

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
September 15, 1987

MINUTE NO. 4
September 15, 1987 at 8:00 a.m.

1. PRESENT: Members Tchorzewski, Lyons, Martin, Martens, Muirhead, Muller, Neudorf, Rolfes, Saxinger, Van Mulligen

Provincial Auditor's Office

W.G. Lutz, Provincial Auditor
G.F. Wendel, Assistant Provincial Auditor

Comptroller's Office

G. Kraus, Comptroller
C. Bayda, Financial Analyst

2. The following documents were tabled:

PAC 8/86-87 — Public Accounts Orientation Paper by Deputy Clerk, Gwenn Ronyk

PAC 9/86-87 — Report by the Provincial Auditor Regarding Outside Auditors

3. The Committee resumed consideration of the following motion moved by Mr. Van Mulligen:

That the Department of Finance in consultation with the Provincial Auditor submit a report to the Committee on the advisability and feasibility of setting a target date for the completion and releasing of the Public Accounts and a means of enforcing that such date be met.

The question being put, it was negatived.

4. The Committee resumed consideration of the following motion moved by Mr. Mulligen:

That the Committee Clerk report to the Committee on what changes to the rules and practices of the Legislative Assembly would be necessary to provide for the "tabling" or releasing of such reports at a time when the House is not sitting.

A debate arising and the question being put, it was negatived.

5. The Committee completed its consideration of the following items in the Provincial Auditor's report:

1.07-1.10 — CONTINUING CONCERNS REGARDING ACCOUNTABILITY

1.11-1.16 — TIMELINESS

6. With respect to the timeliness of reporting, the Committee agreed to include the following comment in its next report to the Assembly:

The Committee shared the concern of the Provincial Auditor that the Financial Statements for the Consolidated Fund and Saskatchewan Heritage Fund for the year ended March 31, 1986 were not yet completed at March 31, 1987, a full year after the year end.

The Committee emphasized the importance of Financial Statements being completed in a timely way in order that the value of information provided is not diminished.

7. The Committee considered issues respecting the provision of resources to the office of the Provincial Auditor (Item 1.16):

It was moved by Mr. Rolfes:

That this Committee expresses its concerns that the Provincial Auditor's report may be delayed further next year and therefore the Committee urges the Department of Finance to reconsider the

financial resources provided to the Provincial Auditor so he can submit his report on a timely basis.

A debate arising and the question being put, it was negatived.

8. The Committee considered Items 1.21-1.24 — INDEPENDENCE:

It was moved by Mr. Van Mulligen:

That the Committee recommend to the Legislative Assembly that the funding for the Office of the Provincial Auditor be determined by the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

A debate arising and the question being put, it was negatived.

9. The Committee adjourned at 10:28 a.m. until Thursday, September 17, 1987 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 10.

Agenda

Consideration of the Provincial Auditor's Report (1986) beginning at page 15.