

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**  
**March 27, 1984**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — I call the first meeting of the Public Accounts Committee to order. I think the first thing I should do is, on behalf of the . . . I assume committee members know that we are having a sort of a change of the guard. Gwenn Ronyk, who served us so ably last year, is going on to try to make some sense out of Crown Corporations. And we have the very able assistance of Craig James, who just joined the Clerk's staff.

I think it would be remiss if, on behalf of all members of the committee, I didn't thank you, Gwenn, for all your very able and diligent assistance last year. Over the last two years, we've had an unusually high number of new members on the committee, and all of us deeply appreciated the time and, I want to add, the interest, that you put into it.

**MEMBERS:** — Hear, hear!

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — If you can make any sense out of Crown Corporations, you will truly have left your mark upon the legislature of Saskatchewan, because it is a circus.

I want to welcome Craig. None of us perhaps know you as well as we do Gwenn, but we are certain you'll do great things . . . (inaudible) . . .

**MR. KATZMAN:** — If his style in the library is any indication of the service we're about to see, guys, you don't know, you just lay back and it'll all be done. It's that bad — seriously.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Okay.

**MR. MEAGHER:** — Mr. Chairman, I wonder if you would remind repeating his name. I'm sorry, I didn't get his name.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Craig James. I have a suspicion that you will often get your name reversed — James Craig.

**MR. GLAUSER:** — Mr. Chairman, as vice-chairman, I think it would be appropriate if I also gave recognition to the most able assistance that we had over the past two years. Sometimes it was not easy in here, and how you made sense out of the records you kept, it was most amazing, I thought. So, we thank you very much for your contribution.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Do you feel a speech coming on?

**MS. RONYK:** — No, I don't have any limericks at hand.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — That was rather good, actually.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Mr. Chairman, if I may make a motion on hours and so forth . . . When do you want to do it? Now?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — I'll agree. Do it now.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Mr. Chairman, the motion:

That 7:30 in the morning until 9:30, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Commencing on Wednesday, the 28th day of March.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Starting tomorrow morning.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Okay, you've heard the motion. Is it agreed?

AGREED.

**MR. ENGEL:** — Reluctantly.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — All right. With that, I want to just generally welcome everyone to the Public Accounts Committee. We have, I think, had a good committee over the last two years. I think it's been productive and effective, and is in sharp contrast, I think, to the Crown Corporations, which, I think, has not been as effective. And I know that all the members will want that process to continue.

What we did last year — and I thought it worked fairly well — was that we took departments and assigned departments we wanted to review to individual members. Then the individual members were responsible for leading off on that department. In the past, I think, often the chairman has sort of played the lead role in attacking all departments. We tried this, and I thought it was fairly effective.

Some members did a particularly good job. The one I've mentioned before, and I'll mention it again, is Kim Young, on AGs and Legal Aid. I thought he did a particularly good job. And I raise that.

There were many people who put a lot of time into their department. It's a system whereby one person has . . . There is someone who is responsible for getting ready for it, for digging. That is not to inhibit any other member from getting in at any time during the questioning or at the end, but it just provides someone who has primary responsibility for doing some work on it. Then members won't feel they have to become experts on all departments. That is a taxing process. I rather assume that members want to continue with that system.

**MR. GLAUSER:** — Yes.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — The other thing that I would raise is the comments which were made in camera — and I think for no particular reason; they just happened to be made there — and that is that we thought we might try to set a target of completing our work in 20 sessions. I think no one felt it a hard and fast rule, but it's a reasonable target; 20 sessions should clean the work of the committee. It's more often, in the past, been 14 to 15. In the last couple of years, we've gone on to 20 and 23 — 21 and 23, I think, are the numbers. We set ourselves a target of 20 meetings.

We have had the compendium of management letters tabled, I see. All members have got them.

