

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

February 4, 1993

MINUTE NO. 15

9:30 a.m. — Room 10

1. **PRESENT:** Mr. Swenson in the Chair and Members Cline, Haverstock, Kujawa, Serby, Sonntag and Van Mulligen

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Provincial Auditor's Office

Wayne Strelieff, Provincial Auditor
Fred Wendel, Assistant Provincial Auditor
John Hunt, Executive Director

Comptroller's Office

Terry Paton, Director, Financial Management Branch
Blair Swystun, Senior Analyst, Financial Management Branch, Department of Finance

2. The Committee resumed consideration of the Provincial Auditor's Report for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1991 and the 1990-91 Public Accounts of Saskatchewan.
3. The Committee proceeded to the consideration of **Chapter 15 — Department of Education** of the Report of the Provincial Auditor for the year ended March 31, 1991.
4. On motion of Mr. Serby, it was agreed:

That the Committee proceed *in camera*.

5. On motion of Mr. Serby, it was agreed:

That the Committee resume its proceedings in public.

6. **Department of Education Witnesses**

Arleen Hynd, Deputy Minister
Rita Archer, Executive Director, Finance and Operations
Don Achtymichuk, Accountant, Administration
Linda Jackson, Accountant, Financial Planning and Grants
John Janzen, Manager, Student Financial Assistance
Brady Salloum, Director, Student Financial Assistance
Don Trew, Director, Administration

7. The Provincial Auditor and the witnesses answered questions.
8. It was moved by Mr. Van Mulligen:

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

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

9. The Committee recessed from 10:55 a.m. until 11:15 a.m.
10. The Committee proceeded to the consideration of **Chapter 25 — Investment Corporation of Saskatchewan** of the Report of the Provincial Auditor for the year ended March 31, 1991.
11. On motion of Mr. Van Mulligen, it was agreed:

That the Committee proceed *in camera*.

12. On motion of Mr. Van Mulligen, it was agreed:

That the Committee resume its proceedings in public.

13. **Investment Corporation of Saskatchewan Witnesses**

Don Black, President

14. The Provincial Auditor and Mr. Black answered questions.

15. It was moved by Mr. Van Mulligen:

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

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

16. The following document was tabled:

PAC 66/2-22 - By the Provincial Auditor: Recommendations Arising from the 1991 Annual Report.

17. At 11:55 a.m. the Committee adjourned until 1:00 p.m. this day.

Afternoon Sitting

18. **PRESENT:** Mr. Swenson in the Chair and Members Cline, Kujawa, Serby, Sonntag and Van Mulligen

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Provincial Auditor's Office

Wayne Strelieff, Provincial Auditor
Fred Wendel, Assistant Provincial Auditor
John Hunt, Executive Director

Comptroller's Office

Terry Paton, Director, Financial Management Branch
Don McMillan, Senior Analyst, Financial Management Branch, Department of Finance

19. The Committee resumed consideration of the Provincial Auditor's Report for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1991 and the 1990-91 Public Accounts of Saskatchewan.

20. The Committee reverted to the consideration of **Chapter 25 — Investment Corporation of Saskatchewan.**

21. It was moved by Mr. Van Mulligen:

That the Government review the matter of the relationship with ICS and the obligations of the Provincial Auditor in this regard.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

22. The Committee proceeded to the consideration of **Chapter 20 — Department of Health.**

23. On motion of Mr. Cline, it was agreed:

That the Committee proceed *in camera*.

24. On motion of Mr. Cline, it was agreed:

That the Committee resume its proceedings in public.

25. **Department of Health Witnesses**

Duane Adams, Deputy Minister

Kathy Langlois, Executive Director, Finance and Administration Branch

Velma Geddes, Director of Administration, Finance and Administration Branch

26. The Provincial Auditor, his officials and the witnesses answered questions.

27. It was moved by Mr. Cline:

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

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

28. It was moved by Mr. Cline:

That the Board of Governors, Lakeside Home and the La Ronge Hospital Board give their annual reports to the Legislative Assembly by the date required by The Tabling of Documents Act;

That when the department decides to assume hospital operations proper arrangements be in place to ensure the preparation of accurate financial statements;

That Souris Valley Regional Care Centre establish procedures to ensure transactions are accurately and completely recorded.

29. The Committee reverted to **Chapter 35 — Saskatchewan Transportation Company**.

30. It was moved by Mr. Cline:

That appointed auditors give required reports to the Provincial Auditor on a timely basis;

That the board of directors of Saskatchewan Transportation Company (STC) control management;

That this Committee recommends that STC work with CIC to:

(a) improve efficiencies within STC, (b) identify uneconomical routes and quantify the cost of those routes so decisions can be made on their continuation, and (c) that any decisions made be reported to the Crown Corporations Committee for review;

That STC prepare written policies and procedures to govern the following activities:

- * pay and personnel policies for out of scope employees;
- * management and employee expenses;
- * tendering;
- * management of capital construction;
- * expenditure approvals.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

31. The Committee proceeded to the consideration of **Chapter 13 — Department of Agriculture and Food**.

32. On motion of Mr. Sonntag, it was agreed:

That the Committee proceed *in camera*.

33. On motion of Mr. Kujawa, it was agreed:

That the Committee resume its proceedings in public.

34. The Provincial Auditor and witnesses answered questions.

35. The Committee recessed from 2:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

36. **Department of Agriculture and Food Witnesses**

Terrance Scott, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister — Policy
Dale Sigurdson, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister — Administration
Harvey Murchison, Director, Administrative Services
Ken Petruic, Department Accountant

Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan Witnesses

Norm Ballagh, President
Morley Machin, Vice-President, Administration
Brian Drayton, Partner, Price Waterhouse

37. It was moved by Mr. Van Mulligen:

That the hearing of the **Department of Agriculture and Food** and the **Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan** be concluded, subject to recall, if necessary.

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

38. The Committee adjourned at 4:05 p.m. until Friday, February 5, 1993 at 9:00 a.m.

Agenda

9:00 a.m. — Family Foundation (Community Services)

— Consideration of the Committee's Draft Report to the Assembly.