

[Chairman: Mr. Bogle]

[6:01 p.m.]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I now officially declare the meeting open. The purpose of tonight's meeting is to finalize plans for our hearings in June and to discuss agenda items for upcoming meetings. In addition, tonight we were going to receive a brief from Mr. Barry Chivers. He's unable to be here, so we'll reschedule him for one of the upcoming meetings.

While I'm on upcoming meetings, I might just draw your attention to our dates. We have Monday, May 7, and Thursday, May 24, as the dates we had agreed to. We may be able to get by with just one of those two, but I'd ask at this point in time that you hold both dates on your calendar. Anything else on the May meetings?

All right. We'll come back, then, to the agenda. Robert, do you want to lead us through this, please?

MR. PRITCHARD: Okay. If you want to just go through this list of tentative meetings and public hearings schedule: April 26, tonight; May 7 and May 24 being held.

This is assuming that the House rises in time for us to get the advertising into the papers, et cetera, et cetera. June 19, which is a Tuesday, we go to Rycroft. We have a lunch meeting from noon to 2 p.m., and then we have our public hearing in Rycroft from 2 p.m. till 4 p.m.

MR. CHAIRMAN: And we'll be flying in.

MR. PRITCHARD: We said we would fly to Rycroft.

MR. DAY: Where precisely is it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Near Peace River.

MR. CARDINAL: It's between Peace River and Grande Prairie.

MR. DAY: Like north of?

MR. CHAIRMAN: More in the Dunvegan constituency.

MR. PRITCHARD: It's there in yellow.

MR. DAY: I just wasn't sure how far from Peace River.

MR. CARDINAL: You have to fly to Grande Prairie.

MR. DAY: Okay. Yeah.

MR. PRITCHARD: Of course we'll fly home. On June 21, on the Thursday, we'll drive to Westlock for a public hearing between 2 and 4 and then in the evening between 7 and 9 go to St. Albert. On Friday, the 22nd, we'll fly to Wainwright for a public hearing between noon and 2 p.m. On Monday, June 25, we'll drive to Wetaskiwin and have a dinner meeting between 5 and 7 and then a public hearing from 7 till 9. On Tuesday, June 26, we'll fly to Rocky Mountain House for a public hearing between 2 and 4 and then in the evening a public hearing between 7 and 9 in Stettler. On Thursday, June 28, we'll fly to Brooks for a public hearing between 2 and 4 and in the evening Rockyford for a public hearing between 7 and 9. On Friday, June 29, we'll drive to Mayerthorpe for a public hearing between

10 a.m. and noon, followed by a wrap-up meeting in Mayerthorpe between noon and 1:30.

I just made note of a couple of things that were happening during that time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I've written to each of the MLAs asking them to identify a meeting place and, where we are staying over for a meal, to indicate whether they're planning to be with us and where we should be.

MR. PRITCHARD: When we get some of that detail back - well, we should have that for probably the next meeting if we have it on the 7th.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Anything else on the proposed locations or the time frame?

MR. DAY: Are any of these different than the one you sent out a few days ago, Bob?

MR. PRITCHARD: No, they aren't. I just handed it out again because I assumed people wouldn't bring it.

Next we can look at time away, which we've put in here for information. I got all this information from each of you. Pam Barrett, July 1 to 31; Pat Black, July 15 to August 31; Bob Bogle, July 9 to 13; Frank Bruseker, July 21 to August 10; Mike Cardinal, no time away scheduled; Stockwell Day, August 27 to 31, possible; Tom Sigurdson, June 19 to 22 and September 16 to 23. As time progresses, if you have changes, if you'd let me, I'll change this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yeah, assuming we can have at our June 29 meeting, between noon and 1:30 p.m., a beginning of our deliberations. Okay? So we officially bring the hearing process to a close; we begin our deliberations. We then break for the two months, for all of July and August. The intent was then to come back in the first half of September for discussions, blocking out some time in early October if we need the extra time. Now, we had discussed that at our last meeting. That's recapping what we had discussed. I've forgotten if there are some people away. Is it Tom?

MR. SIGURDSON: Uh huh.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You're away, yeah, from September 16 to 23. I think someone else had a commitment.

