

Standing Committee on Private Bills

9:31 a.m.

[Chairman: Mr. Renner]

THE CHAIRMAN: Good morning, everyone. I'd like to call this meeting to order. This is a meeting of the Standing Committee on Private Bills. We have one Bill to deal with today, and I would like to refresh everyone's memory and explain a little bit about the process we will be following this morning.

Before we get into that, let's deal with the agenda and minutes from the last meeting. It has been circulated. I would entertain a motion to approve the agenda as circulated. Mrs. Soetaert. All in favour?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed? Carried.

We also circulated minutes from the meeting last Tuesday. I hope everyone has had a chance to review them, and I would entertain a motion to accept the minutes as circulated.

MR. HERARD: So moved.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Herard. Any discussion? All in favour?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed? Carried.

Today we're dealing with Bill Pr. 7, the Concordia College Amendment Act, 1995. All members will remember that this Bill was actually placed on the Order Paper last spring, and there were a couple of concerns with the Bill involving Concordia University. As chairman, I asked that the petitioners deal with the concerns raised by Concordia University before the committee had a chance to hear from them, and last Tuesday the petitioners came and discussed the Bill and proposed some changes and amendments to the Bill. So this morning we need to, first of all, discuss the proposed amendments the petitioners have presented to us and also make a decision on whether or not we recommend that the Bill proceed.

The gist of the amendments will change the Bill from its original form in which it proposed to change the name to Concordia University College. The petitioners are now asking that the Bill be amended to read Concordia University College of Alberta. That's the one part of the amendments that we need to deal with this morning.

The other part of the amendments deals with the last two sections in the Bill, one of which dealt with giving the board the power to change the name of the institution without coming back to the Private Bills Committee or the Legislature. The other one dealt with dealing with the property tax status of the institution. You'll recall that last week the petitioners asked that those two portions of the Bill be deleted.

So there are three amendments basically that have been proposed by the petitioners: one to change the name from what is in Pr. 7 and then the others to delete reference to future name changes and also reference to property tax status.

With that, I will entertain any discussion. Perhaps it might be appropriate if we could put a motion on the table, and then I would entertain discussion to that motion. Mrs. Laing.

MRS. LAING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have some proposed amendments to Bill Pr. 7 which reflect the overview that you have given us.

I move that Bill Pr. 7, Concordia College Amendment Act, 1995, be amended as follows: in section 2, by adding "of Alberta" after "College"; in section 3, by adding "of Alberta" after "College"; in section 4, in clause (a) of the proposed section 2(a), by adding "of Alberta" after "College," and in clause (b) of the proposed section 2(b), by adding "of Alberta" after "College"; in section 5, in clause (a) of the proposed section 3(1), by adding "of Alberta" after "College," and by striking out clause (b); and by striking out section 6.

THE CHAIRMAN: I point out to committee members that the proposed amendments have been included in the submission that the petitioners left with us last week. If anyone needs a copy of that submission, we have extra ones available at the Table.

Is there any discussion to the motion? Seeing none, I will then put the question. All in favour?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed? Carried.

We now need to deal with the recommendation of the committee to the Legislature on the amended Bill. Mr. Herard.

MR. HERARD: Mr. Chairman, I move that Bill Pr. 7, Concordia College Amendment Act, 1995, be proceeded with with the following amendments: in section 2, by adding "of Alberta" after "College"; in section 3, by adding "of Alberta" after "College"; in section 4, in clause (a) of the proposed section 2(a), by adding "of Alberta" after "College," and in clause (b) of the proposed section 2(b), by adding "of Alberta" after "College"; in section 5, in clause (a) of the proposed section 3(1), by adding "of Alberta" after "College," and by striking out clause (b); and by striking out section 6.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

Is there any discussion to the motion? Mr. Reynolds, would you have anything that you need to clarify or deal with?

MR. REYNOLDS: No, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

Any further discussion? Seeing none, then I'll put the question. All in favour of the motion?

HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed? Carried.

I have no other business. As chairman, I will be making a report to the Legislature in the next couple of days, and we will deal with it accordingly. I should probably advise the committee that this is the end of the petitions we have to deal with in this session. We will, however, likely be meeting again when the Legislature reconvenes in the spring. There are some petitions that are circulating, and I expect we will have some Bills to deal with in the spring.

With that, a motion to adjourn is in order.

MRS. ABDURAHMAN: So moved.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Abdurahman. All in favour? Opposed? Carried.

[The committee adjourned at 9:39 a.m.]

