



STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS FIFTH REPORT

Mr. Allchurch, Chair of the Standing Committee on Private Bills, presented the Fifth Report of the said committee, which is as follows:

Your committee has considered the following Bill and recommends the same be not further proceeded with:

Bill No. 903 – The Ancient Order of Melchizedeq, Inc. Act

Your committee recommends that the above Bill not proceed based on the following:

- The Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour is currently undertaking a broad review of the post-secondary education system, to be concluded by the end of 2009.
- Your committee has concerns regarding the *ad hoc* process by which private bills relating to the degree-granting authority of religious colleges are evaluated.
- Appearing to grant colleges the authority to confer degrees under *The University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995* could create a false perception that the colleges are somehow supported by or affiliated with either the University of Saskatchewan or the University of Regina.
- Clarification is needed with regard to subsection 6(3) of *The University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995* as it relates to the authority of institutions other than University of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina to grant degrees.
- The Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour wishes to seek the viewpoint of the University of Saskatchewan's federated and affiliated colleges.

And further, your committee recommends that the full fees be remitted to the petitioners for Bill No. 903.

May 12, 2009

Denis Allchurch
Committee Chair