

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**  
**Monday, February 26, 2024**

**MINUTE NO. 26**  
**9:29 a.m. — māmawapiwin náyati room (Room 8)**

1. **Present:** Trent Wotherspoon in the chair and members Todd Goudy, Daryl Harrison, Delbert Kirsch, Lisa Lambert, Jim Lemaigre, Hugh Nerlien, and Aleana Young.

**Provincial Auditor's Office**

Tara Clemett, Provincial Auditor  
Victor Schwab, Deputy Provincial Auditor  
Jason Wandy, Deputy Provincial Auditor  
Michelle Lindenbach, Principal

**Provincial Comptroller's Office**

Jane Borland, Assistant Provincial Comptroller  
Gabe Plosker, Manager

2. The following documents were tabled:

Ministry of Finance: Report of public losses, October 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 (PAC 131-29)

Ministry of Finance: Responses to questions raised at the February 5, 2024 meeting (PAC 132-29)

3. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 2, chapter 8, Corrections, Policing and Public Safety — Inmate Administrative Segregation.

The following officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety  
Dale Larsen, Deputy Minister  
Dean Carey, Executive Director, Offender Services  
Caroline Graves, Executive Director, Community Corrections  
Mark McFadyen, Executive Director, Custody Services  
Bryce DeJong, Director, Adult Custody Services  
Lindsay Tokarski, Director, Standards and Compliance  
Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency  
Noel McAvena, Executive Director

4. The following document was tabled:

Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety: Status update, dated February 26, 2024 (PAC 133-29)

5. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 60 of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 2, chapter 8, Corrections, Policing and Public Safety — Inmate Administrative Segregation:

We recommend the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety develop a training plan to regularly provide refresher training to correctional centre staff involved in administrative segregation.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety has complied with the recommendation.

6. The committee concurred with recommendation 2 made at page 62 of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 2, chapter 8, Corrections, Policing and Public Safety — Inmate Administrative Segregation:

We recommend the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety have appropriate correctional centre staff authorize administrative segregation placement decisions.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety has complied with the recommendation.

7. The committee concurred with recommendation 3 made at page 63 of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 2, chapter 8, Corrections, Policing and Public Safety — Inmate Administrative Segregation:

We recommend the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety follow its policy requirements (i.e., reviews, healthcare assessments) for inmates placed on administrative segregation.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety is making progress towards complying with the recommendation.

8. The committee concurred with recommendation 4 made at page 69 of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 2, chapter 8, Corrections, Policing and Public Safety — Inmate Administrative Segregation:

We recommend the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety have appeals by inmates placed on administrative segregation reviewed by independent adjudicators.

9. The committee concurred with recommendation 5 made at page 70 of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 2, chapter 8, Corrections, Policing and Public Safety — Inmate Administrative Segregation:

We recommend the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety broaden its administrative segregation quality assurance process to include assessment of all key policy requirements.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety has complied with the recommendation.

10. The committee concurred with recommendation 6 made at page 72 of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 2, chapter 8, Corrections, Policing and Public Safety — Inmate Administrative Segregation:

We recommend the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety enhance its written reports to senior management about the use of administrative segregation in its adult secure-custody correctional centres.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety has complied with the recommendation.

11. The committee concurred with recommendation 7 made at page 72 of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 2, chapter 8, Corrections, Policing and Public Safety — Inmate Administrative Segregation:

We recommend the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety publicly report key information about the use of administrative segregation.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety has complied with the recommendation.

12. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 2, chapter 13, Corrections, Policing and Public Safety — Community Rehabilitation of Adult Offenders.

The following officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety

Dale Larsen, Deputy Minister

Dean Carey, Executive Director, Offender Services

Caroline Graves, Executive Director, Community Corrections

Mark McFadyen, Executive Director, Custody Services

Bryce DeJong, Director, Adult Custody Services

Lindsay Tokarski, Director, Standards and Compliance

Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency

Noel McAvena, Executive Director

13. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 2, chapter 13, Corrections, Policing and Public Safety — Community Rehabilitation of Adult Offenders.

14. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 2, chapter 14, Corrections, Policing and Public Safety — Providing Primary Medical Care in Adult Secure-Custody Correctional Centres.

