

Title: Friday, June 22, 2007 Legislative Offices Committee

Date: 07/06/22

Time: 8:06 a.m.

[Mr. Rodney in the chair]

The Chair: Now, gentlemen, I'd like to call the meeting to order at 8:06 a.m. I will ask everyone to introduce themselves for the record, including the members joining us via telephone conversation. Perhaps we can start with hon. Dr. Pannu.

[The following committee members introduced themselves: Mr. Cao, Mr. Coutts, Mr. Flaherty, Dr. Pannu, and Mr. Rodney]

The Chair: I believe that constitutes quorum, and that's how many people we have here today. Thank you for joining us. Listen, with absolutely nothing but respect intended, I will say that if hon. Blakeman was able to join us today, she would welcome us to her fabulous constituency of Edmonton-Centre. I've spoken with her and others on the committee, though. I know their intentions, and since we have quorum, I believe we can proceed with what I trust will be a rather quick and efficient meeting.

You folks may know that the meeting materials were e-mailed to you on Wednesday, June 20, an agenda as well as a letter from Mr. Frank Work. I just need a member to move adoption of our meeting agenda, please. I recognize hon. Raj Pannu. Thank you, sir, for doing that.

Mr. Cao: I put my hand up here, too, you know.

The Chair: Oh, yes, but just a fraction of a second after Raj.

Moved by Dr. Pannu that the agenda be adopted as circulated. A seconder is not required. All those in favour? Maybe you can indicate with your voice.

Hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chair: Anyone opposed? That motion is carried.

On to number 3 on your agenda, Information and Privacy Commissioner: Term of Reappointment. At our last meeting, last week, the committee passed the following motion. I'll just read it for the record: moved by Mr. Ducharme that the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices recommend that Mr. Frank Work be reappointed as the Information and Privacy Commissioner for the province of Alberta for a term of three years.

Now, I spoke with Mr. Frank Work shortly after the meeting to advise him of the committee's decision, and based on that conversation, members were polled for today's meeting. Since we will be discussing the specifics of Mr. Frank Work's contract, I would ask if a member would make the motion to move in camera. I should note that the committee's decision in this respect will of course be made on the record. Could I have a member, please, make a motion to move in camera now?

Mr. Coutts: I so do.

The Chair: Thank you. All those in favour? Anyone opposed? All right. We'll have you fine people who've helped us out so far take a little break.

[The committee met in camera from 8:11 a.m. to 8:17 a.m.]

The Chair: We're back on the record now, so we just need to do it officially.

Dr. Pannu: I move that the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices recommend to the Legislative Assembly that

Mr. Franklin J. Work, QC, be reappointed Information and Privacy Commissioner for a four-year term and that the Speaker be authorized to enter into a contract with Mr. Work at the time of the appointment.

The Chair: I will accept that motion, Dr. Pannu, if we first – we have it written on a sheet of paper here, gentlemen. There's a motion right above that with another committee member's name. You don't have that one? Why don't I read it into the record? I'll read this into the record if this is okay with you, Dr. Pannu. It's just to rescind. Moved by Dr. Pannu that

the motion of the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices recommending the reappointment of Mr. Frank Work as Information and Privacy Commissioner for a three-year term passed at the June 12, 2007, committee meeting be rescinded.

All those in favour?

Hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chair: Anyone opposed? That's passed.

Now, gentlemen, do we need to have Dr. Pannu reread the four-year term motion, or do you understand it?

Hon. Members: No.

The Chair: I'm hearing no, so I will ask now for all those in favour of the four-year term motion as moved a few minutes ago by Dr. Pannu. All those in favour?

Hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chair: Anyone opposed? Obviously not.

Well, we move on to number 4, Other Business, if there is any. Do any members have any other items for discussion today other than Mr. Flaherty? I thought he was going to give us a weather report from his vacation, but that's just fine. We'll find out later.

So, gentlemen – I would have said ladies and gentlemen if that was the case, but I will simply say gentlemen – thank you for taking the time for our short meeting. Thanks for your patience with our little telecommunications challenges there.

The date of our next meeting will be at the call of the chair. Just note that we do need confirmation of the cost-of-living percentages awarded for public service, after which we can proceed with the salary review for the officers of the Legislature. We anticipate that that's at least two months away, so we're looking at the end of August, sometime in September, et cetera. I'm sure we'll see you in the meantime. I wish you all the best.

Mr. Flaherty: Mr. Chairman.

The Chair: Yes. Go ahead, Jack.

Mr. Flaherty: Mr. Chairman. Can I have a note with Karen for a second? Karen, this is sort of selfish, but I'll phone you next week. On Monday I'll be back.

Mrs. Sawchuk: All right.

Mr. Flaherty: Okay. I'll talk to you.

The Chair: Now, that's official, Jack. *Hansard* has that recorded, so we expect that to happen, sir.

Mr. Flaherty: She'll know what I'm talking about.

The Chair: I don't think we need a motion to accept that.

Mr. Flaherty: No. I thought you were going to cut me off, Dave, so I had to get that in.

The Chair: No worries.

Colleagues, I want to thank you again for your time, and we did need to do this. I know that it was extra effort, perhaps, out of your day, but hopefully the conciseness of the meeting made it worth while. I'm sure Mr. Frank Work appreciates this, as do the people of Alberta.

Thank you, and I will need a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Flaherty: So moved.

The Chair: That's by Dr. Jack Flaherty. Are you a doctor yet?

Mr. Flaherty: I'm working on it.

The Chair: All those in favour?

Hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chair: Anyone opposed to ending this short little meeting? I didn't think so. Safe travels, everyone. Thanks again.

[The committee adjourned at 8:21 a.m.]