

Legislative Assembly of Alberta

The 27th Legislature Fourth Session

Standing Committee on Legislative Offices

Friday, December 9, 2011 10:08 a.m.

Transcript No. 27-4-8

Legislative Assembly of Alberta The 27th Legislature Fourth Session

Standing Committee on Legislative Offices

Blackett, Lindsay, Calgary-North West (PC), Chair Lund, Ty, Rocky Mountain House (PC), Deputy Chair

Blakeman, Laurie, Edmonton-Centre (AL) Brown, Dr. Neil, QC, Calgary-Nose Hill (PC)

Evans, Iris, Sherwood Park (PC) Hinman, Paul, Calgary-Glenmore (W) Lindsay, Fred, Stony Plain (PC)

MacDonald, Hugh, Edmonton-Gold Bar (AL) Marz, Richard, Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills (PC) Notley, Rachel, Edmonton-Strathcona (ND) Ouellette, Luke, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake (PC)

Quest, Dave, Strathcona (PC)

Legislative Officers

Brian Fjeldheim Chief Electoral Officer

Peter Hourihan Ombudsman
Merwan Saher Auditor General
Neil R. Wilkinson Ethics Commissioner

Frank Work, QC Information and Privacy Commissioner

Support Staff

W.J. David McNeil Clerk

Shannon Dean Senior Parliamentary Counsel/

Director of House Services

Robert H. Reynolds, QC Law Clerk/Director of Interparliamentary Relations

Cheryl Scarlett Director of Human Resources, Information

Technology, and Broadcast Services

Giovana Bianchi Committee Clerk
Corinne Dacyshyn Committee Clerk
Jody Rempel Committee Clerk
Karen Sawchuk Committee Clerk

Rhonda Sorensen Manager of Corporate Communications and

Broadcast Services

Melanie FriesacherCommunications ConsultantTracey SalesCommunications ConsultantPhilip MassolinCommittee Research Co-ordinator

Stephanie LeBlanc Legal Research Officer Rachel Stein Research Officer

Liz Sim Managing Editor of Alberta Hansard

10:08 a.m.

Friday, December 9, 2011

[Mr. Blackett in the chair]

The Chair: Good morning. I'd like to call this meeting to order. I apologize for being late. Welcome to this meeting of the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices. I'd ask that members and those joining the committee at the table introduce themselves for the record, and then I'll ask those members participating via teleconference to identify themselves. I'd also ask that due to the number of members participating by telephone, members on the phone identify themselves each time they speak.

Ms Evans: Iris Evans.

Mr. MacDonald: Hugh MacDonald, Edmonton-Gold Bar. Good morning.

Mrs. Scarlett: Cheryl Scarlett, Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Reynolds: Rob Reynolds, Law Clerk.

Mr. Quest: Good morning. Dave Quest, Strathcona.

The Chair: I'm Lindsay Blackett, the chair.

Mrs. Dacyshyn: Corinne Dacyshyn, committee clerk.

The Chair: I'd ask those on the phone to identify themselves, please.

Mr. Lund: Ty Lund, vice-chair.

Dr. Brown: Neil Brown.

Mr. Ouellette: Good morning. Luke Ouellette.

Mr. Hinman: Paul Hinman, Calgary-Glenmore.

The Chair: I think that's it. Thank you.

The first order of business. I'd ask for a motion to approve the agenda.

Ms Evans: I'll move it.

The Chair: Moved by Iris Evans.

Mr. Ouellette: I'll second it.

The Chair: We don't need seconders, apparently, but thank you, Luke. We'll move on to the first item, and that is the recommendation for an order in council appointment of an Acting Information and Privacy Commissioner. For the record the last day for our current commissioner, Mr. Frank Work, is today, December 9, and Ms Jill Clayton will be taking office as the Information and Privacy Commissioner on February 1, 2012. To accommodate the transition period, a recommendation to appoint an Acting Information and Privacy Commissioner may be put forward by the Legislative Offices Committee to the Lieutenant Governor in Council. Mr. Work has suggested that

Ms Marylin Mun, assistant commissioner in the office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner, be appointed acting commissioner during the vacancy in that office.

Are there any questions? Would a member make the motion to appoint an Acting Information and Privacy Commissioner?

Mr. Ouellette: I would move that.

The Chair: Okay. I'll read it. Moved by Luke Ouellette that the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices recommend to the Lieutenant Governor in Council that Ms Marylin Mun be appointed Acting Information and Privacy Commissioner for the period ending January 31, 2012.

All in favour? Anybody opposed? Carried.

The next item is with respect to acting pay. As the Acting Information and Privacy Commissioner Ms Mun will assume all the duties and powers of the commissioner during the vacancy in that office. Based on public service guidelines Ms Mun is eligible to receive a temporary salary increase during the period that she is acting as Information and Privacy Commissioner. The committee's discussions may extend to Ms Mun's current salary and classification, and I would therefore call for a motion to move in camera prior to continuing our discussions in this respect.

Mr. Lund: I move that we go in camera.

The Chair: All in favour of the motion to move in camera?

Hon. Members: Agreed.

[The committee met in camera from 10:11 a.m. to 10:24 a.m.]

The Chair: Okay. I would like a member to move a motion on the acting pay, and I'll read it.

The Standing Committee on Legislative Offices approve the payment of a salary equal to 65 per cent of the development maximum for the senior officer D range to Ms Marylin Mun, assistant commissioner, office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner, for the period ending January 31, 2012.

Dave Quest. All in favour? Anyone opposed? Motion carried. Well, I think that we're done. Are there any other items of business that need to be discussed?

Mr. Ouellette: Merry Christmas to everybody.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes. Merry Christmas.

Ms Evans: Merry Christmas.

The Chair: Great.

Thank you so much for making the time to make this happen. The date of our next meeting is anticipated in the spring sometime to complete our annual review of the officers' salaries. Members will be polled to determine a suitable date and time.

I'd like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

[The committee adjourned at 10:25 a.m.]