Determine date for receipt of comptroller's follow-up report on the committee's report of December 7. Would the press refresh my memory? I'm going on to the next item of business.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Mr. Chairman, if I may, before you move on to that letter . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Yes.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — The calculation I quickly get down here is somewhere between the 4th of May and the 11th of May, we hoped to be to complete it.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — That's reasonable. That's reasonable.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — That's basically . . . (inaudible) . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — That's reasonable.

In the last year there were . . . I just had one more comment. Last year, there were hold-over items.

Some departments, we were not satisfied with the quality of the information they gave us. I think DNS and Social Services were two, I think, that come to mind quickly. I may say Finance had to . . . (inaudible) . . . The comptroller's office reported back on one or two items, as well. None the less, often we were dissatisfied with the information. We wanted some further information, and what we did was ask them to report back during the summer. We never did manage to get a meeting together. I think it would have worked well if we could have, to give the departments a couple of months to do what they say they are going to do, and then call them before the committee again and ask them to account for themselves. I really believe accountability is a key to effective administration in the public service, and that process, if I may go back in the summer, I think does provide accountability. So, I would personally like to try that process again, and this time to see if we couldn't get a meeting together in midsummer.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Mr. Chairman, we have a new option because of the new system the House is now using of a non-prorogue. With a non-prorogue system, we could finish up everything except for what we wish, the thing, and even come back in the fall on those, and then start again. Because during the . . . We have 14 sitting days in the fall, normally, prior to moving to the spring session because of the tabling of . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — By the fall, do you mean the November session?

**MR. KATZMAN:** — The November session. We could . . . Rather than the summer, which didn't work out for timing for everybody, the November session could be the follow time for those things, and because in the November session we do not really meet . . . We did just table our report last year during the November session. We met for one or two days.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — I've got four of those little blue books.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Okay. Table to finish the report, and we can use that period because we don't have the Provincial Auditor's report or the management letters normally until the spring portion. So, that would work very successful, rather than to . . . I'm hoping to take more time off this summer than I've ever had.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — You're planning on campaigning, to be honest.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Well, among the campaigning I intend to spend some time at home. But I think that we might as well decide now that, if there's a federal election, here we go. Forget it.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — That would be impossible. The only danger is that the federal election is in the fall. That may wash out the November session. It has in the past. There were a couple of years in the past the federal election washed out a fall session. The government of the day was simply not ready for a fall session at the end of a federal election.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — The argument to that then becomes, though, we must first sit through a throne speech, and it will probably be the fourteenth day, if history of this place is normal, till we will get the Provincial Auditor's books and so forth, so we do have time against you. Because I have yet to remember, no matter when we were government or you were government, that the Provincial Auditor's . . . Or when the blue books came down prior to the fourteenth day of the sitting of the House, they seemed to arrive around the fourteenth and fifteenth sitting day.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — That may be. The only problem with waiting until the fall is that information gets cold. I remember some of it in July and precious little of it in November. And I think if we're going to that system, I think what this means from the point of view of the Clerk, is that we need . . . With respect to those items, which we're going to ask for a report back in November, we need quite detailed minutes because none of it remains with you. If we're going to leave it till December, we might invite some discussion from other members of the committee in which system you'd prefer, and I don't have any strong feeling on it. It wasn't east to get a

meeting together in midsummer, as Gwenn will testify.

**MR. GLAUSER:** — We weren't successful during the past year at doing that, and this year looks even less likely that we would be able to accomplish it, so I think we'd be better off with properly flagged items.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Okay. I take that then to sort of be a consensus of the committee, that those departments which have to report back, that we will expect that to be done in the fall session. In the unlikely event the fall session is washed out during the mornings of the throne speech, and, as I say to the Clerk, with respect to those items where this is reporting back, we might plan on circulating some detailed minutes of the matter, about the issues and what they were supposed to be. The normal minutes that we get are adequate, if we're going to report on them at the end of the session, but if we're going to wait a year, they're just not enough.

