

STANDING COMMITTEE ON CROWN CORPORATIONS

November 24, 1998

MINUTE NO. 56

9:00 a.m. - Room 255

1. **PRESENT:** Ms. Lorje in the Chair and Members Aldridge*, Boyd, Johnson, Kasperski, Kowalsky, Renaud, Toth and Trew.

Mr. Aldridge substituting for Mr. McPherson

Provincial Auditor's Office

Brian Atkinson, Executive Director

Bob Black, Director, Value-for-Money

2. The Committee, having agreed to the concurrent consideration of the annual report and financial statements of Saskatchewan Telecommunications Holding Corporation and the subsidiary financial statements of Saskatchewan Telecommunications and Saskatchewan Telecommunications International Inc., all for the years ended December 31, 1996 and 1997, initiated its consideration with an opening statement by the corporate officials.

Don Ching, SaskTel President and Chief Executive Officer

John Meldrum, Vice-president, Corporate Counsel and Regulatory Affairs

Diana Milenkovic, Vice-president, Mobility

Sean Caragata, General Manager, Corporate Affairs

Dennis Terry, Controller

Gary Zeiler, Senior Business Planner, Finance

Josephine Brcic, Corporate Affairs Directorate

John K. Aitken, Deloitte & Touche , Auditor

The following document was tabled:

CCC 119/23 – Saskatchewan Telecommunications: Presentation materials for the CCC meeting of November 24, 1998, including:

- a) *Serving Saskatchewan for 90 years* (copies of overhead slides); and
- b) *Serving Saskatchewan for 90 years* folder with enclosed pamphlets.

3. The corporate auditor addressed the Committee with respect to the audit report contained in the annual reports and financial statements. The following document was tabled:

CCC 120/23 – Deloitte and Touche: Presentation materials for the CCC meeting of November 24, 1998

4. Mr. Black provided an overview of the Provincial Auditor's review of the annual report. The following document was tabled:

CCC 121/23 – Office of the Provincial Auditor: Active Companies owned and controlled by SaskTel Holdco (December 31/97)

5. The following documents were tabled:

CCC 122/23 – Saskatchewan Telecommunications: Correspondence from Dwain Lingenfelter, Deputy Premier and Minister responsible for Crown Investments Corporation to Pat Lorje, Chair, Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, dated November 14, 1997, re: DirectWest Inc. (DirectWest) (significant transaction)

CCC 123/23 – Saskatchewan Telecommunications: Correspondence from Tom Kehoe, Chair, SaskTel Holding Corporation Board of Directors to Pat Lorje, Chair, Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, dated November 17, 1997, re: Hospitality Network Canada Inc. (HNCI) (significant transaction)

CCC 124/23 – Saskatchewan Telecommunications: Correspondence from Tom Kehoe, Chair, SaskTel Holding Corporation Board of Directors to Pat Lorje, Chair, Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, dated October 7, 1997, re: IQ&A Information Query and Analysis (significant transaction)

6. The Committee recessed from 10:30 a.m. until 10:50 a.m.
7. The Minister, the corporate officials and the provincial auditors responded to questions put by Members.
8. The Committee recessed from 12:05 p.m. until 1:10 p.m.
9. Committee Members resumed their questioning of the corporate officials.
10. It was moved by Mr. Trew:

That this Standing Committee on Crown Corporations conclude its review of:

The annual report and financial statements of Saskatchewan Telecommunications Holding Corporation and the subsidiary financial statements of Saskatchewan Telecommunications and Saskatchewan Telecommunications International Inc., all for the year ended December 31, 1996; and

The annual report and financial statements of Saskatchewan Telecommunications Holding Corporation and the subsidiary financial statements of Saskatchewan Telecommunications and Saskatchewan Telecommunications International Inc., all for the year ended December 31, 1997.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

11. It was moved by Mr. Renaud:

That this Committee do now adjourn.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

12. The Committee adjourned at 3:20 p.m. until Wednesday, November 25, 1998.

Margaret A. Woods
Committee Clerk

Pat Lorje
Committee Chair