

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**  
**February 2, 1988**

**MINUTE NO. 18**  
February 2, 1988 at 9:30 a.m.

1. PRESENT: Mr. Tchorzewski in the Chair, and Members Lyons, Martens, Martin, Muller, Neudorf, Rolfes, Saxinger and Van Mulligen

Provincial Auditor's Office

W. Lutz, Provincial Auditor  
G. Wendel, Assistant Provincial Auditor  
J. Hunt, Deputy Provincial Auditor  
M. Heffernan, Deputy Provincial Auditor  
B. Atkinson, Deputy Provincial Auditor

Comptroller's Office

T Paton, Acting Provincial Comptroller  
P. Knecht, Director of Central Accounting Branch  
M. Robinson, Director of Systems Management Branch  
C. Bayda, Financial Analyst  
B. Swystun, Financial Analyst

2. The following documents were tabled in Committee:

PAC 30/86-87 — Agreements respecting the delegation of authority to purchase investments — Provincial Comptroller

PAC 31/86-87 — Saskatchewan Water Corporation response to question of September 18, 1987

PAC 32/86-87 — STC response to question regarding the overrun of the authorized borrowing limit

PAC 33/86-87 — Sask. Housing Corporation response to questions re land holdings and development

3. An in camera briefing session was held re Department of Health.

4. PUBLIC HEARING: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

W. Podiluk, Deputy Minister  
G. Loewen, Associate Deputy Minister  
J. Heath, Associate Deputy Minister  
D. Thomson, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister  
L. Krahn, Director, Finance and Administration Branch  
J. McLaughlin, Associate Director, Finance and Administration Branch

5. The Committee noted that the concerns raised by the Provincial Auditor have been satisfactorily resolved with respect to the Frank Eliason Centre, Souris Valley Regional Care Centre and the Wascana Rehabilitation Centre.

6. The Committee requested the Department of Health to provide the following information:

(a) with respect to the Government's 5-Year Plan for Capital Health Expenditures, which projects were included in the 1985-86 budget, the list of projects included in the 5-Year Plan and the dates the Department received proposals and developed plans for the projects included in the 5-Year Plan;

(b) with respect to the Children's Dental Plan, the number of new dental offices established, their locations,

the hours of service being provided and whether the Department in the year under review had made any study of the public view of the plan;

(c) regarding advertising expenditures a list of the projects included in the Roberts and Poole expenditures, an itemized breakdown of the SJM Communications Services expenditures;

(d) in 1985-86 to which department was Michael McCafferty seconded, where was he located and what was his salary:

(e) under Subvote 1, a breakdown of the expenses listed under the headings "MLA Other Allowances and Support Staff" and "Professional and Technical Services";

(f) under Subvote 5, a breakdown of the items included under "Grants and Contributions";

(g) regarding Subvote 18, Provincial Laboratories, were any laboratory services phased out or contracted out in 1985-86;

(h) regarding Subvote 35 Sask Aid to Independent Living, were any services contracted out;

(i) Under Schedule of Payments — Other Expenses, what was the purpose of the payments to Buffalo Narrows Pharmacy, Nipawin Medical Group and Tanka Research.

7. The Committee requested the Clerk to draft items for inclusion in the Committee's report regarding the University Hospital Appropriation issue, the occurrence of unauthorized overdrafts and the security of data concerns.

8. Hearing Completed: Department of Health

9. An in camera briefing was held on the Department of Justice.

#### 10. PUBLIC HEARING: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

B. Barrington-Foote, Deputy Minister

J. Benning, Assistant Deputy Minister, Administration

R. Till, Executive Director, Corrections

K. Langlois, Director, Administrative Services

T. Meredith, Controller

11. The Committee noted that the Provincial Auditor's concern re the deficiencies in the verification of the annual statement re RCMP Services was resolved and the concerns respecting the absence of certain control procedures in the office of the Public Trustee were resolved.

12. The committee requested the Department of Justice to provide the following information:

(a) with respect to the Phoenix Building in Saskatoon which supplies rental space to the Department, the names of the principal owners of the building, the cost of the lease if possible and the terms of the lease for 1985-86;

(b) with respect to The Securities Commission, were any investigations or inquiries conducted respecting First Investors, Principal Trust and to the extent possible what were the results of the investigations and what recommendations were made to the Commission, if any.