The following officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety

Dale Larsen, Deputy Minister

Dean Carey, Executive Director, Offender Services

Caroline Graves, Executive Director, Community Corrections

Mark McFadyen, Executive Director, Custody Services  
Bryce DeJong, Director, Adult Custody Services  
Lindsay Tokarski, Director, Standards and Compliance  
Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency  
Noel McAvena, Executive Director

15. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 2, chapter 14, Corrections, Policing and Public Safety — Providing Primary Medical Care in Adult Secure-Custody Correctional Centres.
16. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2023 report volume 1, chapter 8, Corrections, Policing, and Public Safety — Providing Disaster Assistance.

The following officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety  
Dale Larsen, Deputy Minister  
Dean Carey, Executive Director, Offender Services  
Caroline Graves, Executive Director, Community Corrections  
Mark McFadyen, Executive Director, Custody Services  
Bryce DeJong, Director, Adult Custody Services  
Lindsay Tokarski, Director, Standards and Compliance  
Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency  
Noel McAvena, Executive Director

17. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2023 report volume 1, chapter 8, Corrections, Policing, and Public Safety — Providing Disaster Assistance.
18. The committee recessed from 11:01 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.
19. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 11, Provincial Capital Commission; and 2021 report volume 2, chapter 10, Provincial Capital Commission.

The following Provincial Capital Commission officials appeared before the committee and answered questions:

Witnesses

Jenna Schroeder, Executive Director  
Ryan Whippler, Director, Outreach and Visitor Experience

20. The following document was tabled:

Provincial Capital Commission: Status update, dated February 26, 2024

(PAC 134-29)

21. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 11, Provincial Capital Commission; and 2021 report volume 2, chapter 10, Provincial Capital Commission.
22. The committee recessed from 1:15 p.m. until 1:25 p.m.

23. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 2, chapter 15, Health — Monitoring Enforcement of Tobacco and Vapour Products' Legislative Requirements; and 2023 report volume 2, chapter 20, Health — Monitoring Enforcement of Tobacco and Vapour Products' Legislative Requirements.

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

Witnesses

Tracey Smith, Deputy Minister  
Greg Gettle, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Brad Havervold, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Ingrid Kirby, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Norman O'Neill, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Jillian Code, Executive Director, Population Health  
Dave Morhart, Executive Director, Acute Emergency Services  
James Turner, Executive Director, Medical Services  
Diana Fink, Director, Operations and Internal Audit  
Victoria Zhang, Manager, Internal Audit

24. The following document was tabled:

Ministry of Health: Status update, dated February 26, 2024

(PAC 135-29)

25. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 93 of the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 2, chapter 15, Health — Monitoring Enforcement of Tobacco and Vapour Products' Legislative Requirements:

We recommend the Ministry of Health update its Enforcement Manual to reflect the structure, accountability, and inspection practices for the tobacco and vapour control program.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Health has complied with the recommendation.

26. The committee concurred with recommendation 2 made at page 94 of the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 2, chapter 15, Health — Monitoring Enforcement of Tobacco and Vapour Products' Legislative Requirements:

We recommend the Ministry of Health establish a formalized process to maintain a complete list of retail locations that sell tobacco and vapour products.

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

27. The committee concurred with recommendation 3 made at page 95 of the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 2, chapter 15, Health — Monitoring Enforcement of Tobacco and Vapour Products' Legislative Requirements:

We recommend the Ministry of Health work with the Saskatchewan Health Authority to conduct required youth test shopper inspections of retail locations that sell tobacco and vapour products.

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

28. The committee concurred with recommendation 4 made at page 96 of the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 2, chapter 15, Health — Monitoring Enforcement of Tobacco and Vapour Products' Legislative Requirements:

We recommend the Ministry of Health work with the Saskatchewan Health Authority to reinspect retail locations that sell tobacco and vapour products to youth in a timely manner.

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

29. The committee concurred with recommendation 5 made at page 97 of the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 2, chapter 15, Health — Monitoring Enforcement of Tobacco and Vapour Products' Legislative Requirements:

We recommend the Ministry of Health work with the Saskatchewan Health Authority to deliver warning letters and notices of violation to non-complaint retailers selling tobacco or vapour products to minors in a reasonable timeframe.

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

30. The committee concurred with recommendation 6 made at page 100 of the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 2, chapter 15, Health — Monitoring Enforcement of Tobacco and Vapour Products' Legislative Requirements:

We recommend the Ministry of Health set a reasonable frequency for conducting periodic routine inspections at retail locations that sell tobacco and vapour products.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Health has complied with the recommendation.

