appoints the Ombudsman as the Public Interest Disclosure Commissioner, with the authority to provide advice to and investigate disclosures from public servants with allegations of wrongdoing or reprisal within their government institutions.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

Minute # 1975

Item 8: *cont.* Approval of the 2015-16 Budget for the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner

Moved by Mr. Cheveldayoff, seconded by Mr. Forbes;

That the 2015-16 Expenditure Estimates for Vote 055, Information and Privacy Commissioner be approved in the amount of \$1,505,300 as follows:
Budgetary to be \$1,505,300; and further, that such estimates be forwarded to the Minister of Finance by the Chair.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

Minute # 1976

Item 9(a) *cont.* Approval of the 2015-16 Budget for the Conflict of Interest Commissioner

Moved by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Forbes;

That the 2015-16 Expenditure Estimates for Vote 057, Conflict of Interest Commissioner be approved in the amount of \$176,700 as follows:
Budgetary to be voted, \$176,700; and further,
That such estimates be forwarded to the Minister of Finance by the Chair.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

Minute # 1977

Item 9(b) *cont.* Approval of the 2015-16 Budget for the Office of the Lobbyist Registrar

Moved by Ms. Eagles, seconded by Mr. Forbes;

That the 2015-16 Expenditure Estimates for Vote 057, Office of the Lobbyist Registrar and Establishment of the Lobbyist Registrar be approved in the amount of \$422,097 as follows:

Budgetary to be voted, \$422,097; and further, that such estimates be forwarded to the Minister of Finance by the Chair.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

Minute # 1978

Mandate Conflict of Interest Commissioner

Moved by Mr. Forbes, seconded by Mr. Cheveldayoff;

That the mandate statement and SubVote Description for the Conflict of Interest Commissioner (Vote 57) that is displayed in the Main Estimates document be amended to read as follows:

Mandate Statement

The Office of the Conflict of Interest “Commissioner, who is an Officer of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, is mandated to coordinate disclosure of assets held by Members, provide advice on conflict of interest issues conduct inquiries and provide opinions on compliance with *The Members’ Conflict of Interest Act* if requested by a Member, the President of the Executive Council or the Legislative Assembly. Under the provisions of *The Lobbyist Act*, the Conflict of Interest Commissioner will promote transparency about people and organizations who are attempting to influence government decision making.

SubVote Description

Coordinates disclosure of assets held by Members, provides advice on conflict of interest issues, conducts inquiries and provides opinions on compliance with *The Members’ Conflict of Interest Act* if requested by a Member, the President of the Executive Council or the Legislative Assembly. The Conflict of Interest Commissioner also serves as the Lobbyist Registrar which will oversee the lobbyist registry; promote and educate the general public, stakeholders, and the lobbyist community about *The Lobbyist Act*, and ensure compliance and conformity of lobbyist to *The Lobbyist Act*.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

Minute # 1979

Item 10: Approval of the 2015-16 Budget for the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer

Moved by Mr. Harrison, seconded by Mr. Forbes;

That the 2015-16 Expenditure Estimates for Vote 034, Chief Electoral Officer be approved in the amount of \$16,564,000 as follows: statutory, \$16,564,000; and further, that such estimates be forwarded to the Minister of Finance by the Chair.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

Minute # 1980

Item 11: Approval of the 2015-16 Budget for the Legislative Assembly

- a) Moved by Ms. Eagles, seconded by Mr. Forbes;

That, for the 2015-16 fiscal year, the following Refurbishment and Asset Replacement fund projects be approved:
Security Infrastructure: \$100,000
Legislative Assembly Service Directed projects: \$ 150,000, for the total of \$250,000.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

Minute # 1981

- b) Moved by Mr. Cheveldayoff, seconded by Mr. Forbes;

That the 2015-16 Expenditure Estimates for Vote 021, Legislative Assembly be approved in the amount of \$26,971,000 as follows:
Statutory, \$17,209,000; budgetary to be voted, \$9,762,000; and further, that such estimates be forwarded to Minister of Finance by the Chair.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

Minute # 1982

- c) Moved by Ms. Eagles, seconded by Mr. Forbes;

That the 2015-16 Revenue Estimates for vote 021, Legislative Assembly be approved in the amount of \$4,200 as follows: revenue to be voted, \$4,200; and further, that such estimates be forwarded to the Minister of Finance by the Chair.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

Minute # 1983

Moved by Mr. Forbes that the Board adjourn to the call of the Chair at 18:39