# STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS Tuesday, September 6, 2022

#### MINUTE NO. 15

### 8:30 a.m. — māmawapiwin náyati room (Room 8)

1. **Present**: Trent Wotherspoon in the chair and members Todd Goudy, Joe Hargrave, Daryl Harrison, Jim Lemaigre, Derek Myers,\* Hugh Nerlien, and Aleana Young.

## **Substituting Members**

Derek Myers for Delbert Kirsch

### **Provincial Auditor's Office**

Tara Clemett, Provincial Auditor Carolyn O'Quinn, Deputy Provincial Auditor Jason Shaw, Deputy Provincial Auditor Trevor St. John, Deputy Provincial Auditor Kim Lowe, Principal Auditor

## **Provincial Comptroller's Office**

Chris Bayda, Acting Provincial Comptroller Jane Borland, Acting Assistant Provincial Comptroller

2. The following documents were tabled:

Ministry of Health: responses to questions raised at the March 1, 2022 meeting

(PAC 60-29)

Ministry of Education: report of public losses, December 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022

(PAC 61-29)

Provincial Auditor of Saskatchewan: first quarter financial forecast for the three months ending June 30, 2022

(PAC 62-29)

Ministry of Health: report of public losses, April 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022

(PAC 63-29)

Ministry of Finance: report of public losses, April 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022

(PAC 64-29)

Ministry of Advanced Education: report of public losses, April 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022

(PAC 65-29)

Ministry of Finance: Government response to Standing Committee on Public Accounts second report, dated August 31, 2022

(PAC 66-29)

3. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 1, Advanced Education; 2019 report volume 2, chapter 1, Advanced Education; 2020 report volume 2, chapter 1, Advanced Education; and 2021 report volume 2, chapter 2, Advanced Education.

The following Ministry of Advanced Education officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

## Witnesses

Denise Macza, Deputy Minister
David Boehm, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate and Student Services
Corinne Barnett, Executive Director, Corporate Finance
Lindell Veitch, Executive Director, Strategy, Planning and Sector Engagement

4. The following document was tabled:

Ministry of Advanced Education: Status update, dated September 6, 2022

(PAC 67-29)

- 5. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 1, Advanced Education.
- 6. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 20 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 1, Advanced Education:

We recommend the Ministry of Advanced Education adequately monitor the activities of subsidiaries incorporated by the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Advanced Education is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

- 7. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 1, Advanced Education; and 2021 report volume 2, chapter 2, Advanced Education.
- 8. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 27, Advanced Education Approving Capital Projects.

The following Ministry of Advanced Education officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

## Witnesses

Denise Macza, Deputy Minister
David Boehm, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate and Student Services
Corinne Barnett, Executive Director, Corporate Finance
Lindell Veitch, Executive Director, Strategy, Planning and Sector Engagement

- 9. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 27, Advanced Education Approving Capital Projects.
- 10. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 26, Advanced Education Managing Risks Related to its Critical IT System.

The following Ministry of Advanced Education officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

### Witnesses

Denise Macza, Deputy Minister
David Boehm, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate and Student Services
Corinne Barnett, Executive Director, Corporate Finance
Lindell Veitch, Executive Director, Strategy, Planning and Sector Engagement

- 11. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 26, Advanced Education Managing Risks Related to its Critical IT System.
- 12. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 1, chapter 15, Advanced Education Working with the Advanced Education Sector to Achieve Ministry Strategies; and 2021 report volume 2, chapter 19, Advanced Education Working with the Advanced Education Sector to Achieve Ministry Strategies.

The following Ministry of Advanced Education officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

#### Witnesses

Denise Macza, Deputy Minister
David Boehm, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate and Student Services
Corinne Barnett, Executive Director, Corporate Finance
Lindell Veitch, Executive Director, Strategy, Planning and Sector Engagement

- 13. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 1, chapter 15, Advanced Education Working with the Advanced Education Sector to Achieve Ministry Strategies; and 2021 report volume 2, chapter 19, Advanced Education Working with the Advanced Education Sector to Achieve Ministry Strategies.
- 14. The committee recessed from 10:18 a.m. until 10:24 a.m.
- 15. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 2, Carlton Trail College.

