

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**  
**Wednesday, December 3, 2014**

**MINUTE NO. 27**  
**8:01 a.m. – Mānawapiwin Room (Room 8)**

1. **Present:** Danielle Chartier in the Chair and Members Larry Doke, Glen Hart, Paul Merriman, Warren Michelson, John Nilson\*, Rob Norris and Randy Weekes.

**Substituting Members**

John Nilson for Trent Wotherspoon

**Provincial Auditor's Office**

Judy Ferguson, Acting Provincial Auditor

Kelly Deis, Deputy Provincial Auditor

Kim Lowe, Principal

Michelle Lindenbach, Senior Manager

**Provincial Comptroller's Office**

Lori Taylor, Manager, Financial Management Branch

Alex Liu, Analyst, Financial Management Branch

2. The committee considered Chapter 11 (Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission – Enabling Apprentices to Achieve Certification) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)*. Ms. Ferguson and Mr. Deis of the Office of the Provincial Auditor provided an overview of the chapters.

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

Witnesses

Laurie Pushor, Deputy Minister

Alastair MacFadden, Assistant Deputy Minister, Labour Market Development

Darcy Smycniuk, Executive Director, Apprenticeship and Workforce Skills, Labour Market Development

3. The committee concurred with recommendation 11-1 made at page 84 of Chapter 11 (Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission – Enabling Apprentices to Achieve Certification) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission develop specific, measurable, relevant, and reasonable targets for all performance measures to ensure strategies are achieved to support the apprenticeship and trade certification program. The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
4. The committee concurred with recommendation 11-2 made at page 84 of Chapter 11 (Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission – Enabling Apprentices to Achieve Certification) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission document methodologies for determining the results of the apprenticeship and trade certification program. The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

5. The committee concurred with recommendation 11-3 made at page 87 of Chapter 11 (Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission – Enabling Apprentices to Achieve Certification) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission formally require regular reporting of apprentices' on-the-job trade hours. The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
6. The committee concurred with recommendation 11-4 made at page 88 of Chapter 11 (Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission – Enabling Apprentices to Achieve Certification) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission implement a formal policy for industry inspections that requires the use of a risk assessment to decide which employers to inspect and how often. The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
7. The committee concurred with recommendation 11-5 made at page 89 of Chapter 11 (Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission – Enabling Apprentices to Achieve Certification) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission verify and document that employers receive an industry inspection as required. The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
8. The committee concurred with recommendation 11-6 made at page 89 of Chapter 11 (Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission – Enabling Apprentices to Achieve Certification) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission develop a formal process to ensure employers comply with *The Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Act, 1999* and *The Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Regulations, 2003*. The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
9. The committee concurred with recommendation 11-7 made at page 89 of Chapter 11 (Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission – Enabling Apprentices to Achieve Certification) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission follow its policy regarding timely completion of issue-driven inspections. The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
10. The committee concurred with recommendation 11-8 made at page 93 of Chapter 11 (Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission – Enabling Apprentices to Achieve Certification) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission require regular, formal interim reports from management on progress towards achieving performance targets that support the apprenticeship and trade certification program. The committee noted that the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

11. It was moved by Mr. Norris:

That this committee do now adjourn.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

12. The committee adjourned at 8:47 a.m. until Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

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Stacey Ursulescu  
Committee Clerk

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Danielle Chartier  
Committee Chair