Okay. Anything else relating to . . . We were back to organization. We're handling this in kind of a hopscotch fashion. Anything under organization, then, before we go on?

Let me ask the Clerk: did we elect our chairman and vice-chairman for the session of just for the . . .

**MS. RONYK:** — For the length of the legislature.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — The length of the legislature. That's what I thought.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Gee, and I thought I was going to leave Cal for vice-chairman.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Yeah, that's what I thought. They've done it for the length of the legislature, not the session.

Okay. Determine date for receipt of comptroller's follow-up report on the committee report of December 7. I may say that hits me as cold as a block of ice. I just don't remember what that was about.

**MS. RONYK:** — Mr. Chairman, traditionally, after the committee has reported to the House, as you did last December, after a certain length of time — which varies — has gone by, the comptroller will report back to the committee, indicating what progress has been made within government in implementing the committee's recommendations. That is the current follow-up method that we have, and I think your suggestion of following it up directly with departments at a later date is also a good one. But, in any case, the comptroller usually does report back to the committee. Last year, the committee reported in March for the old year, and the comptroller reported in the fall on the progress in implementing that report. Now, I think Mr. Kraus has something to say about his report.

**MR. KRAUS:** — Yes. Actually, normally we have a little more time, so the report is tabled, or rather, presented to either yourself, Mr. Chairman, or the Clerk, probably several weeks in advance of these meetings actually taking place. But, we have got a report prepared, and I would like to table it with you, and perhaps if it could be circulated and read, and members may wish to ask questions later.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Yes. That would be useful to the members to have a few days to look at it. Might we concur in that suggestion — that this report be tabled now and perhaps discussed on Tuesday next? It's a little light reading for the weekend. Okay? I take that to be agreed.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Mr. Chairman, one comment, if I may. Who is new on this committee that did not sit any portion last year?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — There ain't no one.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Just Duane?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Oh, just Duane . . . (inaudible) . . .

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Duane, do you have a copy of the blue, of the *Public Accounts* last year? The verbatims?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — . . . (inaudible) . . . What's that?

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Do not all the members of the House get a copy of the verbatim of *Public Accounts*, once we table it?

**MS. RONYK:** — I'd like to report on that and other matters.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Okay, our esteemed Clerk is going to report on that and other matters.

**MS. RONYK:** — Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, there were several items that were raised with regard to the handling of the committee's documents last year, and there are a few things that I'd like to report back to you on that. And one is that now the members of the committee will be provided with a bound volume of the committee's verbatim each year. In the past, the members received only the daily verbatims, and you had to kind of hold them together yourselves, which is not very easy to do. And now you will be receiving a bound volume of the verbatims for all the meetings that dealt with the last fiscal year.

Also in that bound volume, it contains not only the minutes on the verbatim, but it also contains the committee's report. It contains a list of all the documents that were tabled in the committee, and an index that will be useful to you if you're looking up a specific branch or department or agency that we were dealing with. The bound volume for the last set of committee meetings will be available this week. It should be here tomorrow or the following day. We will distribute those to you, probably in your offices.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Will this be contained in that report or not?

**MS. RONYK:** — That's another request the committee made last year, was: could we have all of the tabled documents — all the material, the documents that are tabled in the committee, could they be printed and bound as well? I've looked at that and I have a suggestion to make to you that I hope you will find acceptable.

Last year, during the last committee, the stack of tabled documents was probably a foot high, as you were aware if you were trying to hold them. For us to enter all that into our system and typeset it would just be a horrendously time-consuming effort to print it and bind it. I'm just not sure if it would be . . . It would also take a long time, and it would not likely be timely enough for your purposes to use them.

What I would propose is for us to provide the committee with holders such as the chairman has here on his desk, and that all the documents that we give you will be on 8.5 by 11 standard format that will fit in there, and we will try to keep your holders up to date with the committee tabled documents so that you can keep them all together in one place. Things will be labelled. And then, once a year or two years have gone by, if you don't want those any more, you can discard the old ones and keep your new ones.

