

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

November 22, 2000

MINUTE NO. 7

1:30 p.m. — Room 10

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

Substituting Members

*Mr. Kowalsky substituted for Ms. Jones

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

Lori Taylor, Manager, Financial Management Branch

Lisa Healy, Analyst, Financial Management Branch

2. The Chair advised the Committee that he had received correspondence from the Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General in response to a request for an opinion made November 21st, 2000, by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts (PAC Minute No. 6, items 3 & 4). The Chair read the letter into the verbatim record and tabled the following correspondence.

PAC 9/24 Saskatchewan Justice: Correspondence of November 21st, 2000 concerning the Fall 2000 Report of the Provincial Auditor and the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority special audit.

3. In consideration of the letter to the Committee from the Deputy Minister of Justice, it was moved by Mr. Kwiatkowski:

That we consider the response from the Department of Justice at 4:00 p.m. this afternoon.

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

4. The Committee resumed deliberation on proposed changes to *The Provincial Auditor Act*; as proposed by the *Special Report by the Provincial Auditor to the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan regarding Changes to The Provincial Auditor Act* (Special Report) and the Minister of Finance's Provincial Auditor Advisory Committee's *Report of the Provincial Auditor Advisory Committee*.

The following representatives of the Advisory Committee appeared before the Committee:

John K. Aitken – Advisory Committee Member

Lori Taylor, Manager, Financial Management Branch – Staff to the Advisory Committee

Lisa Healy, Analyst, Financial Management Branch – Staff to the Advisory Committee

5. The Committee proceeded to review the recommendations of the Provincial Auditor's *Special Report* and came to the following conclusions.

Recommendation 1	On motion of Mr. Gantefer, the Committee disagreed.
Recommendation 2	On motion of Mr. Wartman, the Committee concurred.
Recommendation 3	On motion of Ms. Lorje, the Committee disagreed.
Recommendation 4 (1)	On motion of Mr. Wakefield, the Committee disagreed.
Recommendation 4 (2)	On motion of Ms. Higgins, the Committee disagreed.
Recommendation 4 (3)	On motion of Mr. Gantefer, the Committee disagreed but noted that interjurisdictional agreements should contain audit authority, as specified in recommendation 26 of the <i>Report of the Provincial Auditor Advisory Committee</i> .
Recommendation 4 (4)	On motion of Mr. Stewart, the Committee disagreed but noted that the current section 16 of <i>The Provincial Auditor Act</i> should be retained.
Recommendation 5	On motion of Mr. Wartman, the Committee disagreed.
Recommendation 6	On motion of Ms. Lorje, the Committee concurred and noted that it will be making such a recommendation to the Assembly.

6. The Committee recessed at 3:02 p.m. until 3:17 p.m.
7. The Committee resumed its review of the recommendations of the Provincial Auditor's *Special Report* and came to the following conclusions.

Recommendation 7(1)	On motion of Mr. Gantefer, the Committee concurred.
Recommendation 7(2)	The Committee deliberated on this recommendation but agreed to postpone a decision until the next meeting.
Recommendation 8	The Committee deliberated on this recommendation but agreed to postpone a decision until the next meeting.

8. The Committee recessed at 4:00 p.m. until 4:10 p.m.
9. Pursuant to order, the Committee resumed consideration of a letter from the Deputy Minister of Justice and Deputy Attorney General in response to a request for an opinion made November 21st, 2000, by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts. It was moved by Mr. Kwiatkowski:

That the 2000 Fall Report of the Provincial Auditor, Volume 2, be identified as the first Report for consideration by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts at its next meeting to be held at the call of the Chair, in agreement with the co-chair but no later than December 8th, 2000.

A debate arising, and the question being put, the motion was negatived.

10. It was moved by Mr. Gantefer:

That this Committee do now adjourn.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

11. The Committee adjourned at 4:30 p.m. until Wednesday, November 23rd, 2000, at 9:00 p.m.

Gregory A. Putz
Committee Clerk

Ken Krawetz
Committee Chair