



Legislative Assembly of Alberta

The 27th Legislature
Fourth Session

Select Special
Information and Privacy Commissioner
Search Committee

Tuesday, September 6, 2011
2:17 p.m.

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Select Special Information and Privacy Commissioner Search Committee

Mitzel, Len, Cypress-Medicine Hat (PC), Chair
Lund, Ty, Rocky Mountain House (PC), Deputy Chair

Blakeman, Laurie, Edmonton-Centre (AL)
Hinman, Paul, Calgary-Glenmore (W)
Lindsay, Fred, Stony Plain (PC)
Marz, Richard, Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills (PC)
Notley, Rachel, Edmonton-Strathcona (ND)
Quest, Dave, Strathcona (PC)
Rogers, George, Leduc-Beaumont-Devon (PC)

Corporate Human Resources Participants

Jean Easton	Consultant, Executive Search
Trish Mills	Director, Executive Search

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
Karen Sawchuk	Committee Clerk
Rhonda Sorensen	Manager of Corporate Communications and Broadcast Services
Liz Sim	Managing Editor of <i>Alberta Hansard</i>

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[Mr. Mitzel in the chair]

The Chair: Okay. Ladies and gentlemen, we'll call the meeting to order. I'd like to welcome everyone to the meeting of the Information and Privacy Commissioner Search Committee.

I trust that everyone has a copy of the meeting agenda and the other meeting materials, which were either posted on our committee website or delivered to your offices last week.

I'd ask that we introduce ourselves for the record before we get started with our agenda. My name is Len Mitzel. I'm the MLA for Cypress-Medicine Hat, and I chair this committee.

Mr. Lund: Ty Lund, MLA, Rocky Mountain House.

Mr. Lindsay: Fred Lindsay, MLA, Stony Plain.

Mr. Hinman: Paul Hinman, MLA, Calgary-Glenmore.

Ms Blakeman: Laurie Blakeman. I'd like to thank each and every one of you and welcome you to my fabulous constituency of Edmonton-Centre.

Mr. Rogers: I'm George Rogers, the MLA for Leduc-Beaumont-Devon. I'm very pleased to be here.

Ms Easton: Jean Easton, executive search.

Ms Mills: Trish Mills, executive search.

Mrs. Sawchuk: Karen Sawchuk, committee clerk.

The Chair: Thank you very much.

You also have the agenda. Is someone prepared to move the adoption of the agenda, please? Mr. Lindsay. Any additions or deletions? Seeing none, all in favour? Opposed? That is carried.

For the record Mr. Quest has joined us.

We're at item 3, the adoption of the meeting minutes. We have the minutes of the last meeting. Are there any errors or omissions to note? If not, would a member like to move the adoption of these, please?

Mr. Rogers: I'll move that, Mr. Chairman.

The Chair: Moved by Mr. Rogers. Any errors or omissions? Seeing none, Mr. Rogers moves that the minutes of the June 7, 2011, meeting of the Select Special Information and Privacy Commissioner Search Committee be adopted as circulated. All in favour? Opposed? That is carried.

We will now review the applications received and the determination of candidates for a preliminary interview. Today we'll be reviewing the applications with a view to shortlisting candidates for a preliminary interview.

To maintain the confidentiality of the applicants, we'll be continuing our discussions in camera. If a member would like to make a motion for this, please. Mr. Quest has moved that we go in camera. All in favour? Opposed? That is carried. We'll pause for a moment while we go in camera.

[The committee met in camera from 2:19 p.m. to 3:39 p.m.]

The Chair: Okay. We're back on the record. Are there any other items for discussion?

Ms Blakeman: The next meeting date.

The Chair: The next meeting dates. Okay. I believe we have a meeting of Leg. Offices on October 13 from 10 to 2, do we not? If that's correct, how about 2:15 on the 13th?

Mrs. Sawchuk: From 2:15 to 4 again, Mr. Chair?

The Chair: From 2:15 till 4. Okay. I think that what we'll be doing there is reviewing the preliminary reports and then shortlisting the interviews, right? I don't know whether we want to look at any additional dates. The next meeting we have set, I believe, is from 11 till 3 on another date, isn't it?

Ms Blakeman: From 11 till 4 on the 18th.

Mrs. Sawchuk: For Leg. Offices.

Ms Blakeman: I don't think there's room there.

The Chair: There's no room there. It depends on how many we decide to interview. We're probably looking at a full day.

Ms Blakeman: Can we get anything in that week before session is scheduled to start, so the 19th, 20th, or 21st? Are any of those possible, or do you guys think we could get people in for interviewing fast enough?

Ms Mills: I'd like to have at least a week, and you're talking about a week. If we have the dates firm, we can share them with the candidates, you know, just for their information purposes when we're doing the preliminary interviews. So I think we could make that work.

