

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**  
**Thursday, January 15, 2015**

**MINUTE NO. 30**  
**9:00 a.m. – Māṁawapiwin Room (Room 8)**

1. **Present:** Paul Merriman in the Chair and Members Danielle Chartier, Larry Doke, Warren Michelson, Rob Norris, Randy Weekes and Trent Wotherspoon.

**Provincial Auditor's Office**

Judy Ferguson, Acting Provincial Auditor  
Tara Clemett, Principal  
Kim Lowe, Principal  
Regan Sommerfeld, Principal

**Provincial Comptroller's Office**

Terry Paton, Provincial Comptroller  
Lori Taylor, Manager, Financial Management

2. The committee considered Chapter 34 (Regulating Personal Care Homes for Resident Health and Safety) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* and Chapter 48 (Health – Regulating Personal Care Homes) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*. Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Clemett of the Office of the Provincial Auditor provided an overview of the chapter.

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

Witnesses

Ministry of Health

Max Hendricks, Deputy Minister  
Tracey Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Mark Wyatt, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Kimberley Kratzig, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Karen Lautsch, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Dawn Skalicky-Souliere, Director, Licensing  
Marsha Munro, Manager, Revenue and Audit  
Larissa Flister, Intern

Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority

Robbie Peters, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Saskatoon Regional Health Authority

Nilesh Kavia, Vice President, Finance and Corporate Services

Sun Country Regional Health Authority

John Knoch, Vice President of Corporate and Finance

3. The committee concurred with recommendation 34-1 made at page 301 of Chapter 34 (Regulating Personal Care Homes for Resident Health and Safety) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Health use a risk-based approach to inspect high-risk personal care homes more frequently. The committee noted that the Ministry of Health has complied with the recommendation.

4. The committee concurred with recommendation 34-2 made at page 301 of Chapter 34 (Regulating Personal Care Homes for Resident Health and Safety) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Health provide guidance for its staff to assist in determining when to conduct unannounced inspections of high-risk personal care homes. The committee noted that the Ministry of Health has complied with the recommendation.
5. The committee concurred with recommendation 34-3 made at page 302 of Chapter 34 (Regulating Personal Care Homes for Resident Health and Safety) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Health provide written guidance to staff for consistent and prompt follow-up of personal care homes that do not comply with actions required after inspections. The committee noted that the Ministry of Health has complied with the recommendation.
6. The committee concurred with recommendation 34-4 made at page 303 of Chapter 34 (Regulating Personal Care Homes for Resident Health and Safety) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Health use a system to track personal care home inspection dates, non-compliance issues, required actions, and dates that personal care homes complete these actions. The committee noted that the Ministry of Health is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
7. The committee concurred with recommendation 34-5 made at page 304 of Chapter 34 (Regulating Personal Care Homes for Resident Health and Safety) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that the Ministry of Health publicly report inspection results when personal care homes do not comply with *The Personal Care Homes Act, 1991*. The committee noted that the Ministry of Health has complied with the recommendation.
8. The committee concluded consideration of Chapter 48 (Health – Regulating Personal Care Homes) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*.
9. The committee considered Chapter 18 (Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*; Chapter 2 (Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)*; Chapter 18 (Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* and Chapter 18 (Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*. Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Lowe of the Office of the Provincial Auditor provided an overview of the chapter.

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John Knoch, Vice President of Corporate and Finance

10. The committee concurred with recommendation 2-1 made at page 32 of Chapter 2 (Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that the Board of Directors of the Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority review and approve future budgets on a timely basis. The committee noted that the Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
11. The committee concurred with recommendation 2-2 made at page 33 of Chapter 2 (Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority provide the Board of Directors reliable monthly financial reports that include reasonable and supportable projections of year-end results. The committee noted that Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
12. The committee concurred with recommendation 2-3 made at page 33 of Chapter 2 (Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority include in its monthly financial reports to the Board of Directors complete reasons for differences between the year to date budgeted and actual expenses. The committee noted that Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
13. The committee concurred with recommendation 2-4 made at page 34 of Chapter 2 (Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority develop action plans to address projected operating deficits and provide a formal plan to the Board of Directors for approval. The committee noted that Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
14. The committee concurred with recommendation 2-5 made at page 35 of Chapter 2 (Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that the Board of Directors of the Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority perform regular, timely, and thorough reviews of financial reports. The committee noted that the Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
15. The committee concurred with recommendation 2-6 made at page 35 of Chapter 2 (Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* that Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority request the Ministry of Health to appoint individuals to the Board of Directors with financial expertise necessary to assess financial reports. The committee noted that Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
16. The committee concluded consideration of Chapter 18 (Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*.
17. The committee concluded consideration of Chapter 18 (Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*.

18. The committee concluded consideration of Chapter 18 (Regina Qu'Appelle Regional Health Authority) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*.
19. The committee recessed from 10:11 a.m. until 10:31 a.m.
20. The committee considered Chapter 23 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*; Chapter 23 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*; Chapter 25 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*. Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Sommerfeld of the Office of the Provincial Auditor provided an overview of the chapter.

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21. The committee concurred with recommendation 23-1 made at page 169 of Chapter 23 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Saskatoon Regional Health establish a transparent process to select stakeholder representation on advisory committees and make that process public. The committee noted that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
22. The committee concluded consideration of Chapter 23 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*.
23. The committee concluded consideration of Chapter 25 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*.
24. The committee considered Chapter 49 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Protecting IT Infrastructure Follow Up) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* and Chapter 54 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Protecting IT Infrastructure Follow Up) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*. Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Sommerfeld of the Office of the Provincial Auditor provided an overview of the chapter.

