

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

May 6th, 1997

MINUTE NO. 26

9:30 a.m. — Room 10

1. **PRESENT:** Mr. Aldridge in the Chair and Members Draude, Koenker, Pringle, Stanger, Sonntag, Thomson and Toth.

Provincial Auditor's Office

Wayne Strelloff, Provincial Auditor
Fred Wendel, Assistant Provincial Auditor
Robert Black, Director-Value for Money
Judy D. Ferguson, Executive Director
Rodd Jersak, Manager

Appointed Auditors

Tom Robinson, Managing Partner, KPMG
Jamie Wilson, Partner, KPMG

Provincial Comptroller's Office

Terry Paton, Provincial Comptroller
Chris Bayda, Director, Financial Management Branch

2. The Committee proceeded to consider Chapter 3 (Workers' Compensation Board) of the *Fall 1996 Report of the Provincial Auditor*. Mr. Strelloff and Ms. Ferguson provided an overview of the chapter. Mr. Wilson provided an overview of the work of the appointed auditor.

The following Workers' Compensation Board officials appeared before the Committee:

Witnesses

Stan N. Cameron, Chair
Peter Federko, Chief Executive Officer

3. In consideration of Chapter 3, Mr. Cameron questioned the authority of the Provincial Auditor to audit the Workers' Compensation Board and the jurisdiction of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts to call the board before it for questioning. It was moved by Mr. Sonntag:

That the committee direct the Chair to seek arguments and legal opinions from Legislative Counsel and Law Clerk, Department of Justice, the Provincial Auditor's office, and the Workers' Compensation Board as they pertain to the autonomy of the Workers' Compensation Board and the jurisdiction of the Provincial Auditor to audit the Workers' Compensation Board.

A debate arising and the question being put, the motion was agreed to.

4. The Committee agreed that the legal opinions being sought, pursuant to the motion of Mr. Sonntag, should be received no later than May 31st, 1997.
5. It was moved by Mr. Sonntag:

That this Committee do now adjourn.

The question being put, the motion was agreed to.

6. The Committee adjourned at 10:45 a.m. until Tuesday May 13th at 9:30 a.m. in Room 10.

Gregory A. Putz
Committee Clerk

Gerard Aldridge
Committee Chair