Now, you can work out with Craig just how you want that system to work: whether you want us to send a set of documents to your offices; whether you want us to bring them here; whether you want us to do both — bring them here, and if you're not here, we'll send them to you in your

offices — however you want to keep your boxes up, as up to date as possible, without us having to take the time in our journals shop to typeset all of the material that is received.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — I think that is reasonable. It is a voluminous task. You're right. I have two files, about that thick, and I didn't keep everything. Is that a reasonable suggestion? I would prefer to have them sent to the office. We may then, at times, get them ahead of time. That's useful to be able to flip through them quickly.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — The only problem with that, Ned, is a lot of the documents are taped here. And if we make sure — and this we'll be able to make sure everybody is told this year — from now on it's 8.5 by 11, and they bring sufficient copies because they're told to bring so many copies to this meeting, and Gwenn taped dates from that day and gives them to us. If we're not here she sends them up to our office. But not very often do people table documents except later on when they're sending back replies. Those could be sent to our offices as fast as Gwenn gets them. I mean, there's three different systems we're talking about.

**MS. RONYK:** — That would work. Whenever we do have documents when the committee isn't meeting the next day, we can distribute them to your offices and they can be put . . . Maybe you could instruct your staff to file everything that comes labelled a PAC document in your cases.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — I think that's the second part of the issue. Could your computer, please, punch out the PAC document and the number — title only. Therefore, we can always up-to-date that list. You can send us, maybe, two pages.

**MS. RONYK:** — Keep a running list.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — . . . a running list of what documents we should have. Therefore, if we're going through our files and we missed a meeting and we've lost the document, well, we know that that's the document we're looking for.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — A table of contents, in effect. That's a good suggestion.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Yes. And that should be no problem for that one machine of yours to make this, and then we just keep them in our books.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Yes, give us weekly update.

**MR. MEAGHER:** — Well, Mr. Chairman, are we referring to . . . The documents that you refer to are such things as the one that we have today? Now, you've got numbers on here: PAC 1, PAC 2, PAC 3. Is that what you're referring to? That they may vary considerably, anything from management letters, to reports, to replies, to . . .

**MS. RONYK:** — Anything that the committee receives that it wants to keep in its files as a permanent record of the committee will be numbered and kept and distributed.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Normally letters and stuff from the departments. At least that's the typical . . . (inaudible) . . . These are a little unusual because these are filed early, but I think . . . (inaudible) . . . The rest are letters and so on that we get from the departments.

**MR. ENGEL:** — . . . (inaudible) . . . is four. We've got one, two, three, four, before us.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — No, we haven't. We've got five . . . (inaudible interjections) . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Those are not in the exhibits, anyway, are they? Or are they?

**MS. RONYK:** — We should give them a document number. You all have them, and we will put

them on . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Five and six, seven and eight, then, I guess.

**MS. RONYK:** — And also, as a document is tabled it's noted in the minutes, so that you'll know each day whether you've gotten everything.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Okay. Five is volume one. Six is volume two. Seven is supplementary. How does that sound?

**MR. MEAGHER:** — It's my understanding you will then issue a couple of these plastic containers as well to put these documents in.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — You can get those, if you ask, up at the . . .

**MR. KATZMAN:** — I have them in my office for Paul. I've got some. I've been delivering them as they kept coming in to me.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — They are great organizers, I'll tell you.

**A MEMBER:** — Where can I get those?

**MS. RONYK:** — We will supply each member with one to start and a couple . . . (inaudible) . . . ordered.

**A MEMBER:** — Well, we need a second one already.

**MS. RONYK:** — Yes, I guess you do. Sure. Okay.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Well, last year you'd get the container by walking into the Assembly office and asking.

**MS. RONYK:** — You can if we have them on hand.

**MR. ENGEL:** — If we have pages that can deliver them today or . . . (inaudible) . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Last year we ordered them.

