

Bill No. 57 of 1945.

A BILL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TO PRESCRIBE ITS POWERS AND DUTIES

NOTE.

This Bill establishes a new Department of the Government which will administer such Acts and regulations as may be assigned to it by the Lieutenant Governor in Council or as the Acts themselves may authorize. Authority is given to appoint a Deputy Minister and other officers and the duties of the Minister are specifically set out in section 6 which are, generally, to further and encourage orderly economic cultural and social development of the Province and to assist in the rehabilitation of persons returning to the Province from war service and from war industries.

By section 7 provision is made for the appointment of a commission or committee to act in an advisory or administrative capacity.

Section 8 gives the Minister and any committee or commission appointed to make inquiries, the power of summoning witnesses, etc.

The Post-War Reconstruction Act is repealed as the duties under that Act will in future be performed by the new Department. In order to enable the committee under that Act to wind up its work, the repeal does not become effective until proclamation.

W. S. GRAY,
Legislative Counsel.

(This note does not form any part of the Bill but is offered in explanation of its provisions.)

BILL

No. 57 of 1945.

An Act for the Establishment of a Department of Economic Affairs and to prescribe its powers and duties.

(Assented to _____, 1945.)

HIS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta, enacts as follows:

SHORT TITLE.

1. This Act may be cited as "*The Department of Economic Affairs Act.*"

INTERPRETATION.

- 2.** In this Act unless the context otherwise requires,—
- (a) "Department" means the Department of Economic Affairs;
 - (b) "Minister" means the Minister of Economic Affairs.

ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS OF DEPARTMENT.

3. There shall be a Department of the public service of the Province to be called the Department of Economic Affairs, over which the member of the Executive Council appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council under the seal of the Province to discharge the duties of the Minister of Economic Affairs shall preside.

4. Subject to the provisions of *The Public Service Efficiency Act*, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may appoint a Deputy Minister and such other officers, agents, clerks and employees as are requisite for the conduct of the business of the Department and may prescribe their respective duties and remuneration.

5. The Department shall administer such Acts and regulations made thereunder as may be provided therein or as may from time to time be designated by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

6. It shall be the duty of the Minister to further and encourage orderly economic, cultural and social development for the betterment of the people of the Province in accordance with the principles and requirements of a

democracy, and to assist in and advance the proper rehabilitation of men and women returning to the Province from the armed services of Canada and from war industries, and for that purpose he is empowered,—

- (a) to conduct any survey, investigation or enquiry into any and every aspect of the provincial economy or anything relevant to its operation and development;
- (b) to promote or engage in any research activities for the advancement of economic development;
- (c) to enter into agreements or contracts in respect to any matter relating to the economic, cultural or social development of the Province, or to the rehabilitation of the men and women discharged from the armed services or war industries, as may from time to time be authorized by the Lieutenant Governor in Council;
- (d) to enter into agreements for acquiring or securing to any person or persons or disposing of to any person or persons any patent or other rights for the manufacture, processing, purchase or sale of any article or thing;
- (e) to enquire into and collect information on any matter affecting the development of the economic, cultural or social life of the Province, and to disseminate such information as he deems will be in the public interest for furthering the development of the provincial economy and for advancing the rehabilitation of men and women discharged from the armed services and war industries of Canada;
- (f) to enquire into, initiate, promote, supervise, assist or develop any proposal, plan, scheme, project, activity or undertaking for furthering the orderly economic, cultural or social development of the Province, or for assisting the rehabilitation of men and women discharged from the armed services or war industries of Canada;
- (g) to promote or attend any conferences or meetings, in carrying out his duties;
- (h) to use any and every means to publicize the resources of the Province and other matters relevant to their development;
- (i) and generally, without detracting from the foregoing powers, to devise, sponsor, adopt, promote, publicize and initiate policies and measures for the orderly economic, cultural and social development of the Province in conformity with the principles and requirements of democracy, and for the rehabilitation of the men and women discharged from the armed services and war industries of Canada; to make recommendations to the Lieutenant Governor in Council in respect to any such policies and measures; and otherwise to do such acts or things necessary or incidental to any of the matters hereinbefore set out.

7. The Minister, with the approval of the Lieutenant Governor in Council, may appoint suitable persons to act as a commission or a committee, either in an advisory or in an administrative capacity, to carry out such duties as may from time to time be prescribed by the Minister.

8. The Minister, any commission or committee appointed by him pursuant to section 7 or any commission or committee or officer of the Department appointed by him to make any enquiry which the Minister is empowered to make under the provisions of section 6, shall have the same powers of summoning witnesses before them, requiring witnesses to give evidence on oath and to produce documents and things as may be conferred upon commissioners appointed pursuant to *The Public Inquiries Act*.

9. The Department shall submit to the Lieutenant Governor in Council an annual report upon the affairs and work of the Department as he may require, and such report shall be laid before the Assembly within fifteen days after the commencement of the next session.

10. *The Post-War Reconstruction Act*, being chapter 8 of the Statutes of Alberta, 1943, is hereby repealed.

11. This Act shall come into force on the day upon which it is assented to, except section 10 which shall come into force on a day to be fixed by Proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor in Council.

FIRST SESSION
TENTH LEGISLATURE
9 GEORGE VI
1945

BILL

An Act for the Establishment of a
Department of Economic Affairs
and to prescribe its powers
and duties.

Received and read the

First time.....

Second time.....

Third time.....

HON. MR. HOOKE.

EDMONTON:
A. Shnitka, King's Printer
1945