



STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOUSE SERVICES

Hansard Verbatim Report

No. 7 – May 15, 2006



Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan

Twenty-fifth Legislature

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON HOUSE SERVICES
2006**

Hon. P. Myron Kowalsky, Chair
Prince Albert Carlton

Mr. Rod Gantfoer, Deputy Chair
Melfort

Mr. Greg Brkich
Arm River-Watrous

Ms. Doreen Eagles
Estevan

Mr. Glenn Hagel
Moose Jaw North

Mr. Andy Iwanchuk
Saskatoon Fairview

Hon. Andrew Thomson
Regina South

Hon. Kevin Yates
Regina Dewdney

[The committee met at 19:00.]

The Deputy Chair: — Thank you very much, members. We will bring the House Services meeting to order. First of all, members, I am advised that there have been three reports tabled with the committee: the *Report of the Saskatchewan Legislative Library for the period ending March 31, 2005*; the report, *The Business and Financial Plan For the Year Ended March 31, 2007* from the Office of the Provincial Auditor; and finally, the report from the Saskatchewan Children's Advocate, the 2005 annual report.

I believe that these reports are now noted as tabled and they will be discussed in detail at a future date. I'm also advised that the committee has received an order of the Assembly dated April 13, 2006, to consider and report back the estimates for the following: vote 34, the Chief Electoral Office; vote 76, the Children's Advocate; vote 57, the Conflict of Interest Commissioner; vote 55, Information and Privacy Commissioner; vote 21, the Legislative Assembly; vote 56, the Ombudsman; and vote 28, the Provincial Auditor.

**General Revenue Fund
Chief Electoral Officer
Vote 34**

Subvote (CE01)

The Deputy Chair: — We will, with the members' approval, proceed to consider those estimates as directed by the Assembly. Now let me make sure I've got all my stuff correct. I am obligated to suggest that . . . Okay the first vote is vote 34, the Chief Electoral Office on page 141 of your Estimates book, vote 34. These estimates, I believe, are all statutory. Do we require a motion or do we just note that as statutory votes?

Are there any questions?

An Hon. Member: — No questions.

The Deputy Chair: — Thank you.

[Vote 34 — Statutory.]

**General Revenue Fund
Children's Advocate
Vote 76**

Subvote (CA01)

The Deputy Chair: — The second vote which requires consideration is the vote on page 143 for the Children's Advocate. The resolution is, resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2007, the following sums for the Children's Advocate . . . those votes that are not statutory is vote (CA01) and is in the amount . . .

Is that agreed in the amount \$1,141,000?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — Okay then I need someone to move the

motion:

That there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2007, the sum of \$1,141,000.

Hon. Mr. Yates: — I so move, Mr. Chair.

The Deputy Chair: — Mr. Yates, thank you very much. All those in favour? It's carried. Thank you.

[Vote 76 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Conflict of Interest Commissioner
Vote 57**

Subvote (CC01)

The Deputy Chair: — Thank you very much. We'll then proceed to the Conflict of Interest Commissioner on page 146 of your Estimates book. The Conflict of Interest Commissioner subvote (CC01) in the amount of \$138,000. Can I have someone to move that? Mr. Yates. Question, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — Thank you.

[Vote 57 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Information and Privacy Commissioner
Vote 55**

Subvote (IP01)

The Deputy Chair: — Members, the next vote is for the Information and Privacy Commissioner subvote (IP01) in the amount of \$599,000. Will someone move that resolution? Mr. Brkich.

Mr. Brkich: — I'll move that motion.

The Deputy Chair: — Is there any discussion on the motion? If not are you ready for the question? All those in favour?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — Thank you, that's carried.

[Vote 55 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Legislative Assembly
Vote 21**

Subvote (LG01)

The Deputy Chair: — The next subvote . . . Okay I would direct the members to look at the Legislative Assembly general area on page 149 and 150. We have some subvotes in this category.

The subvote for central management and services (LG01) in the amount of \$3,076,000. Is that agreed?

An Hon. Member: — 67,000.

The Deputy Chair: — Sixty-seven. I'm sorry. Thank you, Member.

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — Legislative Assembly services, subvote (LG03) in the amount of \$4,025,000. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — Subvote (LG05) in the amount of eleven million three hundred . . . That's statutory, so subvote (LG05) is statutory. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — Committees of the Legislative Assembly (LG04), the amount to be voted is \$54,000. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — Caucus operations, subvote (LG06) is statutory. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — Amortization of capital assets is informational only. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — Thank you. Would someone then move:

Resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2007, the following sums for the Legislative Assembly, \$7,146,000.