MR. PRITCHARD: We suggested for report writing September 1 to 14 and September 25 to October 15. So that would be all right for the period Tom's away.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yeah. Okay. We had discussed the idea of doing it in blocks, where we would meet - I'll use as an example a Monday afternoon and a Tuesday morning to about noonish and assess how we're going and then come back; in other words, two days but half-day increments. We'll assess as to how we seem to be progressing.

MR. PRITCHARD: Do those periods of time sound okay: September 1 to 14 and September 25 to October 15?

MR. DAY: Anything could happen.

MS BARRETT: Least likely an election.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. That's good then.
Anything else on scheduling?

MR. PRITCHARD: That's it actually.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If we have nothing else on scheduling, I wanted to read into the record Motion 14, presented by the Government House Leader. It has not yet been voted on, as you know, but it is on the Order Paper, presented by the hon. Mr. Horsman.

Be it resolved that the interim report and recommendations contained therein, presented to the Assembly on March 21, 1990, by the Select Special Committee on Electoral Boundaries, appointed pursuant to Motion 14 passed by this Assembly on August 15, 1989, be now received and concurred in.

Pam and I were discussing when the motion might come forward, and I suggested that it in all likelihood would be something that the three House leaders would decide.

Any other matters anyone wishes to bring up today? There's one thing I'll indicate just for information. Pat and I were discussing some equipment that Pat needs to purchase for our upcoming meetings, and I've suggested that he go ahead and do that even though the budget hasn't formally been approved or our mandate hasn't formally been extended. It's certain that it will be, and if he doesn't order the equipment now, we won't have it in time for our hearings.

MS BARRETT: May I ask what the equipment is?

MR. LEDGERWOOD: These are two mikes so that the presenters will have microphones and also two additional speakers so that it will improve the public address . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: The trouble we've had passing the microphone back and forth.

MS BARRETT: Do you want to buy them or just rent them?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Well, he can use them later.

MR. PRITCHARD: The equipment we have been using, Pam, is Pat's, and so it's an adjunct to that.

MRS. BLACK: What happened to the ones we were using for all the hearings?

MR. PRITCHARD: That is Pat Ledgerwood's equipment. This is an adjunct to that, because it wasn't powerful enough.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you recall a few times when we were literally passing the microphone between speakers?

MS BARRETT: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: They're microphones he can use in his later work for the commission in any event. Okay?

Any other business to be brought up this evening? Okay. Then we're tentatively on for May 7. We have Barry Chivers. We've got possibly one or two other presenters. Do we have anything else from Tomislav now? I don't think so.

MR. PRITCHARD: No, not right now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Following the presentation received here, Pat kindly gave some suggestions on information that would be helpful for commission purposes later on, and that has been fed into the system so that as Tomislav is developing the next stage of his work, he's cognizant of those matters.

Motion to adjourn?

MS BARRETT: So moved.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All in favour? Thank you. Carried. That's it.

[The committee recessed from 6:11 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, we've reconvened our meeting.

MS BARRETT: Mr. Chairman, I remember that we made a motion when we first started meeting that decisions had to be made by the full group, and it's a decision I certainly speak in favour of. But in the event that decisions need to be made and members of the committee can't be present but can be on the phone with the committee, I'd like to move that the committee accept as valid decisions which are made by all members of the committee, provided that members are either present or are on the phone during a committee meeting.

MR. DAY: How will we actually know it's Pam's voice and not a simulated voice transmission?

MS BARRETT: I'll light a Gitane.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Any further questions or discussion?

MR. SIGURDSON: That's quite all right.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Anyone else?

MR. DAY: Could we go on record as saying we actually prefer it that way?

MS BARRETT: You'll end up with Bob Pritchard in one room with a speaker phone: a conference call and seven people.

MR. CARDINAL: In fact, for anybody that smokes, in the future that's how we'll do it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I'm going to call the question before this meeting degenerates any further. All those in favour? Opposed? Carried.

MS BARRETT: Thank you.

MR. DAY: I abstained just for the heck of it.

MS BARRETT: Not allowed to; it's not a decision.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now we'll entertain a motion to adjourn. Stock.

MS BARRETT: He's voting in favour, and he wants it on the record because he understands that abstention is not allowed.

MR. DAY: Actually, I'd like a division on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. Thank you. We're adjourned.

[The committee adjourned at 6:17 p.m.]

