

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ECONOMY**  
**Tuesday, March 31, 2009**

**MINUTE NO. 16**  
**3:00 p.m. - Room 8**

1. **Present:** D.F. (Yogi) Huyghebaert in the Chair and Members Denis Allchurch\*, Pat Atkinson\*, Buckley Belanger\*, Ron Harper, Jeremy Harrison, Warren Michelson, Greg Ottenbreit\*, Nadine Wilson and Kevin Yates\*.

**Substituting Members**

Denis Allchurch for Nadine Wilson (7:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. only)

Pat Atkinson for Darcy Furber (3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. only)

Pat Atkinson for Ron Harper (7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. only)

Buckley Belanger for Darcy Furber (8:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. only)

Greg Ottenbreit for Laura Ross

Kevin Yates for Darcy Furber (7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. only)

**Other Members**

John Nilson, Doyle Vermette

2. The Chair advised the committee that, pursuant to Rule 146(1), the Estimates for the following ministries and agencies were deemed referred to the committee on March 26, 2009:

Vote 1	Agriculture
Vote 23	Energy and Resources
Vote 43, 144	Enterprise and Innovation Programs
Vote 83	Enterprise Saskatchewan
Vote 26	Environment
Vote 16, 145	Highways and Infrastructure
Vote 17	Highways and Infrastructure Capital
Vote 35	Saskatchewan Research Council

3. The committee considered Estimates for the Ministry of Agriculture.

The following Agriculture Minister and officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Hon. Bob Bjornrud, Minister

Alanna Koch, Deputy Minister

Nithi Govindasamy, Associate Deputy Minister

Rick Burton, Assistant Deputy Minister

Laurier Donais, Executive Director, Corporate Services

Al Syhlonyk, Executive Director, Policy Branch

Tom Schwartz, Director, Financial Programs

Cam Swan, General Manager, Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation

4. The committee adjourned consideration of the Estimates for the Ministry of Agriculture.
5. The committee recessed from 4:59 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

6. The committee considered Estimates for the Ministry of Environment.

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

Witnesses

Hon. Nancy Heppner, Minister  
Liz Quarshie, Deputy Minister  
Bob Wynes, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Lands and Forests Division  
Kevin Callele, Executive Director, Compliance and Field Services  
Lin Gallagher, Executive Director, Environmental Protection  
Steve Roberts, Executive Director, Fire Management and Forest Protection  
Kim Graybiel, Director, Corporate Policy and Planning  
Donna Johnson, Director, Finance and Administration  
Alan Parkinson, President, Saskatchewan Watershed Authority  
Wayne Dybvig, Vice President, Operations Division, Saskatchewan Watershed Authority  
Bob Charles, Vice President, Stewardship Division, Saskatchewan Watershed Authority

7. The committee adjourned consideration of the Estimates for the Ministry of Environment.

8. The committee recessed from 8:32 p.m. until 8:37 p.m.

9. The committee considered Estimates for the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure.

The following Highways and Infrastructure Minister and officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Hon. Wayne Elhard, Minister  
John Law, Deputy Minister  
Ted Stobbs, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Services  
Terry Schmidt, Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations  
George Stamatinos, Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy and Programs  
Jennifer Ehrmantraut, Acting Director, Corporate Support

10. The committee recessed from 9:30 p.m. until 9:35 p.m.

11. The committee adjourned consideration of the Estimates for the Ministry of Highways and Infrastructure.

12. The committee adjourned at 10:31 p.m. to the call of the Chair.

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Kathy Burianyk  
Committee Clerk

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D. F. (Yogi) Huyghebaert  
Committee Chair