Ms Blakeman: If we could get those one or two big days out of the way before we go into session even given that there may not be a session; it might be an election, blah, blah, blah. But let's plan with what we know.

Mr. Rogers: The 19th, 20th?

The Chair: The 20th doesn't work for me, no, but the 18th or 19th does.

Mr. Rogers: On the 18th we have that meeting.

The Chair: We have the other meeting, so the 19th. We would have to start in the morning. I'm thinking that we'll have five, perhaps, so we'll have to start probably at 8:30 in the morning.

Ms Blakeman: I'm sorry. What day are we talking?

The Chair: The 19th.

Mr. Hinman: How long is it going to go that day? What's the time?

The Chair: Karen is suggesting that we can do four in a day. If we do five, what we did before is that we did one the day before. We have the 18th.

Mr. Rogers: Oh, at the end of it, after we finish that other meeting on the 18th.

Ms Blakeman: I wouldn't do that. I mean, if I was that person that got interviewed at night after most of us had been sitting in a meeting for five hours on the Lobbyists Act . . .

The Chair: Okay. Can we do five? It'll be a long day.

Ms Mills: I think we've had candidates in here for an hour and a half or close to that.

The Chair: That's seven and a half hours. If we're looking at two hours, we're at 10 hours, actually. We'd go two hours because you want a 15-minute break between them.

Ms Blakeman: I think that's usually just our discussion, isn't it?
3:45

Ms Mills: I think we scheduled them on an hour and 45, so they were here in the room for an hour and a half. We had 15 minutes in between for discussion. It does get tight because it is a long day. People do need to escape for breaks. It could be done, but we'd have to have a really tight schedule and a commitment that people wouldn't step out for long.

Ms Blakeman: Well, I'm sorry, guys, but it just doesn't seem fair for us to schedule this in a way where we know that the last two people are not going to get the same alertness and interest factor as the first ones. It's just not fair.

The Chair: We're assuming there are five. What if in the end we decide we want to do six?

Mr. Rogers: What if we only decide on four? What if they didn't interview that well?

Ms Blakeman: I think you need to schedule a second half day or a second night or something like that. I just don't think you should do whatever it was we were considering, six people in a day. It's just not fair. That last person: I mean, frankly, they've got a right to sue us for not getting a fair shake.

Mr. Lund: I agree with Laurie.

The Chair: Okay. We can use up the 19th.

Ms Blakeman: From 8:30 to 4:30 or 8:30 to 4?

The Chair: From 8:30 till 4. I think that'll cover four people.
Then if there are one or two, can we do them in the morning of the 20th?

Ms Blakeman: I think so. The morning of the 20th. Okay.

Mr. Lund: Is the 20th a Saturday?

The Chair: No. Thursday.

Mrs. Sawchuk: Thursday. Okay.

Mr. Lund: I thought the session was in then.

The Chair: No. The 24th.

Ms Blakeman: We're trying to get it in before that, so this is the week before session.

The Chair: Yeah. Okay.

Ms Blakeman: Okay. Are we doing a half day, like – from what? – 9 till noon?

The Chair: I'd go 8:30 till noon.

Ms Blakeman: From 8:30 till noon. Okay.

Mr. Hinman: Is there any way we could go Thursday and then Friday morning? I've got a bit of a conflict there. Wednesday down in Calgary and then coming back, so it's three hours. I don't know. Maybe I can catch a flight that night, then.

The Chair: I've got a conflict Thursday afternoon.

Mr. Hinman: You see, if I was leaving from downtown here, Laurie, it would be no problem.

Ms Blakeman: Oh, for God's sake.

Mr. Hinman: No, my sake and all the other commuters.

Ms Blakeman: Sorry. We're back into the argument about the municipal airport closing.

The Chair: Anyway, back to the schedule here. Are we okay? You can make it work?

Mr. Hinman: I'll see what I can do.

The Chair: It'll be all day Wednesday and the morning on Thursday now, okay?

Ms Notley: Starting at 8:30 both mornings?

The Chair: The 19th all day and the 20th till noon.

Mr. Hinman: Did you say till 5? Is that what we're scheduling?

The Chair: From 8:30 till 4, and 8:30 till noon on the 20th.
Okay. If there's nothing else, because then after that we've got to make some decisions. I think it's a little too early to try and set dates on this. So that's the timeline so far. If that's good, depending on how many candidates we interview as to the times that we've got set and once we have that determination after our next meeting, we can perhaps then determine the final timeline for Trish's benefit: who we're going to approve, reference checks, and everything else. That timeline comes a little later.

Anything else?

A motion to adjourn. Moved by Mr. Rogers. All in favour?

[The committee adjourned at 3:49 p.m.]

