STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS June 6, 2000

MINUTE NO. 3 9:00 a.m. — Room 10

1. **PRESENT**: Mr. Krawetz in the Chair and Members Gantefoer, Higgins, Jones, Kwiatkowski, Lorje, Stewart, Trew, Wakefield and Wartman.

Provincial Auditor's Office

Fred Wendel, Acting Provincial Auditor Brian Atkinson, Executive Director Rodd Jersak, Manager Gordon J.K. Neill, Q.C., Legal Counsel

Provincial Comptroller's Office

Terry Paton, Provincial Comptroller Chris Bayda, Director, Financial Management Branch Lisa Healy, Analyst Lori Taylor, Manager

- 2. The Committee resumed deliberations on a process for the appointment of a new Provincial Auditor and proposed changes to *The Provincial Auditor Act* received from the Office of the Provincial Auditor (*Special Report by the Provincial Auditor to the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan regarding Changes to the Provincial Auditor Act*) and the Minister of Finance's Provincial Auditor Advisory Committee (*Draft Report of the Provincial Auditor Advisory Committee*).
- 3. In follow-up to the Committee's discussion on the application of *The Financial Administration Act* to the Office of the Provincial Auditor (Meeting of June 1, 2000), the Acting Provincial Auditor provided the Committee with the following document:
 - PAC 2/24 **Acting Provincial Auditor:** Report of the Office of the Provincial Auditor to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts Regarding the Application of <u>The Financial Administration Act</u> to the Office of the Provincial Auditor.
- 4. The Committee deliberated on issues related to the appointment of a Provincial Auditor. It was agreed in principle that the selection of a Provincial Auditor should be the unanimous decision of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, and further; that the appointment of a Provincial Auditor should be made by an Order of the Assembly upon the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.
- 5. The Committee deliberated on issues related to the term of office of the Provincial Auditor. It was agreed in principle that the term should be for 10 years; that the incumbent shall not be reappointed but would be eligible to re-apply in competition for a second term; and that the terms of engagement include a mandatory age of retirement clause; and that the age of retirement be set at the age of 65 years.

6.	The Committee agreed that it would not consider other issues concerning changes to The Provincial Auditor Act until it had received the final report of the Minister of Finance's Provincial Auditor Advisory Committee. The Chair was asked to request that the Minister of Finance provide copies of the said Advisory Committee's report to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.
7.	It was moved by Mr. Kwiatkowski:
	That this Committee do now adjourn.
	The question being put, the motion was agreed to.
8.	The Committee adjourned at 10:35 a.m. until Tuesday June 13th, 2000 in Room 10 at 9:15 a.m.
	egory A. Putz mmittee Clerk Ken Krawetz Committee Chair