

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Monday, April 21, 2008

MINUTE NO. 6

3:03 p.m. - Room 8

1. **Present:** Mr. Glen Hart in the Chair and Members Denis Allchurch, Cam Broten, Doreen Eagles, Judy Junor, Serge LeClerc, and Greg Ottenbreit.

Substituted Members:

Pat Atkinson for Judy Junor (consideration of Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour Estimates)

Kevin Yates for Judy Junor (consideration of Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety, and Policing Estimates)

Other Members: Deb Higgins, Len Taylor, Trent Wotherspoon

2. The committee considered the Estimates for the Ministry of Health.

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

Hon. Don McMorris, Minister

Gren Smith-Windsor, Acting Deputy Minister

Ted Warawa, Executive Director, Finance and Administration Branch

Dr. Louise Greenberg, Associate Deputy Minister

Lauren Donnelly, Assistant Deputy Minister

Brad Havervold, Executive Director, Medical Services Branch

Carol Chernick-Smith, Director, Capital and Regional Services Branch

Deb Jordan, Executive Director, Acute and Emergency Services Branch

Donna Magnusson, Executive Director, Primary Health Services Branch

Kevin Wilson, Executive Director, Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch

Roger Carriere, Executive Director, Community Care Branch

Ron Knaus, Executive Director, Workforce Planning Branch

Scott Livingstone, Executive Director, Health Information Solutions Centre

Tyson Martin, Master's of Public Administration Intern

Lauren Black, Assistant to the Deputy Minister

3. The following documents were tabled:

HUS 5/26 Ministry of Health: Written submission entitled "Philippine Recruitment Trip Participant List".

HUS 6/26 Ministry of Health: Written submission entitled "Appendix A Provincial Advisory Committee of Older Person Membership for 2007/08".

4. The committee adjourned consideration of the Estimates for the Ministry of Health.
5. The committee recessed from 5:02 p.m. until 6:01 p.m.
6. The committee considered Estimates for the Ministry Advanced Education, Employment and Labour.

The following Advanced Education, Employment and Labour Minister and officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses:

Hon. Rob Norris, Minister

Wynne Young, Deputy Minister

Rick Pawliw, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister Immigration

Trina Vicq Fallows, Acting Executive Director of Corporate Services

Eric Johansen, Director, SINP Skilled Worker Program

Darcy Cherney, Manager, SINP Entrepreneur Program

7. The Chair made the following statement:

Given that most of us on the committee find themselves in roles that are either new or different to the ones we had previously, I'd like to take a few moments to clarify a few points of committee procedure when Estimates are under consideration.

Regarding the scope of questioning, the Chair, traditionally, has exercised great latitude. Nonetheless this latitude is not limitless, as Marleau and Montpetit point out on page 872:

"The questioning and discussion at this meeting is generally wide-ranging, although the rule of relevance does apply."

Furthermore, on page 527, "The requirement of relevance is necessary in order that the House [and by extension, committee] might exercise its right to reach a decision and to exclude from debate any discussion which does not contribute to that process. It is not always possible to judge the relevance of a Member's remarks until he or she has made some progress in or completed his or her remarks."

In his ruling of June 12, 1986, the Chair of the Standing Committee on Crown Corporations quite properly states that:

"Members know that the Chair gives considerable latitude regarding the year under review when it is the apparent wish of the Committee to do so. I am especially inclined to permit this when the proceedings are in the form of fact-finding questions and answers. I am less inclined to permit this when the proceedings take the form of a wide-ranging debate on policies and times far removed from the year under review. These types of philosophical debates should more properly take place in the House."

I will state that it is incumbent on the chair to facilitate debate, not to curtail it, I will continue to exercise the latitude that has been shown in times past; however, if necessary, I may ask a member to connect their line of questioning to the Estimates or Bills under consideration.

8. The committee adjourned consideration of the Estimates for the Ministry Advanced Education, Employment and Labour.
9. The committee recessed from 7:11 p.m. until 7:17 p.m.
10. The committee considered Estimates for the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety, and Policing.

The following Corrections, Public Safety, and Policing Minister and officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses:

Hon. Darryl Hickie, Minister
Terry Coleman, Deputy Minister
Maureen Lloyd, Deputy Minister, Corrections, Public Safety, and Policing
Mae Boa, Executive Director, Corporate Services
Murray Sawatsky, Executive Director, Policing Services
Tom Young, Executive Director, Protection and Emergency Services
Chris Selinger, Manager, Codes and Standards Compliance
Bob Kary, Executive Director, Young Offender Programs
Marlys Tafelmeyer, Director, Human Resources
Sandy Tufts, Executive Assistant to the Deputy Minister

11. The committee adjourned consideration of the Estimates for the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety, and Policing.
12. The Committee recessed from 8:21 p.m. until 8:32 p.m.
13. The committee considered Estimates for the Ministry of Education.

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

Witnesses:

Hon. Ken Krawetz, Minister
Audrey Roadhouse, Deputy Minister
Helen Horsman, Assistant Deputy Minister
Darren McKee, Assistant Deputy Minister
David Tulloch, Director, Financial Planning and Management
Valerie Lusk, Executive Director, Education Finance and Facilities
Clint Repski, Director, Education Finance and Facilities
Christina Stanford, Director, Education Finance and Facilities
Sue Amundrud, Associate Executive Director, Curriculum and E-Learning
Lois Zelmer, Executive Director, Early Learning and Child Care
Rosanne Glass, Executive Director, Policy and Evaluation
Shirley Robertson, Acting Executive Director, Policy and Evaluation

14. The committee adjourned consideration of the Estimates for the Ministry of Education.
15. It was moved by Mr. Allchurch:

That this committee do now adjourn.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

16. The committee adjourned at 9:41 p.m. to the call of the Chair.

Viktor Kaczkowski
Committee Clerk

Glen Hart
Committee Chair