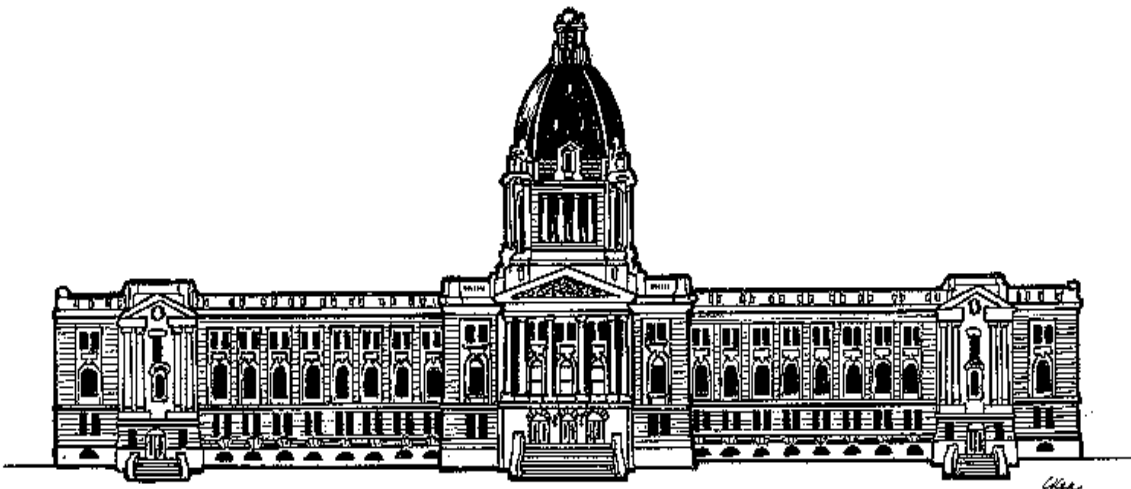




STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ECONOMY

Hansard Verbatim Report

No. 12 – May 13, 2008



Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Twenty-sixth Legislature

STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ECONOMY

Mr. D.F. (Yogi) Huyghebaert, Chair
Wood River

Mr. Ron Harper, Deputy Chair
Regina Northeast

Mr. Darcy Furber
Prince Albert Northcote

Mr. Jeremy Harrison
Meadow Lake

Mr. Warren Michelson
Moose Jaw North

Ms. Laura Ross
Regina Qu'Appelle Valley

Ms. Nadine Wilson
Saskatchewan Rivers

[The committee met at 15:01.]

The Chair: — Well being 3 o'clock, I call the committee to order. For the record, we have substitutions. Mr. Bradshaw is substituting for Mr. Michelson, and we have Ms. Eagles substituting for Ms. Ross.

**General Revenue Fund
Lending and Investing Activities
Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan
Vote 147**

The Chair: — The order of business is consideration of the 2008-2009 estimates and I would start by advising the committee that vote 147, the Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan, on page 162, is statutory for the tune of \$3 million and that does not require a vote.

[Vote 147 — Statutory.]

**General Revenue Fund
Agriculture
Vote 1**

The Chair: — Vote 1 is Agriculture. (AG01), 6,730,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (AG05) to the tune of 8,662,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (AG03) industry assistance, 11,864,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (AG06) research and technology, 15,200,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (AG07) development and technology transfer, 22,002,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (AG12) inspection and regulatory management, 4,324,000, is that agreed?

Mr. Bradshaw: — Would that not be statutory?

The Chair: — Oh, sorry.

Mr. Bradshaw: — The statutory amounts under there are 3 million.

The Chair: — Yes, 3,853,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Thank you. (AG08) farm stability, 91,462,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (AG04) land management, 4,090,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (AG09) financial programs, 6,385,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (AG10) Crop Insurance, 129,832,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Vote 1, 300,080,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: —

Be it resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2009, the following sums for agriculture, 300,080,000.

It's agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — I guess we need a mover.

Ms. Wilson: — I so move.

The Chair: — Okay, Ms. Wilson. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

[Vote 1 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Lending and Investment Activities
Agriculture
Vote 146**

The Chair: — Vote 146, subvote (AG02) investment in Crown agricultural land held for resale, 200,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Subvote (AG07) loans under 2008 short-term hog loan program, 2,825,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: —

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12

months ending March 31, 2009 the following sums for Agriculture, 3,025,000.

Do I have a mover for that?

Mr. Bradshaw: — I so move.

The Chair: — Mr. Bradshaw. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

[Vote 146 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Energy and Resources
Vote 23**

The Chair: — Okay. Next is vote 23, Energy and Resources. (ER01) central management and services, sum of 9,640,000, is that agreed?

Mr. Bradshaw: — No, that's ... [inaudible] ... statutory, down to nine six.

The Chair: — That's 9,604,000?

A Member: — Yes.

The Chair: — That's what I said, wasn't it?

Mr. Bradshaw: — I thought you said 647.

The Chair: — No, 9,604,000.

Mr. Bradshaw: — Sorry.

The Chair: — Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (ER18) forestry development, 871,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (ER04) revenue and program services, 3,280,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (ER05) petroleum and natural gas, 6,969,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (ER16) exploration and geological services, 6,253,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (ER06) resource and energy policy, 7,003,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — And:

Be it resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2009, the following sums for Energy and Resources, 33,980,000.

May I have a mover for that? Mr. Harrison.

Mr. Harrison: — I so move.