The following Carlton Trail College official appeared before the committee and answered questions:

### Witness

Amy Yeager, President and Chief Executive Officer

16. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 22 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 2, Carlton Trail College:

We recommend that Carlton Trail College require staff to independently review and approve journal entries.

The committee noted that Carlton Trail College has complied with the recommendation.

17. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 21, Carlton Trail College — Equipping the Board with Competencies to Govern; and the 2020 report volume 2, chapter 24, Carlton Trail College — Equipping the Board with Competencies to Govern.

The following Carlton Trail College official appeared before the committee and answered questions:

#### Witness

Amy Yeager, President and Chief Executive Officer

18. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 114 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 21, Carlton Trail College — Equipping the Board with Competencies to Govern:

We recommend that Carlton Trail College's Board set clear requirements on how often to reassess desired versus existing competencies.

The committee noted that Carlton Trail College has complied with the recommendation.

19. The committee concurred with recommendation 2 made at page 114 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 21, Carlton Trail College — Equipping the Board with Competencies to Govern:

We recommend that Carlton Trail College's Board reassess how often it evaluates the effectiveness of its governance.

The committee noted that Carlton Trail College has complied with the recommendation.

20. The committee concurred with recommendation 3 made at page 116 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 21, Carlton Trail College — Equipping the Board with Competencies to Govern:

We recommend that Carlton Trail College's Board have a strategy to address identified gaps in board competencies.

The committee noted that Carlton Trail College has complied with the recommendation.

21. The committee concurred with recommendation 4 made at page 117 of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 21, Carlton Trail College — Equipping the Board with Competencies to Govern:

We recommended that Carlton Trail College's Board develop guidance on making timely recommendations of potential board members to the Ministry of Advanced Education.

The committee noted that Carlton Trail College has complied with the recommendation.

- 22. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 24, Carlton Trail College Equipping the Board with Competencies to Govern.
- 23. The committee recessed from 10:42 a.m. until 10:46 a.m.
- 24. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 9, Northlands College Purchasing Goods and Services; and 2021 report volume 1, chapter 21, Northlands College Purchasing Goods and Services.

The following Northlands College official appeared before the committee and answered questions:

### Witness

Chandra McDougald, Interim President and Chief Executive Officer

25. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 146 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 9, Northlands College — Purchasing Goods and Services:

We recommend that Northlands College update its purchasing requirements so that they align with applicable external trade agreements, establish requirements for staff involved with purchases to declare real or perceived conflicts of interest, and incorporate expectations for use of contracts.

The committee noted that Northlands College is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

26. The committee concurred with recommendation 2 made at page 147 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 9, Northlands College — Purchasing Goods and Services:

We recommend that Northlands College set out, in writing, its requirements for using single or sole source purchasing.

The committee noted that Northlands College is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

27. The committee concurred with recommendation 3 made at page 148 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 9, Northlands College — Purchasing Goods and Services:

We recommend that Northlands College agree purchases on monthly fleet card statements to supporting receipts prior to making payment.

The committee noted that Northlands College is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

28. The committee concurred with recommendation 4 made at page 149 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 9, Northlands College — Purchasing Goods and Services:

We recommend that Northlands College establish transaction limits for individual purchases made on college-issued credit cards.

The committee noted that Northlands College is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

29. The committee concurred with recommendation 5 made at page 150 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 9, Northlands College — Purchasing Goods and Services:

We recommend that Board of Directors of Northlands College approve the College's key policies related to the purchase of goods and services.

The committee noted that Northlands College has complied with the recommendation.

