

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
May 8, 2007**

**MINUTE NO. 46  
3:00 p.m. – Chamber**

1. **Present:** Mr. Harper in the Chair and Members Allchurch, Borgerson\*, Draude, Huyghebaert, Iwanchuk, Taylor and Trew.

**Substituting Member**

Mr. Borgerson for Mr. Trew (for consideration of Estimates for Government Relations and Bills No. 17 and 28)

**Other Members**

Mr. Hermanson, Mr. Morgan

2. The following document was tabled:

**IAI 39/25 Government Relations:** Response to questions raised at the April 23, 2007 meeting of the committee, re: Provincial administration costs of the New Deal for Cities and Communities, dated May 8, 2007.

3. The committee resumed consideration of the Estimates for the Department of Government Relations.

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

Witnesses:

Harry Van Mulligen, Minister  
Lily Stonehouse, Deputy Minister  
Maryellen Carlson, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Relations  
Dylan Jones, Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Intergovernmental Relations  
Paul Osborne, Assistant Deputy Minister, Trade and International Relations  
Wanda Lamberti, Executive Director, Central Management Services  
Doug Morcom, Director, Grants Administration  
Kathy Rintoul, Director, New Deal Secretariat

4. On motion of Mr. Iwanchuk:

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2008 the following sums:

For Government Relations.....\$248,464,000

5. The committee considered Bill No. 17 – The Miscellaneous Statutes (Municipal Collection of Other Taxes) Amendment Act, 2006.

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

Witnesses

Hon. Harry Van Mulligen, Minister  
Maryellen Carlson, Assistant Deputy Minister

Witnesses (continued)

Keith Comstock, Executive Director, Strategy and Stakeholder Relations

John Edwards, Executive Director, Policy Development

Valerie Lusk, Executive Director, Education Finance and Facilities, Department of Learning

6. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 4, they were agreed to.
7. During consideration of clause 5, it was moved by the Hon. Mr. Taylor:

**Clause 5 of the printed Bill**

Amend Clause 5 of the printed Bill in subsection 272(1) of *The Municipalities Act*, as being enacted by subsection (5) of that clause, by striking out “shall” and substituting “may”.

The question being put, the amendment was agreed to.

8. The question being put on clause 5 as amended, it was agreed to.
9. During consideration of clause 6, it was moved by the Hon. Mr. Taylor:

**Clause 6 of the printed Bill**

Amend clause 6 of the printed Bill by striking out clause 3(a) and substituting the following:

“(a) in subsection (6) by repealing clause (a) and substituting the following:

- (a) subject to the regulations made by the minister for the purpose of this clause, allow a discount for the prompt payment of the following taxes or rates if paid before the days specified in the bylaw and before December 31 of the year in which the taxes or rates are imposed:
  - (i) taxes imposed on property;
  - (ii) taxes subject to assessment;
  - (iii) taxes imposed on assessments for municipal, school or any other purposes or service or rental taxes;
  - (iv) if the bylaw expressly provides, local improvement rates.”

The question being put, the amendment was agreed to.

10. The question being put on clause 6 as amended, it was agreed to.
11. The question being put on clause 7, it was agreed to.
12. During consideration of clause 8, it was moved by the Hon. Mr. Taylor:

**Clause 8 of the printed Bill**

Amend Clause 8 of the printed Bill in subsection (2) by striking out “January 1, 2007” and substituting “January 1, 2008”.

The question being put, the amendment was agreed to.

13. The question being put on clause 8 as amended, it was agreed to.

14. It was moved by Mr. Borgerson:

That the committee report Bill No. 17 – The Miscellaneous Statutes (Municipal Collection of Other Taxes) Amendment Act, 2006 – with amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

15. The committee considered Bill No. 28 – The Cities Amendment Act, 2006 (No. 2).

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

Witnesses

Hon. Harry Van Mulligen, Minister

Maryellen Carlson, Assistant Deputy Minister

Keith Comstock, Executive Director, Strategy and Stakeholder Relations

John Edwards, Executive Director, Policy Development

Valerie Lusk, Executive Director, Education Finance and Facilities, Department of Learning

16. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 33, they were agreed to.

17. During consideration of clause 34, it was moved by the Hon. Mr. Taylor:

**Clause 34 of the printed Bill**

Strike out clause 34 of the printed Bill and substitute the following:

“Coming into force

34(1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), this Act comes into force on assent.

(2) Sections 12 and 13 of this Act come into force on assent but are retroactive and are deemed to have been in force on and from January 1, 2007.

(3) Sections 5 and 17 to 26 of this Act come into force on proclamation.”

The question being put, the amendment was agreed to.

