

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**  
**Wednesday, April 30, 2014**

**MINUTE NO. 18**  
**7:59 a.m. – Māwawapiwin Room (Room 8)**

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

**Provincial Auditor's Office**

Judy Ferguson, Acting Provincial Auditor  
Kim Lowe, Principal  
Rosemarie Volk, Principal  
Jennifer Robertson, Manager

**Provincial Comptroller's Office**

Chris Bayda, Executive Director, Financial Management Branch  
Lori Taylor, Manager, Financial Management Branch

2. The following document was tabled:

**PAC 33/27 – Executive Council:** Response to question raised during April 16, 2014 meeting re: list of principals of zu.com Communications Inc., dated April 16, 2014.

3. The committee considered Chapter 8 (Environment) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* and Chapter 7 (Environment) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*. Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Volk of the Office of the Provincial Auditor provided an overview of the chapters.

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

Witnesses

Cam Swan, Deputy Minister  
Kevin Murphy, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Lori Uhersky, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Wes Kotyk, Executive Director, Environmental Protection  
Kevin McCullum, Executive Director  
Laurel Welsh, Executive Director, Finance and Administration  
Cheryl Jansen, Director

4. The committee concurred with recommendation 8-1 made at page 86 of Chapter 8 (Environment) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Environment comply with its policies for all purchases. The committee noted that the Ministry of Environment has complied with the recommendation.
5. The committee concluded consideration of Chapter 7 (Environment) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*.
6. The committee considered Chapter 21 (Environment – Regulating Air Emissions Follow Up) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)*. Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Volk of the Office of the Provincial Auditor provided an overview of the chapters.

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

Witnesses

Cam Swan, Deputy Minister

Kevin Murphy, Assistant Deputy Minister

Lori Uhersky, Assistant Deputy Minister

Wes Kotyk, Executive Director, Environmental Protection

Kevin McCullum, Executive Director

Laurel Welsh, Executive Director, Finance and Administration

Cheryl Jansen, Director

7. The committee concurred with recommendation 21-1 made at page 276 of Chapter 21 (Environment – Regulating Air Emissions Follow Up) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that the Ministry of Environment issue permits in compliance with existing legislation (*The Clean Air Act*) until such time as the legislation is amended. The committee noted that the Ministry of Environment has complied with the recommendation.
8. The committee considered Chapter 29 (Environment – Regulating Land Fills) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*. Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Volk of the Office of the Provincial Auditor provided an overview of the chapters.

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

Witnesses

Cam Swan, Deputy Minister

Kevin Murphy, Assistant Deputy Minister

Lori Uhersky, Assistant Deputy Minister

Wes Kotyk, Executive Director, Environmental Protection

Kevin McCullum, Executive Director

Laurel Welsh, Executive Director, Finance and Administration

Cheryl Jansen, Director

9. The committee concurred with recommendation 29-1 made at page 210 of Chapter 29 (Environment – Regulating Land Fills) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Environment adopt guidance on landfills from the proposed Environmental Code as operating practice. The committee noted that the Ministry of Environment is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
10. The committee concurred with recommendation 29-2 made at page 211 of Chapter 29 (Environment – Regulating Land Fills) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Environment obtain evidence, in a timely manner, that landfills are constructed in compliance with approved design plans. The committee noted that the Ministry of Environment is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
11. The committee concurred with recommendation 29-3 made at page 212 of Chapter 29 (Environment – Regulating Land Fills) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Environment perform landfill inspections in accordance with its established frequency requirements. The committee noted that the Ministry of Environment is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

12. The committee concurred with recommendation 29-4 made at page 214 of Chapter 29 (Environment – Regulating Land Fills) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Environment amend operating permits for all high-risk landfills to ensure they require appropriate groundwater monitoring. The committee noted that the Ministry of Environment is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
13. The committee concurred with recommendation 29-5 made at page 214 of Chapter 29 (Environment – Regulating Land Fills) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Environment follow up on groundwater monitoring reports that are not received from landfill owners in a timely manner. The committee noted that the Ministry of Environment is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
14. The committee concurred with recommendation 29-6 made at page 215 of Chapter 29 (Environment – Regulating Land Fills) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Environment review and approve landfill closure plans. The committee noted that the Ministry of Environment is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
15. The committee concurred with recommendation 29-7 made at page 215 of Chapter 29 (Environment – Regulating Land Fills) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Environment confirm landfill closures are done in accordance with approved closure plans. The committee noted that the Ministry of Environment is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
16. The committee concurred with recommendation 29-8 made at page 216 of Chapter 29 (Environment – Regulating Land Fills) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Environment perform a risk assessment of closed landfills and require landfill owners to undertake groundwater monitoring where required. The committee noted that the Ministry of Environment is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
17. The committee concurred with recommendation 29-9 made at page 216 of Chapter 29 (Environment – Regulating Land Fills) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Environment establish guidance that will aid staff in consistently addressing landfill owners that do not comply with the law and permit requirements. The committee noted that the Ministry of Environment is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
18. It was moved by Mr. Cox:

That this committee do now adjourn.

The question being put, it was agreed to.
19. The committee adjourned at 9:01 a.m. until May 14, 2014 at 8:00 a.m.

---

Kathy Burianyk  
Committee Clerk

---

Scott Moe  
Committee Deputy Chair