30. The committee concurred with recommendation 6 made at page 152 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 9, Northlands College — Purchasing Goods and Services:

We recommend that Northlands College maintain appropriate documentation of its tender communications with suppliers.

The committee noted that Northlands College has complied with the recommendation.

31. The committee concurred with recommendation 7 made at page 153 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 9, Northlands College — Purchasing Goods and Services:

We recommend that Northlands College establish a standard minimum amount of time to allow suppliers to respond to tenders.

The committee noted that Northlands College is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

32. The committee concurred with recommendation 8 made at page 154 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 9, Northlands College — Purchasing Goods and Services:

We recommend that Northlands College assess the robustness of the contract templates it uses for purchasing goods and services.

The committee noted that Northlands College is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

33. The committee concurred with recommendation 9 made at page 154 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 9, Northlands College — Purchasing Goods and Services:

We recommend that Northlands College maintain complete documentation of contracts with suppliers, and finalize them before receiving the related goods or services.

The committee noted that Northlands College is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

34. The committee concurred with recommendation 10 made at page 156 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 9, Northlands College — Purchasing Goods and Services:

We recommend that Northlands College document its due diligence procedures carried out to validate suppliers before entering them into its financial system, and keep the supplier listing in its financial system up-to-date.

The committee noted that Northlands College is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

35. The committee concurred with recommendation 11 made at page 157 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 9, Northlands College — Purchasing Goods and Services:

We recommend that Northlands College separate incompatible purchasing duties (e.g., initiating purchases, receiving goods or services, approving invoices for payment, adding suppliers to the financial system), and closely monitor transactions where it is not feasible to do so.

The committee noted that Northlands College is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

- 36. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 1, chapter 21, Northlands College Purchasing Goods and Services.
- 37. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 10, Northlands College.

The following Northlands College official appeared before the committee and answered questions:

#### Witness

Chandra McDougald, Interim President and Chief Executive Officer

38. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 68 of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 10, Northlands College:

We recommend Northlands College follow its established procedures for removing unneeded user access to its computer systems and data.

The committee noted that Northlands College has complied with the recommendation.

- 39. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 2, Summary of Implemented Recommendations; 2020 report volume 2, chapter 18, Summary of Implemented Recommendations; 2021 report volume 1, chapter 3, Summary of Implemented Recommendations; 2021 report volume 2, chapter 14, Summary of Implemented Recommendations; and 2022 report volume 1, chapter 2, Summary of Implemented Recommendations.
- 40. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 2, Summary of Implemented Recommendations; 2020 report volume 2, chapter 18, Summary of Implemented Recommendations; 2021 report volume 1, chapter 3, Summary of Implemented Recommendations; 2021 report volume 2, chapter 14, Summary of Implemented Recommendations; and 2022 report volume 1, chapter 2, Summary of Implemented Recommendations.
- 41. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 47, Standing Committee on Public Accounts; and 2021 report volume 2, chapter 40, Standing Committee on Public Accounts.
- 42. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 47, Standing Committee on Public Accounts; and 2021 report volume 2, chapter 40, Standing Committee on Public Accounts.
- 43. The committee recessed from 11:56 a.m. until 1:01 p.m.
- 44. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 12, Public Service Commission.

The following Public Service Commission officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses
Kathryn Pollack, Chair
Pat Bokitch, Assistant Chair
Ray Deck, Assistant Chair

Glenda Francis, Executive Director, Corporate Services Laura Hunter, Executive Director, Talent

45. The following document was tabled:

Public Service Commission: Status update, dated September 6, 2022

(PAC 68-29)

- 46. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 12, Public Service Commission.
- 47. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 11, Public Service Commission Centrally Managing and Securing MIDAS HR/Payroll; and 2020 report volume 1, chapter 3, Public Service Commission Centrally Managing and Securing MIDAS HR/Payroll.