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Nilesh Kavia, Vice President, Finance and Corporate Services

Sun Country Regional Health Authority

John Knoch, Vice President of Corporate and Finance

25. The committee concluded consideration of Chapter 49 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Protecting IT Infrastructure Follow Up) of the *2012 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*.
26. The committee concluded consideration of Chapter 54 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Protecting IT Infrastructure Follow Up) of the *2014 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*.
27. The committee considered Chapter 25 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Maintaining Medical Equipment Follow Up) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)* and Chapter 43 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Maintaining Medical Equipment) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*. Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Sommerfeld of the Office of the Provincial Auditor provided an overview of the chapter.

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28. The committee concluded consideration of Chapter 25 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Maintaining Medical Equipment Follow Up) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 1)*.

29. The committee concluded consideration of Chapter 43 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Maintaining Medical Equipment) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*.
30. The committee considered Chapter 30 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Triaging Emergency Department Patients) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*. Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Sommerfeld of the Office of the Provincial Auditor provided an overview of the chapter.

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31. The committee concurred with recommendation 30-1 made at page 224 of Chapter 30 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Triaging Emergency Department Patients) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Saskatoon Regional Health establish a process to achieve its goals of reducing less-urgent and non-urgent patient visits to its emergency departments. The committee noted that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
32. The committee concurred with recommendation 30-2 made at page 225 of Chapter 30 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Triaging Emergency Department Patients) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority provide consultant care for less-urgent patients or non-urgent patients outside of its emergency departments. The committee noted that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
33. The committee concurred with recommendation 30-3 made at page 226 of Chapter 30 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Triaging Emergency Department Patients) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority establish an integrated process to manage beds for emergency departments, acute care and long-term care. The committee noted that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
34. The committee concurred with recommendation 30-4 made at page 231 of Chapter 30 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Triaging Emergency Department Patients) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority implement a process to direct patients entering its emergency departments to the appropriate areas for assessment and

reassessment. The committee noted that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

35. The committee concurred with recommendation 30-5 made at page 232 of Chapter 30 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Triaging Emergency Department Patients) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority staff routinely reassess patients in emergency department waiting rooms to determine that their conditions have not deteriorated. The committee noted that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
36. The committee concurred with recommendation 30-6 made at page 232 of Chapter 30 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Triaging Emergency Department Patients) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority accurately measure and report the total wait time, starting from the patients' arrival into its emergency departments until the time they see a physician. The committee noted that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
37. The committee concurred with recommendation 30-7 made at page 233 of Chapter 30 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Triaging Emergency Department Patients) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority put processes in place to ensure emergency department patients see physicians within established time goals. The committee noted that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
38. The committee concurred with recommendation 30-8 made at page 233 of Chapter 30 (Saskatoon Regional Health Authority – Triaging Emergency Department Patients) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority periodically review the triage process to determine whether emergency department patients are appropriately categorized. The committee noted that Saskatoon Regional Health Authority is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
39. The committee recessed from 12:11 p.m. until 12:21 p.m.
40. The committee considered Chapter 31 (Sun Country Regional Health Authority – Managing Medication) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)*. Ms. Ferguson and Ms. Lowe of the Office of the Provincial Auditor provided an overview of the chapter.

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41. The committee concurred with recommendation 31-1 made at page 241 of Chapter 31 (Sun Country Regional Health Authority – Managing Medication) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Sun Country Regional Health Authority monitor that staff consistently follow its policy of obtaining proper authorization and documenting the pharmacist consulted before entering the pharmacy after regular hours. The committee noted that Sun Country Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
42. The committee concurred with recommendation 31-2 made at page 242 of Chapter 31 (Sun Country Regional Health Authority – Managing Medication) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Sun Country Regional Health Authority train its staff to follow its policy to dispose of wasted medication properly and monitor compliance with the policy. The committee noted that Sun Country Regional Health Authority is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
43. The committee concurred with recommendation 31-3 made at page 243 of Chapter 31 (Sun Country Regional Health Authority – Managing Medication) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Sun Country Regional Health Authority require all its hospitals to use the approved form generated from the province-wide pharmaceutical system to create accurate patient medication histories. The committee noted that Sun Country Regional Health Authority is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.
44. The committee concurred with recommendation 31-4 made at page 244 of Chapter 31 (Sun Country Regional Health Authority – Managing Medication) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that Sun Country Regional Health Authority consistently complete patient medication profiles by documenting patients' weights. The committee noted that Sun Country Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
45. The committee concurred with recommendation 31-5 made at page 246 of Chapter 31 (Sun Country Regional Health Authority – Managing Medication) of the *2013 Report of the Provincial Auditor (Volume 2)* that senior management of Sun Country Regional Health Authority analyze the medication errors and the contributing factors, and use that analysis to develop action plans to address the reasons for serious and reoccurring errors. The committee noted that Sun Country Regional Health Authority has complied with the recommendation.
46. It was moved by Mr. Weekes:

That this committee do now adjourn.

The question being put, it was agreed to.
47. The committee adjourned at 12:37 p.m. until February 12, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

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Kathy Burianyk  
Committee Clerk

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Paul Merriman  
Committee Deputy Chair