

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
Wednesday, March 26, 2014

MINUTE NO. 16
7:57 a.m. – Māwawapiwin Room (Room 8)

1. **Present:** Danielle Chartier in the Chair and Members Jennifer Campeau, Herb Cox, Glen Hart, Scott Moe, Laura Ross, Corey Tochor and Trent Wotherspoon.

Provincial Auditor's Office

Judy Ferguson, Acting Provincial Auditor
Mobashar Ahmed, Deputy Provincial Auditor
Kim Lowe, Principal
Melanie Heebner, Senior Manager

Provincial Comptroller's Office

Terry Paton, Provincial Comptroller
Chris Bayda, Executive Director, Financial Management Branch

2. The committee considered Chapter 19 (Regional Health Authorities) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* and Chapter 19 (Regional Health Authorities) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*. Ms. Ferguson and Mr. Ahmad of the Office of the Provincial Auditor provided an overview of the chapters.

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

Witnesses

Max Hendricks, Deputy Minister
Tracey Smith, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister
Dr. Ty Jisdal, Chief Medical Officer
Shelley Reddekopp, Executive Director, Financial Services Branch
Cindy Fedak, Director, Financial Services Branch
Sulav Pant, Director of Finance, Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region

3. It was agreed that the Deputy Minister of Health will provide a written report to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts and the Office of the Provincial Auditor by June 30th on the status of the Regional Health Authorities outstanding recommendations as reported by the Provincial Auditor.
4. The committee concurred with recommendation 19-1 made at page 146 of Chapter 19 (Regional Health Authorities) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Keewatin Yatthé Regional Health Authority deposit money received from residents of its Special-care homes in a designated trust account as required by *The Housing and Special-care Homes Regulations* under *The Regional Health Services Act*. The committee noted that Keewatin Yatthé Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
5. The committee concurred with recommendation 19-2 made at page 146 of Chapter 19 (Regional Health Authorities) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Cypress Regional Health Authority adequately segregate duties of its staff who use its financial accounting system. The committee noted that Cypress Regional Health Authority is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

6. The committee concurred with recommendation 19-3 made at page 146 of Chapter 19 (Regional Health Authorities) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Kelsey Trail Regional Health Authority adequately segregate duties of its staff who use its financial accounting system. The committee noted that Kelsey Trail Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
7. The committee concurred with recommendation 19-4 made at page 147 of Chapter 19 (Regional Health Authorities) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Keewatin Yatthé Regional Health Authority regularly reconcile its payroll advances accounts to its accounting records. The committee noted that Keewatin Yatthé Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
8. The committee concurred with recommendation 19-1 made at page 139 of Chapter 19 (Regional Health Authorities) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Cypress Regional Health Authority, Five Hills Regional Health Authority, Heartland Regional Health Authority, Prairie North Regional Health Authority, Prince Albert Parkland Regional Health Authority, and Sun Country Regional Health Authority follow Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for the Public Sector to prepare their financial statements.
9. The committee concurred with recommendation 19-2 made at page 140 of Chapter 19 (Regional Health Authorities) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Prince Albert Parkland Regional Health Authority comply with *The Regional Health Services Act* when providing funding to healthcare organizations in the region. The committee noted that Prince Albert Parkland Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
10. The committee concurred with recommendation 19-3 made at page 140 of Chapter 19 (Regional Health Authorities) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Keewatin Yatthé Regional Health Authority comply with *The Regional Health Services Act* when providing funding to healthcare organizations in the region. The committee noted that Keewatin Yatthé Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
11. The committee concurred with recommendation 19-4 made at page 141 of Chapter 19 (Regional Health Authorities) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Mamawetan Churchill River Regional Health Authority establish a process to control overtime costs resulting from calling staff back to work to provide healthcare services outside their assigned shifts. The committee noted that Mamawetan Churchill River Regional Health Authority is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
12. The committee concurred with recommendation 19-5 made at page 142 of Chapter 19 (Regional Health Authorities) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Mamawetan Churchill River Regional Health Authority establish a process to ensure its staff properly document in patient files who prescribed the medication administered. The committee noted that Mamawetan Churchill River Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
13. The committee concurred with recommendation 19-6 made at page 142 of Chapter 19 (Regional Health Authorities) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Mamawetan Churchill River Regional Health Authority establish processes to ensure medications are only administered to patients who have been registered in its healthcare facilities. The committee noted that Mamawetan Churchill River Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.

14. The committee concurred with recommendation 19-7 made at page 142 of Chapter 19 (Regional Health Authorities) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Mamawetan Churchill River Regional Health Authority establish a process to review and approve all key financial procedures (e.g., bank reconciliations, journal entries). The committee noted that Mamawetan Churchill River Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
15. The committee concurred with recommendation 19-8 made at page 143 of Chapter 19 (Regional Health Authorities) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Keewatin Yatthé Regional Health Authority follow its processes to pay its employees based on properly approved timecards. The committee noted that Keewatin Yatthé Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
16. The committee considered Chapter 43 (Cypress Regional Health Authority – IT Security Follow Up), Chapter 46 (Heartland Regional Health Authority – Disposal of IT and Communication Equipment Follow Up), Chapter 47 (Kelsey Trail Regional Health Authority – Medical Equipment Maintenance Follow Up), and Chapter 48 (Prince Albert Parkland Regional Health Authority – IT Security Follow Up) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*; Chapter 24 (Prairie North Regional Health Authority – Granting Hospital Privileges Follow Up) and Chapter 26 (Sunrise Regional Health Authority – Scheduling Nursing Staff Follow Up) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)*; and Chapter 42 (Prairie North Regional Health Authority – Hospital-Acquired Infections) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*. Ms. Ferguson and Mr. Ahmad of the Office of the Provincial Auditor provided an overview of the chapters.

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

Witnesses

Max Hendricks, Deputy Minister

Tracey Smith, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister

Dr. Ty Jisdal, Chief Medical Officer

Shelley Reddekopp, Executive Director, Financial Services Branch

Cindy Fedak, Director, Financial Services Branch

Sulav Pant, Director of Finance, Mamawetan Churchill River Health Region

17. It was moved by Mr. Moe:

That, given the report to be tabled with the committee by June 30th, the committee conclude consideration of Chapter 43 (Cypress Regional Health Authority – IT Security Follow Up), Chapter 46 (Heartland Regional Health Authority – Disposal of IT and Communication Equipment Follow Up), Chapter 47 (Kelsey Trail Regional Health Authority – Medical Equipment Maintenance Follow Up), and Chapter 48 (Prince Albert Parkland Regional Health Authority – IT Security Follow Up) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*; Chapter 24 (Prairie North Regional Health Authority – Granting Hospital Privileges Follow Up) and Chapter 26 (Sunrise Regional Health Authority – Scheduling Nursing Staff Follow Up) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)*; and Chapter 42 (Prairie North Regional Health Authority – Hospital-Acquired Infections) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

18. It was moved by Mr. Tochor:

That this committee do now adjourn.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

19. The committee adjourned at 9:02 a.m. until April 16, 2014 at 8:00 a.m.

Kathy Burianyk
Committee Clerk

Danielle Chartier
Committee Chair