The following Public Service Commission officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

#### Witnesses

Kathryn Pollack, Chair Pat Bokitch, Assistant Chair Ray Deck, Assistant Chair Glenda Francis, Executive Director, Corporate Services Laura Hunter, Executive Director, Talent

48. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 77 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 11, Public Service Commission — Centrally Managing and Securing MIDAS HR/Payroll:

We recommend the Public Service Commission agree in writing on a deadline with its service provider for receiving the annual audit report on security controls at the data centre hosting PSC Client.

The committee noted that the Public Service Commission has complied with the recommendation.

- 49. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 1, chapter 3, Public Service Commission Centrally Managing and Securing MIDAS HR/Payroll.
- 50. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 1, chapter 4, Public Service Commission Advancing Workplace Diversity and Inclusion in Ministries.

The following Public Service Commission officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

## Witnesses

Kathryn Pollack, Chair Pat Bokitch, Assistant Chair Ray Deck, Assistant Chair Glenda Francis, Executive Director, Corporate Services Laura Hunter, Executive Director, Talent 51. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 53 of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 1, chapter 4, Public Service Commission — Advancing Workplace Diversity and Inclusion in Ministries:

We recommend the Public Service Commission modernize the Employment Equity Policy to align with good practice.

The committee noted that the Public Service Commission is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

52. The committee concurred with recommendation 2 made at page 56 of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 1, chapter 4, Public Service Commission — Advancing Workplace Diversity and Inclusion in Ministries:

We recommend the Public Service Commission set clear indicators for measuring progress and a timeframe for its inclusion strategy.

The committee noted that the Public Service Commission is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

53. The committee concurred with recommendation 3 made at page 57 of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 1, chapter 4, Public Service Commission — Advancing Workplace Diversity and Inclusion in Ministries:

We recommend the Public Service Commission expand its inclusion toolkit to embed diversity and inclusion concepts consistent with good practice.

The committee noted that the Public Service Commission is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

54. The committee concurred with recommendation 4 made at page 61 of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 1, chapter 4, Public Service Commission — Advancing Workplace Diversity and Inclusion in Ministries:

We recommend the Public Service Commission monitor ministry diversity and inclusion plans and progress reports to help ministries increase diversity and inclusion in their workplaces.

The committee noted that the Public Service Commission is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

55. The committee concurred with recommendation 5 made at page 64 of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 1, chapter 4, Public Service Commission — Advancing Workplace Diversity and Inclusion in Ministries:

We recommend the Public Service Commission sufficiently analyze diversity and inclusion data to identify and address risks that may prevent ministries from achieving cross-ministerial diversity and inclusion goals.

56. The committee concurred with recommendation 6 made at page 65 of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 1, chapter 4, Public Service Commission — Advancing Workplace Diversity and Inclusion in Ministries:

We recommend the Public Service Commission implement a written policy for reporting diversity and inclusion results to its senior management and to the public to demonstrate accountability and commitment for workplace diversity and inclusion.

- 57. The committee recessed from 2:04 p.m. until 2:10 p.m.
- 58. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 42, University of Regina Protecting Interests in Research.

The following University of Regina officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

### Witnesses

Jeff Keshen, President

Chris Yost, Vice President, Research

Neil Paskewitz, Associate Vice President Facilities Management

59. The following document was tabled:

University of Regina: Status update, dated September 6, 2022

(PAC 69-29)

- 60. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 1, chapter 42, University of Regina Protecting Interests in Research.
- 61. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 47, University of Regina Procuring Goods and Services.

The following University of Regina officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

### Witnesses

Jeff Keshen, President

Chris Yost, Vice President, Research

Neil Paskewitz, Associate Vice President Facilities Management

- 62. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 47, University of Regina Procuring Goods and Services.
- 63. The committee recessed from 2:33 p.m. until 2:36 p.m.
- 64. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 14, Saskatchewan Polytechnic; and 2020 report volume 2, chapter 14, Saskatchewan Polytechnic.