Mr. Hagel?

Hon. Mr. Hagel: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — Thank you, members.

[Vote 21 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Ombudsman
Vote 56**

Subvote (OM01)

The Deputy Chair: — The next vote then is for the Office of the Ombudsman. Members will find that on page 153 of their

Estimates book. For the subvote (OM01) in the amount of . . . the amount that needs to be voted is \$1,662,000. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — Will someone move that:

It be resolved that there be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2007, the sum of \$1,662,000 for the Ombudsman.

Hon. Mr. Yates: — So moved.

The Deputy Chair: — Mr. Yates. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

[Vote 56 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Provincial Auditor
Vote 28**

Subvote (PA01)

The Deputy Chair: — I would direct members to the Estimates book on page 155, the Provincial Auditor. The Provincial Auditor, subvote (PA01), the amount to be voted is \$5,545,000. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — The unforeseen expenses of vote (PA02) in the amount of \$359,000, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — The amortization of capital assets is non-voted non-expenses, presented for information purposes. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — The resolution resolved:

That it be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2007, the sum of, for the Provincial Auditor, \$5,904,000.

Will someone move that please?

Mr. Brkich: — I so move.

The Deputy Chair: — Mr. Brkich. Is there any questions or discussion? If not, is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

[Vote 28 agreed to.]

**General Revenue Fund
Supplementary Estimates
Legislative Assembly**

Vote 21

Subvote (LG03)

The Deputy Chair: — Thank you very much. Members, I also direct you to the supplementary estimates. There is a supplementary estimate, vote 21, the Legislative Assembly Services subvote (LG03) in the amount of \$50,000. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — The Committees of the Legislative Assembly, subvote (LG04), in the amount of \$20,000. Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — Would someone move that:

Be it resolved that it be granted to Her Majesty for the 12 months ending March 31, 2007, the following sum for the Legislative Assembly, \$70,000.

Will someone move that please?

Hon. Mr. Hagel: — So moved.

The Deputy Chair: — Any discussion? Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

[Vote 21 agreed to.]

The Deputy Chair: — Members, I believe you have copies of the Standing Committee on House Services' sixth report before you. I believe we need a motion for this report.

Hon. Mr. Yates: — I move that we accept the report.

The Deputy Chair: — Mr. Yates moved that the sixth report of the Standing Committee on House Services be adopted and presented to the Assembly on May 16, 2006. Is that correct?

Some Hon. Members: — That's right.

The Deputy Chair: — Is that agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Deputy Chair: — Thank you very much.

That then concludes the estimates, members, and I would like to thank Mr. Speaker and the officials for their attendance at this discussion.

The Chair: — Members of the committee, Standing Committee on House Services, is there any other business, there is to transact? The Chair recognizes Mr. Yates.

Hon. Mr. Yates: — Thank you very much, Mr. Chair. I move:

That the name of Glenn Hagel be substituted for the name

of Len Taylor in the House Services steering committee.

The Chair: — Moved by the member for Regina Dewdney, Mr. Yates:

That the name of Glenn Hagel be substituted for the name of Len Taylor on the House Services steering committee. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Motion is carried. The Chair recognizes Mr. Hagel.

Hon. Mr. Hagel: — Mr. Speaker, I move:

That a subcommittee of the Standing Committee on House Services consisting of the Speaker, Mr. Gantfoer, and Mr. Hagel be appointed to study and make recommendations on the adoption of a legislative calendar and revisions to the sessional sitting times as currently specified by rule 3 of the *Rules and Procedures of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan*; and further

that the subcommittee be authorized to visit the legislative assemblies of Alberta, British Columbia, and Manitoba to examine the operation of legislative calendars and the sessional sitting periods in those jurisdictions.

The Chair: — Is there any discussion? Will the members take the motion as read?

An Hon. Member: — It is read.

The Chair: — Is the motion agreed to?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Motion is carried. Is there any further business? The motion to adjourn?

Hon. Mr. Hagel: — So moved.

The Chair: — Moved by Mr. Hagel. Are we agreed?

Some Hon. Members: — Agreed.

The Chair: — Motion is carried. Meeting stands adjourned. Thank you, members.

[The committee adjourned at 19:17.]