**MS. RONYK:** — Yes. I don't think we're out at the moment, but we have some on order. When they come, we'll get them to you.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — This is a trifling comment, but are there labels that stick on here?

**MS. RONYK:** — Yes. They're going to label them. If they don't have something that sticks, we're going to use that black tape.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Okay. You may have been busy . . . The Clerk may have been busy when we agreed to deal with the comptroller's report on Monday.

**A MEMBER:** — Tuesday.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Tuesday, rather. All right. The Clerk has one more item. Good. Good, good, good.

**MS. RONYK:** — Something that may come up this year, as you're doing your review, is a problem that may arise as a result of the reorganization of the departments over the last year.

Currently, the departments are organized differently than they were for the year in which the *Public Accounts* are prepared, the year you're reviewing. It might be helpful for the committee, in order to have the officials before you that you want on a specific issue, for us to try to be aware ahead of time where that specific responsibility now lies — which department it's now in. And if we can determine that ahead of time when we give notice to the officials to attend, we can either ensure that the department that will be appearing will have officials from wherever with it, or we can call the officials from the old department to attend. Whatever works out the best. We can try to arrange ahead of time so that we don't have the Department of Energy and Mines here, and last year, or the year that we're looking at, the responsibility was in a different department and they no longer have the files, etc., or whatever.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — What I understand the Clerk to be saying is that when we call a department, we should let the staff know what the issues the department is going to be asked to deal with, because some of them may be in odd places because of the reorganization.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Mr. Chairman, on that comment, may I suggest that immediately the Clerk send out a letter to the total government, or however it's done, to all the departments that are affected, suggesting that this committee has now decided it will be meeting from 7:30 till 9:30 and is scheduled to start immediately, and will be calling members, so be prepared. In other words, let's warn them that we're starting and that absentee or excuses will not be accepted to miss the committee.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — One of the learned scribes of the black art, who will go unnamed, just had a heart attack, Ralph. I think he found out for the first time the hours we meet.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — There was a suggestion of 6 o'clock that was debated, so that's not bad.

**MS. RONYK:** — Usually, after the committee has made its preliminary list of departments to call, we do give them a preliminary notice.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — The Clerk tells me that she can do that, once we get a preliminary list of who the . . . those departments we're calling. It might not make a lot of sense to get the Department of Telephones stirred up if they're not going to be called.

**MR. MEAGHER:** — Also, as well, Mr. Chairman, I'd like it suggested in that memo that the departments be made aware of the fact that we may be calling that new department and some agencies or things that were in other departments last year, and it's incumbent upon them to bring information that they've inherited from another department — not us. I don't think that it should be incumbent upon us to decide what department may or may not be represented by this new department. It should be their responsibility.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — And our staff. It's partially our staff's responsibility to ensure that they know what issues we're going to deal with and who they need to be present to deal with those issues. So, in part, they should be responsible for . . . (inaudible) . . .

**MR. KATZMAN:** — I would assume Gwenn should maybe sit down with, I'm not sure — but I would guess Mrs. Crosthwaite, who's assistant to the cabinet, will probably be able to follow any department . . . (inaudible) . . . Or there must be somebody in Exec. Council that does that.

**MS. RONYK:** — We can trace it through the orders in council and . . . (inaudible) . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — One, I think, very confusing one — I find confusing — is Revenue and Financial Services, and Supply and Services. I find them to be a real dog's breakfast.

**MR. GLAUSER:** — That's the one that comes to my mind, because Supply and Services is now by itself, and Revenue has gone another direction.



**MS. RONYK:** — Tourism, and . . . (inaudible) . . . of that area, was quite divided up, as well.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Because there's Economic Development, Small Business, Tourism. Okay. Any other words of wisdom from the Clerk?

**MS. RONYK:** — No, I just do want to say thank you to the committee for the good times that we have had, and to wish you all the best in your deliberations this year.

