

STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ECONOMY

Tuesday, May 8, 2007

MINUTE NO. 45

3:03 p.m. – Room 8

1. **Present:** Mr. Yates in the Chair and Members Hamilton, Hart*, Higgins, Kirsch, Lautermilch, McCall*, Stewart and Weekes.

Substituting Members:

Mr. Hart for Mr. Stewart (evening session only)

Hon. Mr. McCall for Hon. Mr. Lautermilch (evening session only)

Other Members:

Mr. Allchurch, Mr. Cheveldayoff, Mr. D'Autremont, Mr. Hart, Ms. Heppner, Mr. Krawetz

2. The following documents were tabled:

ECO 41/25 Department of Finance: Response to questions raised at the committee meeting of April 17, 2007.

ECO 42/25 Department of Environment: Response to questions raised at the committee meeting of April 17, 2007 regarding lease fees dated May 3, 2007.

ECO 43/25 Department of Environment: Response to questions raised at the committee meeting of April 17, 2007 regarding provincial park revenue streams dated May 3, 2007.

ECO 44/25 Department of Environment: Response to questions raised at the committee meeting of April 17, 2007 regarding recycling incentives dated May 3, 2007.

ECO 45/25 Department of Environment: Response to questions raised at the committee meeting of April 4, 2007 regarding Canada-wide standard numerical targets dated May 3, 2007.

3. The committee considered Bill No. 50 – The Municipal Employees' Pension Amendment Act, 2007.
4. The following Department of Finance Minister and official appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Hon. Andrew Thomson, Minister

Brian Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Employee Benefits Agency

5. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 10, they were agreed to.
6. It was moved by the Hon. Ms. Higgins:

That the committee report Bill No. 50 – The Municipal Employees' Pension Amendment Act, 2007 – without amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

7. The committee considered Bill No. 51 – The Public Employees Pension Plan Amendment Act, 2007.
8. The following Department of Finance Minister and official appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Hon. Andrew Thomson, Minister

Brian Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Employee Benefits Agency

9. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 9, they were agreed to.
10. It was moved by Ms. Hamilton:

That the committee report Bill No. 51 – The Public Employees Pension Plan Amendment Act, 2007 – without amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

11. The committee considered Bill No. 60 – The Revenue and Financial Services Amendment Act, 2007.
12. The following Department of Finance Minister and officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Hon. Andrew Thomson, Minister

Brian Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Employee Benefits Agency

13. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 9, they were agreed to.
14. It was moved by the Hon. Ms. Higgins:

That the committee report Bill No. 60 – The Revenue and Financial Services Amendment Act, 2007 – without amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

15. The committee considered Bill No. 65 – The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2007.
16. The following Department of Finance Minister and officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Hon. Andrew Thomson, Minister

Brian Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Employee Benefits Agency

17. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 12, they were agreed to.
18. It was moved by Ms. Hamilton:

That the committee report Bill No. 65 – The Income Tax Amendment Act, 2007 – without amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

19. The committee considered Bill No. 38 – The Wildlife Habitat Protection Amendment Act, 2007.
20. The following Department of Environment Minister appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witness

Hon. John Nilson, Minister

21. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 6, they were agreed to.
22. It was moved by the Hon. Ms. Higgins:

That the committee report Bill No. 38 – The Wildlife Habitat Protection Amendment Act, 2007 – without amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

23. The committee recessed from 3:36 p.m. until 3:39 p.m.
24. The committee considered Estimates for the Department of Environment.

The following Department of Environment Minister and officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Hon. John Nilson, Minister

Alan Parkinson, Deputy Minister

Stuart Kramer, President, Saskatchewan Watershed Authority

Dave Phillips, Assistant Deputy Minister, Conservation Division

Bob Wynes, Executive Director, Forest Service

Daryl Jessop, Manager, Science and Planning, Fire Management and Forest Protection

Doug Johnson, Director, Basin Operations

25. The committee recessed from 5:01 p.m. until 7:10 p.m.
26. The committee resumed its consideration of the Estimates for the Department of Environment.
27. The committee recessed from 8:49 p.m. until 8:59 p.m.
28. The committee resumed its consideration of the Estimates for the Department of Environment.
29. The committee adjourned its consideration of the Estimates for the Department of Environment.
30. The committee adjourned at 10:31 p.m. to the call of the Chair.

Viktor Kaczowski
Committee Clerk

Kevin Yates
Committee Chair