The following Saskatchewan Polytechnic officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

## Witnesses

Has Malik, Provost and Vice President, Academic

Cheryl Schmitz, Chief Financial Officer and Vice President, Administrative Services

Sean Engemoen, Assistant Vice President, Financial Services

Kevin Rogers, Director, Applied Research and Innovation

65. The following document was tabled:

Saskatchewan Polytechnic: Status update, dated September 6, 2022

(PAC 70-29)

66. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 99 of the Provincial Auditor's 2019 report volume 2, chapter 14, Saskatchewan Polytechnic:

We recommend Saskatchewan Polytechnic establish a policy to guide compensating for losses of its employees.

The committee noted that Saskatchewan Polytechnic has complied with the recommendation.

- 67. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 14, Saskatchewan Polytechnic.
- 68. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 22, Saskatchewan Polytechnic Carrying Out Applied Research.

The following Saskatchewan Polytechnic officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

#### Witnesses

Has Malik, Provost and Vice President, Academic Cheryl Schmitz, Chief Financial Officer and Vice President, Administrative Services Sean Engemoen, Assistant Vice President, Financial Services Kevin Rogers, Director, Applied Research and Innovation

69. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 170 of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 22, Saskatchewan Polytechnic — Carrying Out Applied Research:

We recommend Saskatchewan Polytechnic broaden the measures used to assess the success of its applied research beyond annual growth in research revenue.

The committee noted that Saskatchewan Polytechnic has complied with the recommendation.

70. The committee concurred with recommendation 2 made at page 174 of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 22, Saskatchewan Polytechnic — Carrying Out Applied Research:

We recommend Saskatchewan Polytechnic confirm staff and students reaffirm their commitment to the Code of Conduct at least annually, as required by policy.

The committee noted that Saskatchewan Polytechnic has complied with the recommendation.

71. The committee concurred with recommendation 3 made at page 177 of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 22, Saskatchewan Polytechnic — Carrying Out Applied Research:

We recommend Saskatchewan Polytechnic always document its assessment of the associated key risks of externally funded applied research projects prior to deciding to pursue the project.

The committee noted that Saskatchewan Polytechnic has complied with the recommendation.

72. The committee concurred with recommendation 4 made at page 179 of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 22, Saskatchewan Polytechnic — Carrying Out Applied Research:

We recommend Saskatchewan Polytechnic establish guidance about requiring funding agreements with industry partners involved in applied research projects.

The committee noted that Saskatchewan Polytechnic has complied with the recommendation.

73. The committee concurred with recommendation 5 made at page 180 of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 22, Saskatchewan Polytechnic — Carrying Out Applied Research:

We recommend Saskatchewan Polytechnic maintain an accurate and complete inventory of its applied research projects (e.g., project status, project dates, ethics approvals).

The committee noted that Saskatchewan Polytechnic has complied with the recommendation.

- 74. The committee recessed from 3:17 p.m. until 3:24 p.m.
- 75. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 48, Western Development Museum Removing Historical Artifacts Permanently; and 2020 report volume 2, chapter 45, Western Development Museum Permanently Removing Historical Artifacts.

The following officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

#### Witnesses

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport
Twyla MacDougall, Deputy Minister
Dan French, Assistant Deputy Minister, Stewardship Division
Pam Herbert, Executive Director, Strategic and Corporate Services
Western Development Museum
Joan Kanigan, Chief Executive Officer

76. The following document was tabled:

Western Development Museum: Status update, dated September 6, 2022

(PAC 71-29)

- 77. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2018 report volume 2, chapter 48, Western Development Museum Removing Historical Artifacts Permanently; and 2020 report volume 2, chapter 45, Western Development Museum Permanently Removing Historical Artifacts.
- 78. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 17, Western Development Museum.