**MEMBERS:** — Hear, hear!

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Okay. We had a tentative consideration of Provincial Auditor's report. The hour is getting late.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — 7:30 tomorrow.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Yes, I think 7:30 tomorrow makes more sense to start wheeling through it, and be thinking of other departments.

For the benefit of the new members, let me reiterate that while the Provincial Auditor's report forms the basis of our deliberations, we are by no means restricted to calling those departments which he's commented on. If, in your belief, there are issues relating to the efficiency, effectiveness, or economy with which other departments handle themselves, please feel free to put the name forward and, if time permits, we'll call those departments. I have one or two myself which . . .

**MR. GLAUSER:** — You're talking about comprehensive audit now, Mr. Chairman, and that still is not . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — No, no. With respect, I differ with the vice-chairman. The committee has, since time immemorial, had the jurisdiction to deal with questions relating to the efficiency, effectiveness, or economy. The discussion over the last two years about comprehensive auditing has focused on whether or not the Provincial Auditor's jurisdiction should be so broad. This committee's always had that mandate. We can go back to the verbatim of the discussions on that, if you like, but I think I'm right.

**MR. GLAUSER:** — How far back?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Go back to the period of time when we first began to discuss is some years ago, and I think you will find I'm right: that that's the mandate of the committee.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Mr. Chairman, I've got to argue. I've only misses one year since '75 that I wasn't a member of this committee. And value for money and that type of thing, the committee never really got into, as is indicated in the new style of auditing.

But the members did comment on the properness, but not on if we got value, I think, if that's what you're saying. The committee never commented on value. It was just if it was done properly. I mean, my knowledge is, other than one year which I didn't sit on the committee, there has been inferences made, but never comments that could be put in the document of the report.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — The committee has always commented on the efficiency of the departments. If they saw inefficiencies, that would be commented on.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Inefficiencies, but not value for service or money. I mean, it's a technical . . . We're into a technicality.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — This may be an argument over semantics and not substance.

**MR. GLAUSER:** — There's a fair amount of difference, don't you feel?

**MR. KATZMAN:** — We may be saying the same thing, but we're phrasing it differently.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Perhaps. Perhaps it's not the argument over semantics. I'm not sure. No one is denying that committee members can raise issues dealing with the efficiency or effectiveness with which the departments discharge their functions.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — That's right.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Okay. Then there's no disagreement. Perhaps we were attaching different meanings to the phrase "comprehensive auditing" or value of money. Anyway, the point was that you may have other departments, other than those mentioned in the Provincial Auditor's report, which you want the committee to review. Please give that due consideration. I have one or two myself.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Mr. Chairman, for tomorrow, do you want some of the members to indicate which areas they would like to lead on? Because we're going to be calling areas for Thursday. Well, we may not be. We'll probably be going through the auditor's letters and so forth the next day and a half or so.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — I would have assumed that we would have got through the Provincial Auditor's report on Wednesday and have been in a position to call, start with a department, Thursday morning and one or two departments through Thursday morning.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Let's go through here and see if there is one that we know we all want for sure, so we can have somebody getting ready.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — The department I was thinking of actually — a thought had crossed my mind — was Social Services. Members may want more time to prepare for that, but it's at least fresh in my mind in the sense that we discussed it last December and last spring. And it struck me that we might start with that department on Thursday since we know we're virtually certain to call it. That was one that came to mind. Another one that came to my mind was the legal services, simply because I'm familiar with the thing.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Well, I can be ready, and I believe you could be, for Supply and Services.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Yes, we could go through the routine.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — You and I could be ready with no problem for Thursday, if necessary, if we're looking for something that we can be ready for.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — All right, that's a good point, because that's fairly routine. Why don't we go with Revenue, Supply and . . . It is now Supply and Services.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — We have to call Revenue, Supply and Services. Can you be ready, Cal, for Thursday?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — That's two departments now, I guess. And that's a full morning, at least. Since it is now two departments, why don't we go . . .

