

STANDING COMMITTEE ON CROWN CORPORATIONS

Thursday, June 12, 2003

MINUTE NO. 45

9:37 a.m. - Room 10

1. **PRESENT:** Mr. Van Mulligen in the Chair and Members Atkinson, Brkich, Huyghebaert, Jones, McMorris, Prebble, Trew, and Wall.

Mr. Iwanchuk for Mr. Forbes.

Provincial Auditor Saskatchewan

Fred Wendel, Provincial Auditor

Ed Montgomery, CA

Andrew Martens, Principal

Saskatchewan Information and Privacy Commissioner

Richard P. Rendek, Q.C., Acting Freedom of Information and Privacy Commissioner

Crown Investments Corporation and its subsidiaries

Frank Hart, President & Chief Executive Officer, Crown Investments Corporation

Sheldon Schwartz, Chief Financial Officer, Crown Investments Corporation

Larry Fogg, President, SGI

John Meldrum, Vice-President, Corporate Counsel and Regulatory Affairs, SaskTel

John Wright, President & CEO, SaskPower

Ron Clark, President & CEO, SaskEnergy

2. The Committee resumed its consideration of Recommendations 2 & 3, Chapter 11, Spring 2001 Report of the Provincial Auditor and related documents CCC 258/24, CCC 259/24 and CCC 278/24.
3. The following document was tabled:

CCC 321/24 Crown Investments Corporation: Document entitled "Public disclosure of Payee Information" dated June 12, 2003.

4. Mssrs. Wendel, Montgomery, and Rendek, made statements and responded to questions put by Members.
5. Mssrs. Hart, Schwartz, Fogg, Meldrum, Wright, and Clark, made statements and responded to questions put by Members.
6. At 10:46 a.m., the committee recessed until 10:59 a.m.
7. It was moved by Ms. Atkinson:

That the following recommendation on payee disclosure be adopted by the Committee:

That the CIC Crown Corporations publicly disclose the following payee information to the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations:

Board expenses (Currently provided): A list of amounts paid to and on behalf of each person on the board of a Crown Corporation or a subsidiary Crown Corporation including base retainer, all other remuneration and benefits, and out-of-province travel costs;

Ministerial expenses (Currently provided): Out-of-province travel expenses for the Minister(s) and ministerial staff undertaken on behalf of the Crown Corporation;

Employee remuneration (New): A list of all employees and the amounts they were paid for salaries, and other expenses with a minimum threshold of \$50,000. (Threshold as recommended by the Provincial Auditor);

Grants, contributions, donations and sponsorships (New): A list of all grants, contributions, donations, and sponsorships with a minimum threshold of \$5,000. (Threshold consistent with Public Accounts);

Payments to consultants (Currently provided): Payments to consultants (including legal and advertising fees) totaling over \$10,000;

Supplier and other payments (New): A list of payments for goods and services with a minimum threshold of \$50,000, threshold recommended by the Provincial Auditor, except those items and categories where:

- 1) there is a legitimate need to protect commercially sensitive information;
- 2) disclosure could reasonably be expected to prejudice the competitive position of or interfere with the contractual obligations of the Crown corporation or a third party; or
- 3) disclosure is prohibited by law.

8. After debate, the following amendment was moved by Mr. Wall:

That the paragraph entitled supplier and other payments be amended by adding the following after the word “where”:

“public disclosure is prohibited by the provisions of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act”

9. At 11:30 a.m., the proceedings having been interrupted by the clock, the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Viktor Kaczowski
Committee Clerk

Harry Van Mulligen
Committee Chair