

STANDING COMMITTEE ON CROWN CORPORATIONS



FIFTH REPORT

June 18, 2003

4th Session of the 24th Legislature

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF SASKATCHEWAN

STANDING COMMITTEE ON CROWN CORPORATIONS

FIFTH REPORT

Mr. Van Mulligen, Chair of the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations, presents the Committee's Fifth Report of the Twenty-fourth Legislature.

The Standing Committee on Crown Corporations is empowered by this Assembly to both review the Annual Reports and financial statements of the various Crown Corporations and to review those chapters contained in the reports of the Provincial Auditor dealing with matters relating to CIC Crown Corporations. This report reflects the work undertaken by your Committee since its last report presented on March 27, 2003.

1) Crown Corporations Reviewed by the Committee:

Your Committee has completed its consideration of the 2002 Annual Report, financial statement and related documents of the Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan and related entities.

2) Review of Provincial Auditor's Reports:

Your committee has completed its consideration of Recommendations 2 and 3 Chapter 11, Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan, of the 2001 Spring Report of the Provincial Auditor.

Recommendations 2 and 3 addressed the issue of public disclosure of those persons receiving money from government agencies and read as follows:

Recommendation 2:

"We recommend that CIC and its subsidiaries should:

- *publish a list of persons (e.g., employees, suppliers) who have received money from them and the amounts the persons received, following the Assembly's current disclosure requirements; or*
- *seek direction from the Crown Corporations Committee on alternate disclosure requirements that will achieve legislators' objectives for requiring this information."*

Recommendation 3:

"We recommend that the Crown Corporations Committee should follow the process set out in Exhibit 2 for deciding what information government agencies should disclose and to whom."

After receiving further input from Crown Investments Corporation, the Office of the Provincial Auditor and the Acting Information and Privacy Commissioner, your Committee further deliberated on the issue and agreed to the following recommendation. Your Committee, although acknowledging the spirit and intent of the Provincial Auditor's recommendations, agreed to adopt its own recommendation noted as follows:

That the CIC Crown Corporations and related agencies that are called to appear before the Standing Committee on 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 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) totalling 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, including the provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Privacy Act*.

Your Committee is pleased to report that the adoption of this new practice has the support of all parties that were consulted.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Van Mulligen, Chair,
Standing Committee on Crown Corporations