

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**  
**May 15, 1990**

**MINUTE NO. 10**  
May 15, 1990 at 8:30 a.m.

1. PRESENT: Mr. Van Mulligen in the Chair and the following Members: Anguish, Britton, Hopfner, Muller, Lyons, Rolfes, Sauder and Swan.

**Officials**

**Provincial Auditor's Office**

Fred Wendel, Acting Provincial Auditor  
Brian Atkinson, Acting Assistant Provincial Auditor

**Comptroller's Office**

G. Kraus, Comptroller  
T. Paton, Director, Financial Management Branch

2. The following documents were Tabled:

**PAC 7/90** — Executive Council: Response to questions asked at the Public Accounts Committee hearings of April 26 and May 1, 1990

**PAC 8/90** — Addendum to PAC 1/90

3. The Committee resumed consideration of the Report of the Provincial Auditor for the year ended March 31, 1988.
4. The Committee resumed consideration of Chapter 2 — Current Issues of Importance of the Report of the Provincial Auditor for the year ended March 31, 1988.
5. The Committee resumed consideration of Mr. Lyons motion:

That the Standing Committee on Public Accounts be empowered by the Legislative Assembly to review the mandate and functioning of the auditing procedures of the province, and to make recommendations regarding the questions of: a) the independence of the Provincial Auditor; b) the timeliness of reporting financial information to the Legislative Assembly; c) the improvement of providing financial information to the general public of the Province of Saskatchewan; d) and any other matters as it deems necessary to improve the accountability of public spending to the taxpayers of Saskatchewan.

After debate, the question being put on the motion, it was negatived on division.

6. The Committee considered a Draft Recommendation to be incorporated in the Committee's Draft Report to the Assembly pertaining to its examination of the 1987-88 Report of the Provincial Auditor.

And debate arising thereon.

It was agreed that the Draft Recommendation be considered in the context of the Committee's consideration of the Draft Report.

7. Mr. Anguish moved:

That, whereas the 1987-88 Report of the Provincial Auditor makes reference to a lack of co-operation from Westbridge Computer Corporation, and, whereas new information has become available to the financial affairs of this Crown controlled corporation, be it resolved,

That prior to concluding the committee's examination of the 1987-88 public accounts, Westbridge Computer Corporation be called as a witness before the Public Accounts Committee.

8. And debate arising thereon.

9. Mr. Lyons moved, in amendment thereto:

That the words: "prior to concluding the Committee's examination of the 1987-88 public accounts" be deleted and that the following be added immediately after the words "Public Accounts Committee" in the last line:

"and that this examination deal with the 1987-88 and 1988-89 fiscal years concurrently."

10. And debate arising thereon.

11. A point of order was raised by Mr. Anguish at the use of the word "corrupt" by Mr. Hopfner directed at Members of the Opposition.

The Chairman ruled that the word "corrupt" as used by Mr. Hopfner was unparliamentary and should be withdrawn with an apology. Accordingly, Mr. Hopfner complied.

12. And debate continuing on the motion of Mr. Anguish and on the amendment by Mr. Lyons.

A point of order was raised by Mr. Hopfner at the use of the word "slug" by Mr. Lyons directed at Members of the Government.

The Chairman ruled that the word "slug" as used by Mr. Lyons was unparliamentary and should be withdrawn with an apology.

Accordingly, Mr. Lyons complied.

13. And debate arising on the motion of Mr. Anguish and on the amendment of Mr. Lyons.

It was agreed, that the Committee not meet next Tuesday, May 22, 1990.

14. The Committee adjourned at 10:30 a.m. until Thursday, May 17, 1990 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 10.

**Agenda:**

The Committee will resume consideration of the following items:

- (1) Complete the Review of the 1987-88 Provincial Auditor's Report
- (2) Review draft Committee Report for 1987-88 Report
- (3) Plan agenda for the Review of the Provincial Auditor's Report for the year 1988-89
- (4) Items related to CCPAC and the Guidelines document

COMMITTEE CLERK  
Robert Vaive

CHAIRMAN  
H.H. Van Mulligen

**PROGRESS REPORT**  
**(PROVINCIAL AUDITOR'S 1987-88 REPORT)**

HEARINGS CONCLUDED SUBJECT TO RECALL

Agricultural Development Corporation  
Department of Consumer and Commercial Affairs  
Department of Saskatchewan Environment and Public Safety  
Crown Investments Corporation  
Department of Education  
Department of Health  
Department of Social Services  
Executive Council  
Department of Supply and Services  
Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation