STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS January 7, 1992

MINUTE NO. 5

Morning Sitting

1. **PRESENT**: Mr. Swenson in the Chair and Members Anguish, Haverstock, Johnson, Murray, Serby, Sonntag, Van Mulligen

Officials

Provincial Auditor's Office

Wayne Strelioff, Provincial Auditor Fred Wendel, Assistant Provincial Auditor John Hunt, Deputy Provincial Auditor

Comptroller's Office

- G. Kraus, Comptroller
- T. Paton, Director, Financial Management Branch
- 2. The Committee resumed consideration of the Report of the Provincial Auditor for the year ended March 31, 1990.
- 3. It was agreed that the Committee sit *in-camera* to discuss with the Provincial Auditor issues respecting the Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation.
- 4. The Committee proceeded to the consideration of Chapter 33, the Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation, of the Provincial Auditor's Report for the year ended March 31, 1990.
- 5. It was agreed that the Committee now resume its public sitting.
- 6. Public Hearing: Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation (Auditor's Report 1989-90)

Witnesses:

Gordon Robinson, Special Advisor to Acting President Ian Laidlaw, Vice President, Customer Services Shirley Raab, Vice President, Financial Services Ken Rankin, Vice President, Real Estate Services Rob Isbister, Director, Financial Planning & Reporting Doug Porter, Director, Security Services.

- 7. The Chairman advised the witnesses of their rights and obligations.
- 8. The witnesses answered questions.

- 9. The Provincial Auditor answered questions.
- 10. The Comptroller answered questions.
- 11. At 10:30 a.m. the sitting was suspended.
- 12. At 10:45 a.m. the sitting resumed.
- 13. The Committee resumed consideration of Chapter 33, Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation for the year ended March 31, 1990.
- 14. The Provincial Auditor answered questions.
- 15. It was agreed, that the Committee conclude its public hearing with Saskatchewan Property Management this afternoon at 1:30 p.m., prior to hearing Crown Investment Corporation and Executive Council.
- 16. At 12:12 p.m., the Committee adjourned until 1:30 p.m.

Afternoon Sitting

1. **PRESENT**: Mr. Swenson in the Chair, and Members Anguish, Haverstock, Johnson, Muirhead, Murray, Serby, Sonntag, Van Mulligen

Officials

Provincial Auditor's Office

Wayne Strelioff, Provincial Auditor Fred Wendel, Assistant Provincial Auditor John Hunt, Deputy Provincial Auditor

Comptroller's Office

- T. Paton, Director, Financial Management Branch
- 2. The Committee resumed consideration of the Report of the Provincial Auditor for the year ended March 31, 1990.
- 3. The Committee resumed consideration of Chapter 33, Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation for the year ended March 31, 1990.

4. Witnesses

Gordon Robinson, Special Advisor to Acting President Ian Laidlaw, Vice President, Customer Services Shirley Raab, Vice President, Financial Services Ken Rankin, Vice President, Real Estate Services Rob Isbister, Director, Financial Planning & Reporting Doug Porter, Director, Security Services Brian Barrington-Foote, Deputy Minister of Justice

- 5. The witnesses answered questions.
- 6. Mr. Muirhead raised a point of order stating that if the subject matter of the questioning by the Committee is under investigation, the Committee should await the outcome of the investigation before proceeding with the subject matter.

Statement by Chairman

The Chairman cited Beauchesne's Parliamentary Rules and Forms, 5th edition, paragraph 335, as follows:

Members are expected to refrain from discussing matters that are before the courts or tribunals which are courts of record. The purpose of this *sub-judice* convention is to protect the parties in a case awaiting or undergoing trial and persons who stand to be affected by the outcome of a judicial inquiry. It is a voluntary restraint imposed by the House upon itself in the interest of justice and fair play.

The Chairman stated that the *sub-judice* convention, which is a voluntary restraint imposed by the Committee upon itself, protects third parties from being prejudiced if they are the subject of criminal court proceedings. The Chairman stated that the Committee may decide to proceed with the current line of questioning or may decide to proceed *in camera*.

7. It was moved by Mr. Van Mulligen:

That this Committee go in-camera with Mr. Barrington-Foote as the only witness.

After debate, the question being put on the motion, it was agreed to.

- 8. It was agreed that the Committee now resume its public sitting.
- 9. At 2:50 p.m. the sitting was suspended.
- 10. At 3:10 p.m. the sitting resumed.
- 11. It was agreed that the Committee sit *in-camera* to discuss with the Provincial Auditor issues respecting the Crown Investment Corporation.
- 12. The Committee proceeded to the consideration of Chapter 10, Crown Investment Corporation of Saskatchewan, of the Provincial Auditor's Report for the year ended March

31, 1990.

- 13. It was agreed that the Committee now resume its public sitting.
- 14. It was moved by Mr. Van Mulligen:

That the hearing of the Saskatchewan Property Management Corporation be concluded subject to recall, if necessary, for further questions.

The question being put on the motion, it was agreed to.

15. Public Hearing: Crown Investment Corporation of Saskatchewan (Auditor's Report 1989-90)

Witnesses:

Mr. D. Ching, Acting President

Mr. J. Leslie Wright, Director of Accounting Services

- 16. The Chairman advised the witnesses of their rights and obligations.
- 17. The witnesses answered questions.
- 18. The Provincial Auditor answered questions.
- 19. It was moved by Mr. Van Mulligen:

That the hearing of the Crown Investment Corporation be concluded subject to recall, if necessary, for further questions.

The question being put on the motion, it was agreed to.

- 20. The Committee proceeded to hear officials from the Department of Executive Council in its consideration of the *Public Accounts* of Saskatchewan for the year ended March 31, 1990.
- 21. Public Hearing: Department of Executive Council of Saskatchewan (Public Accounts of Saskatchewan, 1989-90)

Witnesses:

Wes Bolstad, Acting Deputy Minister to the Premier and Acting Cabinet Secretary Don Wincherauk, Director of Administration Bonita Heidt, Administrative and Personnel Officer

22. The Chairman advised the witnesses of their rights and obligations.

- 23. The witnesses answered questions.
- 24. The Provincial Auditor answered questions.
- 25. It was moved by Mr. Van Mulligen:

That the hearing of the Department of Executive Council be concluded subject to recall, if necessary, for further questions.

The question being put on the motion, it was agreed to.

26. At 4:40 p.m. the Committee adjourned until 7:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE CLERK Robert Vaive CHAIRMAN R. Swenson

ERRATUM

The document entitled *Report by the Provincial Auditor to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts on the 1990 Annual Report* tabled at the meeting of the Committee of January 6, 1992 should be renumbered PAC 5/92 instead of PAC 4/92.