The Chair: — Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

[Vote 23 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Enterprise and Innovation
Vote 43**

The Chair: — Okay. Vote 43, Enterprise and Innovation. Subvote (EI01) central management and services, 3,289,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (EI03) investment programs, 38,798,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (EI09) industry development, 484,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (EI04) regional development, 5,232,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (EI02) policy and planning, 944,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (EI08) Enterprise Saskatchewan, 8,378,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (EI07) Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership, 2,936,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: —

Be it resolved that it be granted to Her Majesty for the 12

months ending March 31, 2009, the following sums for Enterprise and Innovation, 60,061,000.

May I have somebody move that amount?

Ms. Eagles: — I so move.

The Chair: — Ms. Eagles. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

[Vote 43 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Lending and Investing Activities
Enterprise and Innovation
Vote 144**

The Chair: — And Enterprise and Innovation, subvote 144, Enterprise and Innovation loans under the economic and co-operative development, 5,500,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: —

Be it resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2009, the following sums for Enterprise and Innovation, 5,500,000.

May I have somebody to move that? Ms. Eagles. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

[Vote 144 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Environment
Vote 26**

The Chair: — Okay. Environment, vote 26. Subvote (EN01) central management and services, 17,330,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (EN11) environmental protection, 29,072,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (EN09) forest services, 14,726,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Fire management and forest protection (EN10), 97,524,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (EN15) land, 2,883,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (EN08) compliance and field services, 16,282,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (EN14) corporate policy and planning, 21,058,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (EN07) fish, wildlife and biodiversity, 10,110,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: —

Be it resolved there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2009, the following sums for Environment, 208,985,000.

May I have someone move that amount?

Ms. Wilson: — I so move.

The Chair: — Ms. Wilson. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

[Vote 26 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Highways and Infrastructure
Vote 16**

The Chair: — Highways and Infrastructure, vote 16. Subvote (HI01) central management and services, the sum of 20,553,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (HI10) operation of transport system, \$87,076,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (HI04) preservation of transportation system, 138,848,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (HI15) strategic municipal roads, 27,867,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (HI06) transportation policy, 4,077,000, is that

agreed?

Vote 145

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (HI13) machinery and equipment, 9,000,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: —

Be it resolved there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2009, the following sums for Highways and Infrastructure, \$287,421,000.

May I have somebody move that amount? Mr. Bradshaw.

Mr. Bradshaw: — I'll so move.

The Chair: — Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

[Vote 16 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Highways and Infrastructure Capital
Vote 17**

The Chair: — Okay, vote 17, Highways and Infrastructure capital. Subvote (HC01) infrastructure and rehabilitation, \$88,188,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — (HC02) infrastructure enhancement, 137,524,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: —

Be it resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2009, the following sums, which to the extent that they remain unexpended for that fiscal year are also granted for the fiscal year ending on March 31, 2010, for Highways and Infrastructure capital, \$225,712,000.

May I have a mover for that amount please? Mr. Harrison. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

[Vote 17 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Lending and Investing Activities
Highways and Infrastructure**

The Chair: — Highways and Infrastructure, vote 145. Loans for short-line railways (HI01), \$750,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: —

Be it resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2009 the following sums for Highways and Infrastructure, \$750,000.

May I have a mover of that amount, please? Ms. Wilson.

Ms. Wilson: — I so move.

The Chair: — Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

[Vote 145 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Lending and Investing Activities
Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation
Vote 161**

The Chair: — And vote 161, Crop Insurance for \$1,600,000. It's statutory. We do not require a vote.

[Vote 161 — Statutory.]

**General Revenue Fund
Saskatchewan Research Council
Vote 35**

The Chair: — Vote 35, Saskatchewan Research Council. Subvote (SR01) Saskatchewan Research Council for \$12,082,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: —

Be it resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2009 the following sums for Sask Research Council, \$12,082,000.

May I have a mover of that amount please. Ms. Eagles.

Ms. Eagles: — I so move.

The Chair: — Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried.

[Vote 35 agreed to.]

The Chair: — The standing report on the economy, the third report, has been distributed. Are there any questions on the report? If not, I would ask that the third report of the Standing Committee on the Economy be adopted and presented to its . . . Sorry.

Mr. Belanger: — Just on the Highways and Infrastructure, the 287,421 figure on page 1, that's just the operating budget — am I correct? — for this year. And the lending and investing activities of 750,000, I was just wondering what that was about, get clarification.

Mr. Bradshaw: — That was for the rail line.

Mr. Belanger: — Rail line.

Mr. Bradshaw: — That 750 that you were talking about.

Mr. Belanger: — Yes.

Mr. Bradshaw: — Yes. That was for the rail line.

Mr. Belanger: — Okay. And I'm assuming again — just for clarification — that on the major travel expenditure for Highways and Infrastructure capital, that 225, is that just the carry-over from other work made from last year?

The Chair: — What, the 750,000?

Mr. Belanger: — No. I think that's correct. I'm assuming that's correct. It's for the rail line.

The Chair: — Yes.

Mr. Belanger: — But I just wanted to clarify the third expenditure for Highways and Infrastructure capital, the 225,712.

The Chair: — Yes. That's carried over.

Mr. Belanger: — Okay.

The Chair: — If it's not used, it's carried over.

Mr. Belanger: — All right. No, I just wanted to confirm it.

The Chair: — Okay.

Mr. Belanger: — Thanks.

The Chair: — Could I get somebody to move:

That the third report of the Standing Committee on the Economy be adopted and presented to the Assembly.

Mr. Bradshaw: — I so move.

The Chair: — Mr. Bradshaw. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Carried. That concludes the items on the agenda for the Standing Committee on the Economy. And this is our

last meeting together, so I'd like to thank all members of the Standing Committee on the Economy for the work that they've done this session. And I would now entertain a motion of adjournment.

Mr. Harrison: — I'll move.

The Chair: — Mr. Harrison. This committee is now adjourned.

[The committee adjourned at 15:23.]