**MR. KATZMAN:** — The second one we might want here because of left over . . .

**MR. KRAUS:** — Mr. Chairman, who is being called first? I wasn't sure that . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — We hadn't quite fine tuned that. It's now two departments. Why don't we call. . . It doesn't matter. Revenue first, or Supply and Services first?

**A MEMBER:** — They might come in together.

**A MEMBER:** — No, no, no.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — They're two departments now.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — No, we want the old Government Services department first.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Then, that's Supply and Services.

**A MEMBER:** — That's Supply and Services.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Then Revenue and Financial Services, second.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — We want Revenue on the other side, second.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — All right.

**MR. BENSON:** — That means Social Services is not being called, then?

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Correct.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Okay, that's fine.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — I don't think we can be ready as fast for that as these two because . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — These are routine.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — . . . these are routine, and some of the members have been here for several years now that are . . . Well, Cal leads Revenue, don't you, Cal? I always do the Government Services one, and I can be ready pretty quick. It'll give Duane and Miles some time to see how it works for the departments they're interested in. Kim needs more time, he said, for law.

Is there anything else that we think we need? That should be it for Thursday.

**MS. RONYK:** — Do you want both? Do you want Revenue, too?

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Yes. Stand by.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Yes, either here, or on a 20-minute stand by.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — I would suggest, and if we can be ready, mainly because we've got to pull them from everywhere in the dogs world, is next Tuesday, start with DNS messes that we want to touch at, because they've got to be pulled from so many different places.

**MR. BENSON:** — It may take a little longer than that. DNS is non-existent after, well, effectively, right now.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — I know, but they're going to have to pull the bodies from somewhere. And, because of that, if they're going to pull them from everywhere, we better start on a Tuesday so we can get through them.

**MR. MEAGHER:** — Are you suggesting the department itself is non-existent?

**MR. BENSON:** — *De facto*. I mean all the employees have been distributed almost throughout government and . . .

**MR. KATZMAN:** — No, there's a small group left.

**MR. BENSON:** — . . . (inaudible) . . . a small secretariat left. It may be appropriate to identify the issues so that they, in turn, can contact the right people, because they're strewn throughout.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — The economic division is left, and there's something else left, but it's still called DNS.

**MR. KRAUS:** — Depending on the issue that's being discussed, you may find it's in a different department, and they would have to be prepared to speak on it.

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Yes, well, we can outline that tomorrow or the next day, but they should be warned we're going to be looking for them the following Tuesday, because they're the one guys that are everywhere. So we'll want to start them on a Tuesday and finish them that same week. Even if it's the next Tuesday, Ned . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — It doesn't seem unreasonable that they could be here Tuesday. They will have six days warning. Or do you think that is unrealistic?

**MS. RONYK:** — If, right now . . . If we could tell them when we send them the notice that we want housing people, they have to come with Sask Housing. If we want northern development . . . (inaudible) . . .

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — You'll have to identify the issues, yes.

**MS. RONYK:** — Unless you want to do that tomorrow, when you look at the report.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — We'll do that tomorrow. We will identify issues tomorrow. Okay, that seems reasonable.

Supply and Services, Financial Services, Thursday; and DNS related issues — since there's now no department — DNS issues, Tuesday morning. And we can set the agenda for Wednesday and Thursday of next week tomorrow, but you could probably warn them today that they're . . .

**MR. KATZMAN:** — I think you won't find there's that much for DNS, just little bits and pieces that were left behind.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — Yes, maybe, maybe. Anything else for the good and welfare? I take the silence to be . . .

**MR. KATZMAN:** — Cal, when can we report back on Tuesdays, if that's going to be a problem? Tomorrow?

**A MEMBER:** — Tomorrow.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** — You guys don't know the exact time of your caucus, I assume. Yes.

**A MEMBER:** — Oh, we know what time that is.

The committee adjourned at 11:45 a.m.