

STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ECONOMY
Tuesday, May 18, 2010

MINUTE NO. 33
4:00 p.m. – Room 8

1. **Present:** Darryl Hickie in the Chair and Members Denis Allchurch*, Hon. Dustin Duncan, Sandra Morin*, Greg Ottenbreit*, Laura Ross, Lyle Stewart, Len Taylor and Nadine Wilson.

Substituting Members

Sandra Morin for Ron Harper

Denis Allchurch for Nadine Wilson (4:00 p.m. – 7:26 p.m. only)

Greg Ottenbreit for Dustin Duncan (4:47 p.m. – 9:32 p.m. only)

Other Members

Deb Higgins, Warren McCall (4:00 p.m. – 5:13 p.m. only), John Nilson, Kevin Yates

2. The committee considered Bill No. 132 – The Wildlife Habitat Protection (Land Designation) Amendment Act, 2009.

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

Witnesses

Hon. Nancy Heppner, Minister

Liz Quarshie, Deputy Minister

Lin Gallagher, Assistant Deputy Minister, Resource Management and Compliance

Todd Olexson, Acting Director, Lands Branch

3. The committee recessed from 5:28 p.m. until 5:34 p.m.
4. The committee resumed consideration of Bill No. 132 – The Wildlife Habitat Protection (Land Designation) Amendment Act, 2009.
5. It was moved by Mr. Taylor:

That this committee do now adjourn.

The question being put, it was defeated.

6. The committee recessed from 6:05 p.m. until 6:14 p.m.
7. The committee resumed consideration of Bill No. 132 – The Wildlife Habitat Protection (Land Designation) Amendment Act, 2009.
8. The following documents were tabled:

HUS 17/26 – Minister of Environment: “Response to correspondence to Premier Brad Wall regarding the sale of Crown land,” dated April 9, 2009.

HUS 18/26 – Ministry of Environment: “Groups provided with information on the proposed new strategy to manage ecological values,” no date.

HUS 19/26 – Ministry of Environment: “The Southern Crown Land Conservation Management Strategy: PowerPoint Presentation,” no date.

9. The committee recessed from 7:59 p.m. until 8:16 p.m.
10. The committee resumed consideration of Bill No. 132 – The Wildlife Habitat Protection (Land Designation) Amendment Act, 2009.
11. The following documents were tabled:

HUS 20/26 – Ministry of Environment: “Re: Perspective on the Great Sand Hills and expressing concern with government’s Agricultural Crown Lands Sale Program,” dated January 8, 2009.

HUS 21/26 – Ministry of Environment: “Invitation to attend briefing on *The Conservation Easement Act*,” dated April 30, 2010.

12. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 14, they were agreed to.
13. During the consideration of new clause 4, it was moved by Ms. Morin:

New Clause 4

Add the following clause after Clause 3 of the printed Bill:

“New section 2.1

4 The following is added after section 2:

“Aboriginal rights protected

2.1 Nothing in this Act shall be construed or interpreted so as to abrogate or derogate, directly or indirectly, any treaty or aboriginal rights recognized and affirmed by subsection 35(1) of the *Constitution Act, 1982*”.

The question being put on new clause 4, it was agreed to.

14. During the consideration of new clause 12, it was moved by Mr. Stewart:

New Clause 12

Amend the printed Bill by adding the following Clause after Clause 11:

“S.S. 1993, c.N-3.1 amended

12 Subsection 20(4) of *The Natural Resources Act* is amended:

(a) by striking out ‘and’ after clause (g); and

(b) by adding the following clause after clause (h):

‘(i) any portion designated by the Lieutenant Governor in Council of moneys received from the sale of Crown lands:

(i) that were designated as wildlife habitat lands in the Schedule to *The Wildlife Habitat Protection Act* as it existed on the day before the day on which *The Wildlife Habitat Protection (Land Designation) Amendment Act, 2009* came into force, other than lands withdrawn by regulations made pursuant to clause 9(1)(b) of that Act; or

(ii) that are designated as wildlife habitat and ecological lands in the regulations made pursuant to *The Wildlife Habitat Protection Act* on or after the day on which *The Wildlife Habitat Protection (Land Designation) Amendment Act, 2009* came into force’”.

The question being put on new clause 12, it was agreed to.

15. It was moved by Ms. Ross:

That the committee report Bill No. 132 – The Wildlife Habitat Protection (Land Designation) Amendment Act, 2009 – with amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to (*on division*).

16. It was moved by Ms. Wilson:

That this committee do now adjourn.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

17. The committee adjourned at 9:32 p.m. to the call of the Chair.

Nathan Elliott
Committee Clerk

Darryl Hickie
Committee Chair