18. The question being put on clause 34 as amended, it was agreed to.

19. It was moved by the Hon Mr. Taylor:

That the committee report Bill No. 28 – The Cities Amendment Act, 2006 (No. 2) – with amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

20. The committee considered Bill No. 56 – The Municipalities Amendment Act, 2007.

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

Witnesses

Hon. Harry Van Mulligen, Minister

Maryellen Carlson, Assistant Deputy Minister

Witnesses (continued)

Keith Comstock, Executive Director, Strategy and Stakeholder Relations

John Edwards, Executive Director, Policy Development

Valerie Lusk, Executive Director, Education Finance and Facilities, Department of Learning

21. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 27, they were agreed to.

22. It was moved by Mr. Trew:

That the committee report Bill No.56– The Municipalities Amendment Act, 2007 – without amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

23. The committee considered Bill No. 57 – The Assessment Management Agency Amendment Act, 2007.

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

Witnesses

Hon. Harry Van Mulligen, Minister

Maryellen Carlson, Assistant Deputy Minister

Keith Comstock, Executive Director, Strategy and Stakeholder Relations

John Edwards, Executive Director, Policy Development

Valerie Lusk, Executive Director, Education Finance and Facilities, Department of Learning

24. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 11, they were agreed to.

25. It was moved by Mr. Trew:

That the committee report Bill No. 57 – The Assessment Management Agency Amendment Act, 2007 – without amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

26. The committee considered Bill No. 58 – The Municipal Revenue Sharing Amendment Act, 2007.

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

Witnesses

Hon. Harry Van Mulligen, Minister

Maryellen Carlson, Assistant Deputy Minister

Keith Comstock, Executive Director, Strategy and Stakeholder Relations

John Edwards, Executive Director, Policy Development

Valerie Lusk, Executive Director, Education Finance and Facilities, Department of Learning

27. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 3, they were agreed to.

28. It was moved by Mr. Trew:

That the committee report Bill No. 58 – The Municipal Revenue Sharing Amendment Act, 2007 – without amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

29. The committee recessed from 5:07 p.m. until 7:10 p.m.

30. The committee considered Bill No. 9 – The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code Amendment Act, 2006.

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

Witnesses

Hon. Frank Quennell, Minister

Tony Koschinsky, Crown Counsel, Civil Law Division

Ross Macnab, Crown Counsel, Civil Law Division

Madeleine Robertson, Crown Counsel, Legislative Services

31. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 9, they were agreed to.

32. During consideration of clause 10, it was moved by Mr. Iwanchuk:

Strike out clause 10 of the printed Bill and substitute the following:

“Coming into force

10 This Act comes into force six months after the date on which this Act receives assent.”

The question being put, the amendment was agreed to.

33. The question being put on clause 10 as amended, it was agreed to.

34. It was moved by Mr. Iwanchuk:

That the committee report Bill No. 9 – The Saskatchewan Human Rights Code Amendment Act, 2006 – with amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

35. The committee resumed consideration the Estimates for the Department of Justice.

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

Witnesses

Hon. Frank Quennell, Minister

Doug Moen, Deputy Minister and Deputy Attorney General

Rod Crook, Assistant Deputy Minister, Courts and Civil Justice

Keith Laxdal, Associate Deputy Minister, Finance and Administration

Witnesses (continued)

Susan Amrud, Executive Director, Public Law  
Linda Bogard, Executive Director, Court Services  
Murray Brown, Executive Director, Public Prosecutions  
Betty Ann Pottruff, Executive Director, Policy, Planning and Evaluation  
Murray Sawatsky, Executive Director, Law Enforcement Services  
Gerald Tegart, Executive Director, Civil Law  
Jan Turner, Executive Director, Community Justice  
Don McKillop, Crown Counsel, Civil Law  
Gord Sisson, Director, Administrative Services  
Kylie Head, Executive Assistant to the Deputy Minister

36. On motion of Mr. Trew:

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2008 the following sums:

For Justice.....\$238,671,000

37. The committee recessed from 9:20 p.m. until 9:35 p.m.

38. The committee considered Bill No. 10 – The Limitations Amendment Act, 2006.

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

Witnesses

Hon. Frank Quennell, Minister  
Madeleine Robertson, Crown Counsel, Legislative Services

39. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 9, they were agreed to.

40. It was moved by Mr. Trew:

That the committee report Bill No. 10 – The Limitations Amendment Act, 2006 – without amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

41. The committee considered Bill No. 19 – The Securities Amendment Act, 2006 (No. 2).

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

Witnesses

Hon. Frank Quennell, Minister  
Tim Epp, Crown Counsel, Legislative Services  
Barb Shourounis, Director, Securities Division, Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission

42. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 69, they were agreed to.

43. It was moved by Mr. Trew:

That the committee report Bill No. 19 – The Securities Amendment Act, 2006 (No. 2) – without amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

44. The committee considered Bill No. 21 – The Evidence Amendment Act, 2006 / Project de loi n° 21 – Loi de 2006 modifiant la Loi sur la preuve.