The following officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

### Witnesses

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport
Twyla MacDougall, Deputy Minister
Dan French, Assistant Deputy Minister, Stewardship Division
Pam Herbert, Executive Director, Strategic and Corporate Services

Western Development Museum Joan Kanigan, Chief Executive Officer

79. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 103 of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 17, Western Development Museum:

We recommend the Western Development Museum consistently document the approval of purchase orders before it purchases goods or services.

The committee noted that the Western Development Museum has complied with the recommendation.

- 80. The committee recessed from 3:45 p.m. until 3:49 p.m.
- 81. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 1, chapter 15, Government Relations Providing Safe Drinking Water in Northern Settlements.

The following Ministry of Government Relations officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

#### Witnesses

Laurier Donais, Acting Deputy Minister
Sheldon Green, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Relations
Jeff Markewich, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Central Services and Standards
Bonnie Chambers, Executive Director, Advisory Services and Municipal Relations
Brad Henry, Executive Director, Northern Municipal Services
Jeff MacDonald, Executive Director, Municipal Infrastructure and Finance
Rod Nasewich, Executive Director, Policy and Program Services

82. The following document was tabled:

Ministry of Government Relations: Status update, dated September 6, 2022

(PAC 72-29)

- 83. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 1, chapter 15, Government Relations Providing Safe Drinking Water in Northern Settlements.
- 84. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 1, chapter 16, Government Relations Recommending Infrastructure Projects for Funding.

The following Ministry of Government Relations officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

# Witnesses

Laurier Donais, Acting Deputy Minister
Sheldon Green, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Relations
Jeff Markewich, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Central Services and Standards
Bonnie Chambers, Executive Director, Advisory Services and Municipal Relations
Brad Henry, Executive Director, Northern Municipal Services
Jeff MacDonald, Executive Director, Municipal Infrastructure and Finance
Rod Nasewich, Executive Director, Policy and Program Services

- 85. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 1, chapter 16, Government Relations Recommending Infrastructure Projects for Funding.
- 86. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 2, chapter 25, Government Relations Proposing Education Property Tax Mill Rates.

The following Ministry of Government Relations officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

#### Witnesses

Laurier Donais, Acting Deputy Minister

Sheldon Green, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Relations

Jeff Markewich, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Central Services and Standards

Bonnie Chambers, Executive Director, Advisory Services and Municipal Relations

Brad Henry, Executive Director, Northern Municipal Services

Jeff MacDonald, Executive Director, Municipal Infrastructure and Finance

Rod Nasewich, Executive Director, Policy and Program Services

- 87. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 2, chapter 25, Government Relations Proposing Education Property Tax Mill Rates.
- 88. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 1, chapter 1, Government Relations Northern Municipal Trust Account; and 2020 report volume 2, chapter 5, Government Relations Northern Municipal Trust Account; and 2021 report volume 2, chapter 6, Government Relations Northern Municipal Trust Account.

The following Ministry of Government Relations officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

#### Witnesses

Laurier Donais, Acting Deputy Minister

Sheldon Green, Assistant Deputy Minister, Municipal Relations

Jeff Markewich, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Central Services and Standards

Bonnie Chambers, Executive Director, Advisory Services and Municipal Relations

Brad Henry, Executive Director, Northern Municipal Services

Jeff MacDonald, Executive Director, Municipal Infrastructure and Finance

Rod Nasewich, Executive Director, Policy and Program Services

- 89. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 1, chapter 1, Government Relations Northern Municipal Trust Account.
- 90. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 42 of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 5, Government Relations Northern Municipal Trust Account:

We recommend the Ministry of Government Relations clarify the legislated authority to make grants from the Northern Municipal Trust Account to northern municipalities for landfills not wholly owned by the Ministry.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Government Relations is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

91.	The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 2, chapter 6, Government Relations — Northern Municipal Trust Account.
92.	It was moved by Mr. Harrison:
	That this committee do now adjourn.
	The question being put, it was agreed to.
93.	The committee adjourned at 5:00 p.m. to the call of the Chair.
	o Park Trent Wotherspoon mmittee Clerk Chair