

**Title: Tuesday, June 12, 2007 Legislative Offices Committee**

Date: 07/06/12

Time: 6:12 p.m.

[Mr. Rodney in the chair]

**The Chair:** Ladies and gentlemen, it is 6:12 on the nose, so I'd like to call the meeting to order. Thank you, indeed, for being here. Please get yourself some food if you haven't already.

I'm hoping that everyone can introduce themselves just for the record.

[The following committee members introduced themselves: Ms Blakeman, Mr. Coutts, Mr. Ducharme, Mr. Flaherty, Mr. Magnus, Mr. Marz, Mr. McFarland, Dr. Pannu, Mr. Rodney, and Mr. VanderBurg]

**Mr. Reynolds:** Rob Reynolds, Senior Parliamentary Counsel.

**Dr. McNeil:** David McNeil, Clerk of the Assembly.

**Mrs. Sawchuk:** Karen Sawchuk, committee clerk.

**The Chair:** I understand that there were a few little snags, but packages were delivered back on June 6 to Leg. or Leg. Annex offices. How many people did not receive? Just a couple. Okay. Good. Sorry about that, folks, and I understand that you have them now. Thanks to Karen for taking care of that in the meantime.

You should have in front of you a copy of the agenda. I wonder if I could have a member move adoption of our meeting agenda, please. It looks like Jack or Richard. Take your choice. All in favour? Objections? That's carried.

Adopt the meeting minutes. The March 13 minutes were initially discussed at the April 16, 2007, meeting, and a change was requested. That was requested by Ms Blakeman for the item related to the additional funding as requested by the Ethics Commissioner. The change was made, and I hope everybody had a chance to take a look at March 13 and 16. Trusting that you have, I wonder if I could have a motion to adopt March 13 first. Who can move that for us?

**Mr. McFarland:** I will.

**The Chair:** Thank you. All in favour? Objections? Carried.

April 16 minutes. I need someone to move that. Richard Marz. All those in favour? Objections? That's carried as well.

Am I going too fast for you?

**Mrs. Sawchuk:** No.

**The Chair:** All right. Good. We'll keep going.

Let's move right on to item 4, Information and Privacy Commissioner: Reappointment Review. Indeed, this is the singular biggest reason why we're here today. I'll just give you a little bit of an intro. Frank Work, the Information and Privacy Commissioner, had a five-year contract expire on May 15. Members have a copy of the letter from Mr. Work indicating his interest in reappointment.

Now, for information purposes, section 46(2) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act reads as follows:

A person holding office as Commissioner continues to hold office after the expiry of that person's term of office until that person is reappointed, a successor is appointed or a period of 6 months has expired, whichever occurs first.

I trust that makes sense. There are three options there.

Since we will be discussing the specifics of Mr. Work's contract – I know it's not popular with everyone, but it is the practice of the committee to move in camera for these confidential deliberations. I should note that the committee's decision in this respect will of course be made on the record. The decision will be. I wonder if we could have a member make the motion to move in camera. Richard Magnus. Okay. All in favour? Objections? That motion is carried.

Thank you, *Hansard*. We'll invite you back.

[The committee met in camera from 6:17 p.m. to 6:55 p.m.]

**The Chair:** Welcome back, ladies and gentlemen. I guess it's hon. Denis Ducharme who has a motion to make.

**Mr. Ducharme:** Thank you, Chair. I move that the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices reappoint Mr. Frank Work as the Information and Privacy Commissioner for the province of Alberta for a term of three years.

**Mr. Reynolds:** Perhaps, with the greatest of respect, that would be "recommend that Frank Work be reappointed" because the committee can't actually reappoint him.

**The Chair:** Point well taken, Mr. Reynolds. Thank you for the clarification.

**Mr. Ducharme:** I appreciate the legalese.

**The Chair:** Right. We will open the floor to debate if anyone cares to debate further.

**Hon. Members:** Question.

**The Chair:** I've heard the question called. All those in favour of the motion? Those opposed? That motion is carried. Thank you.

It looks like we're on to our next item on the agenda, number 5, Other Business. Just one point. I met with Gord Button, our Ombudsman, a few weeks after our last meeting to discuss the matter of delegated authority. He's fully aware of the situation, colleagues, related to previous decisions made by his office, and his office is actively pursuing alternatives in the matter, including possible amendments to the Ombudsman Act. So he is very, very much on the case. We agreed that he would report back to this committee in early fall of this year.

With that, we're on point 6, Date of Next Meeting, which will be at the call of the chair.

I will ask for a motion to adjourn.

**Ms Blakeman:** Excuse me. The information that was requested from the Clerk will be circulated to all of us in the interim, or will it be held until the next meeting?

**Dr. McNeil:** It will be circulated in the interim if we obtain it.

**Ms Blakeman:** Great. Thank you.

**The Chair:** Right. Good.

Motion to adjourn. All those in favour? Opposed? Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen.

[The committee adjourned at 6:57 p.m.]