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

Witnesses

Hon. Frank Quennell, Minister

Madeleine Robertson, Crown Counsel, Legislative Services

Tom Irvine, Crown Counsel, Constitutional Branch

45. The question being put on clause 1, it was agreed to.

46. During consideration of clause 2, it was moved by Mr. Iwanchuk:

**Clause 2 of the printed Bill**

Amend Clause 2 of the printed Bill:

(a) in the English version:

(i) in subsection 23.1(1) of *The Evidence Act*, as being enacted by Clause 2 of the printed Bill:

(A) by striking out “actions” wherever it appears and in each case substituting “acts”; and

(B) by striking out “matter” and substituting “event or occurrence”;

(ii) in subsection 23.1(2) of *The Evidence Act*, as being enacted by Clause 2 of the printed Bill, by striking out “matter” wherever it appears and in each case substituting “event or occurrence”; and

(iii) in subsection 23.1(3) of *The Evidence Act*, as being enacted by Clause 2 of the printed Bill:

(A) by striking out “any matter” and substituting “any event or occurrence”;

(B) by adding “in any action or matter” after “is not admissible”; and

(C) by striking out “that matter” and substituting “that event or occurrence”;

and

(b) in the French version:

(i) in subsection 23.1(1) of *The Evidence Act*, as being enacted by Clause 2 of the printed Bill, by striking out « dans l’affaire en cause » and substituting « à l’égard de l’événement évoqué »;

(ii) in subsection 23.1(2) of *The Evidence Act*, as being enacted by Clause 2 of the printed Bill:

(A) by striking out the portion preceding clause (a) and substituting the following:

« La présentation d’excuses par une personne ou au nom de celle-ci à l’égard d’un événement »; and

(B) by striking out « dans l’affaire » wherever it appears and in each case substituting « à l’égard de cet événement »; and

- (iii) by striking out subsection 23.1(3) of *The Evidence Act*, as being enacted by Clause 2 of the printed Bill, and substituting the following:  
«(3) Malgré toute autre loi ou règle de droit, n'est pas admissible dans une action ou une affaire devant un tribunal pour établir la faute ou la responsabilité d'une personne à l'égard d'un événement la preuve de la présentation d'excuses de sa part ou en son nom à l'égard de cet événement».

A debate arising and the question being put, the amendment was agreed to.

47. The question being put on clause 2 as amended, it was agreed to.

48. The question being put on clause 3, it was agreed to.

49. It was moved by Mr. Trew:

That the committee report Bill No. 21 – The Evidence Amendment Act, 2006 / Project de loi n° 21 – Loi de 2006 modifiant la Loi sur la preuve – with amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

50. The committee considered Bill No. 23 – The Securities Transfer Act.

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

Witnesses

Hon. Frank Quennell, Minister  
Tim Epp, Crown Counsel, Legislative Services  
Darcy McGovern, Crown Counsel, Legislative Services

51. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 109, they were agreed to.

52. It was moved by Mr. Trew:

That the committee report Bill No. 23 – The Securities Transfer Act – without amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

53. The committee considered Bill No. 44 – The Class Actions Amendment Act, 2007 / Project de loi n° 44 – Loi de 2007 modifiant la Loi sur les recours collectifs.

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

Witnesses

Hon. Frank Quennell, Minister  
Madeleine Robertson, Crown Counsel, Legislative Services

54. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 12, they were agreed to.



55. It was moved by Mr. Trew:

That the committee report Bill No. 44 – The Class Actions Amendment Act, 2007 / Project de loi n° 44 – Loi de 2007 modifiant la Loi sur les recours collectifs – without amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

56. The committee considered Bill No. 47 – The Fatal Accidents Amendment Act, 2007.

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

Witnesses

Hon. Frank Quennell, Minister

Shannon Carson, Crown Counsel, Civil Law Division

57. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 5, they were agreed to.

58. It was moved by Mr. Trew:

That the committee report Bill No. 47 – The Fatal Accidents Amendment Act, 2007 – without amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

59. The committee considered Bill No. 49 – The Mortgage Brokerages and Mortgage Administrators Act.

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

Witnesses

Hon. Frank Quennell, Minister

Maria Markatos, Crown Counsel, Legislative Services

Karen Pflanzner, Crown Counsel, Legislative Services

Roger Sobotkiewicz, Legal Analyst, Financial Institutions Division, Saskatchewan Financial Services Commission

60. The questions being put on clauses 1 to 94, they were agreed to.

61. It was moved by Mr. Trew:

That the committee report Bill No. 49 – The Mortgage Brokerages and Mortgage Administrators Act – without amendment.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

62. The committee resumed consideration of the Estimates for the Department of Northern Affairs.

63. On motion of Mr. Trew:

**Executive Branch of Government**

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2008 the following sums:

For Northern Affairs .....\$6,031,000

64. On motion of Mr. Trew:

**Lending and Investment Activities**

Resolved, That there be granted to Her Majesty for the twelve months ending March 31, 2008 the following sums:

For Northern Affairs .....\$2,500,000

65. The committee adjourned at 10:49 p.m. until Thursday, May 10, 2007 at 11:00 a.m.

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Margaret A. Woods  
Committee Clerk

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Ron Harper  
Committee Chair