13. The Department tabled the following documents in answer to questions asked during the hearing:

PAC-34/86-7-8 — Breakdown of payments under Subvote 1 — 1985-86

PAC-35/86-7-8 — Detail of Expenditure under Subvote 1 — 1985-86

PAC-36/86-7-8 — Breakdown of Advertising Expenditures — 1985-86

PAC-37/86-7-8 — Breakdown of Advertising Expenditures — 1984-85

PAC-38/86-7-8 — Detail of Entertainment Expenses — 1984-85

PAC-39/86-7-8 — Detail of Entertainment Expenses — 1985-86

PAC-40/86-7-8 — Breakdown of travel expenses paid by Department of Justice — 1985-86

PAC-41/86-7-8 — Detail of Out-of-Province Travel 1985-86

PAC-42/86-7-8 — Minister's Travel — 1985-86

PAC-43 86-7-8 — Detail of Out-of-Province Travel 1984-85

PAC-44/86-7-8 — Minister's Travel — 1984-85

14. The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Department for being well prepared and able to answer questions immediately.
15. The Committee requested the Clerk to draft an item for inclusion in the report regarding the issue of an audit system to monitor compliance in the collecting of revenues through Land Titles', Local Registrars' and Sheriffs' offices
16. Hearing Completed: Department of Justice
17. An in camera briefing on the Department of Consumer and Commercial Affairs was held.
18. PUBLIC HEARING: DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS

R. Kessler, Deputy Minister

A. Dwyer, Director, Administration and Human Resources

O.A. MacGillivray, Superintendent of Insurance

J. Page, Deputy Superintendent of Insurance

19. The Committee requested the Department of Consumer and Commercial Affairs to provide the following information:  
  
with respect to Subvote 1, Administrative Services, a breakdown of the expenses under the headings "MLA Other Allowances Support Staff", "Contractual Services (Other)" and a breakdown of travel expenses, destination and purpose of travel for the Minister, Legislative Secretaries and ministerial staff.
20. Hearing completed: The Department of Consumer and Commercial Affairs
21. An in camera briefing on the Department of Agriculture was held.
22. PUBLIC HEARING: DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
  
J. Drew, Deputy Minister  
S. Kramer, Assistant Deputy Minister  
F. Bowd, Assistant Deputy Minister

W. Mazer, Director, Administrative Services Branch  
K. Petruic, Department Accountant  
J. Stalwick, General Manager, Saskatchewan Beef Stabilization Board  
J. Walters, Vice-President, Administration Division — Sask. Crop Insurance Corporation

23. The Committee requested the Department of Agriculture to provide the following information:

- (a) with respect to funding through the Saskatchewan Council for International Co-operation, a list of the projects for which the Department provided matching grants and a list of the projects which were turned down;
- (b) a list of the projects funded through the money provided by the Department to the Agricultural Development Corporation for international aid projects;
- (c) with respect to the Livestock Investment Tax Credit, how many applications were received in 1985-86 and what was the occupational breakdown of applicants;
- (d) with respect to subvote 1, 1985-86, provide a breakdown of the items "MLA Other Allowances Support Staff" and "Travelling Expenses";
- (e) with respect to Subvote 3, 1985-86, provide a breakdown of "Temporary Positions" giving names and amounts paid;
- (f) with respect to "Agriculture (Ordinary Expenditure) Payments — Other Expenses," 1985-86, what was the purpose of the payments to Tanka Research;
- (g) with respect to Community Pastures, what was spent on rejuvenating and improving them in 1985-86.

24. Hearing Completed: Department of Agriculture

25. The Committee adjourned at 3:45 p.m. until Wednesday, February 3, 1988, at 9:30 a.m.

Agenda:

9:30 a.m. In camera briefing  
9:45 a.m. Agricultural Credit Corporation  
10:15 a.m. Saskatchewan Crop Insurance  
11:00 a.m. In camera briefing  
SaskPower Corporation  
2:00 p.m. — In camera briefing  
Department of Supply and Services (SPMC)