31. The committee concurred with recommendation 7 made at page 102 of the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 2, chapter 15, Health — Monitoring Enforcement of Tobacco and Vapour Products' Legislative Requirements:

We recommend the Ministry of Health provide clear guidance to the Saskatchewan Health Authority on handling complaints related to the sale and promotion of tobacco and vapour products.

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

32. The committee concurred with recommendation 8 made at page 105 of the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 2, chapter 15, Health — Monitoring Enforcement of Tobacco and Vapour Products' Legislative Requirements:

We recommend the Ministry of Health enhance written reports on enforcement activities (e.g., complaints, trends) given periodically to senior management relating to tobacco and vapour products.

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

33. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2023 report volume 2, chapter 20, Health — Monitoring Enforcement of Tobacco and Vapour Products' Legislative Requirements.
34. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 1, chapter 13, Health — Detecting Inappropriate Physician Payments.

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

Witnesses

Tracey Smith, Deputy Minister  
Greg Gettle, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Brad Havervold, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Ingrid Kirby, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Norman O'Neill, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Jillian Code, Executive Director, Population Health  
Dave Morhart, Executive Director, Acute Emergency Services  
James Turner, Executive Director, Medical Services  
Diana Fink, Director, Operations and Internal Audit  
Victoria Zhang, Manager, Internal Audit

35. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2022 report volume 1, chapter 13, Health — Detecting Inappropriate Physician Payments.
36. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2023 report volume 1, chapter 12, Health — Coordinating the Appropriate Provision of Helicopter Ambulance Services.

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

Witnesses

Tracey Smith, Deputy Minister  
Greg Gettle, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Brad Havervold, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Ingrid Kirby, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Norman O'Neill, Assistant Deputy Minister  
Jillian Code, Executive Director, Population Health  
Dave Morhart, Executive Director, Acute Emergency Services  
James Turner, Executive Director, Medical Services  
Diana Fink, Director, Operations and Internal Audit  
Victoria Zhang, Manager, Internal Audit

37. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2023 report volume 1, chapter 12, Health — Coordinating the Appropriate Provision of Helicopter Ambulance Services.
38. The committee recessed from 3:27 p.m. until 3:31 p.m.
39. The committee considered the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 6, Healthcare Affiliates; 2021 report volume 2, chapter 7, Healthcare Affiliates; and 2023 report volume 2, chapter 4, Healthcare Affiliates.

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

Witnesses

Tracey Smith, Deputy Minister

Greg Gettle, Assistant Deputy Minister

Brad Havervold, Assistant Deputy Minister

Ingrid Kirby, Assistant Deputy Minister

Norman O'Neill, Assistant Deputy Minister

Jillian Code, Executive Director, Population Health

Dave Morhart, Executive Director, Acute Emergency Services

James Turner, Executive Director, Medical Services

Diana Fink, Director, Operations and Internal Audit

Victoria Zhang, Manager, Internal Audit

40. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 47 of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 6, Healthcare Affiliates:

We recommend the All Nations' Healing Hospital Inc. seek the approval required by *The Provincial Health Authority Act* and *The Provincial Health Authority Administration Regulations* when undertaking capital projects valued at greater than \$100,000.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Health has complied with the recommendation.

41. The committee concurred with recommendation 2 made at page 48 of the Provincial Auditor's 2020 report volume 2, chapter 6, Healthcare Affiliates:

We recommend the Raymore Community Health and Social Centre record and amortize the cost of its tangible capital assets in its financial statements.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Health has complied with the recommendation.

42. The committee concluded consideration of the Provincial Auditor's 2021 report volume 2, chapter 7, Healthcare Affiliates.

43. The committee concurred with recommendation 1 made at page 33 of the Provincial Auditor's 2023 report volume 2, chapter 4, Healthcare Affiliates:

We recommend the All Nations' Healing Hospital Inc. seek the responsible Minister's approval required by law when undertaking capital projects valued at greater than \$100,000.

The committee noted that the Ministry of Health has complied with the recommendation.

44. It was moved by Mr. Harrison:

That this committee do now adjourn.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

45. The committee adjourned at 4:12 p.m. until Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

---

Danielle Humble-Selinger  
Committee Clerk

---

Trent Wotherspoon  
Chair