

# **HANSARD**

**NOVA SCOTIA HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY**

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO  
REVIEW THE ESTIMATES OF THE  
OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL AND  
THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER**

**Thursday, February 27, 2014**

**Red Room, Province House**

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE ESTIMATES  
OF THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL AND THE CHIEF  
ELECTORAL OFFICER**

Hon. Kevin Murphy (Chairman)  
Hon. Michel Samson  
Ms. Margaret Miller  
Hon. Labi Kousoulis  
Mr. Lloyd Hines  
Hon. Christopher d'Entremont  
Mr. Chuck Porter  
Hon. Frank Corbett

In Attendance:

Mr. Neil Ferguson  
Chief Clerk  
House of Assembly

Mr. Gordon Hebb  
Chief Legislative Counsel

Ms. Annette Boucher  
Assistant Clerk  
House of Assembly

Ms. Deborah Lusby  
Director of Administration  
Office of the Speaker



House of Assembly  
Nova Scotia

**HALIFAX, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014**

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO REVIEW  
THE ESTIMATES OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL  
AND THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER**

2:33 P.M.

CHAIRMAN  
Hon. Kevin Murphy

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, if we're all set we'll proceed to our Special Committee of the House of Assembly. We have two items on the agenda here: the review of the Auditor General's Office budget, and the review of the Elections Nova Scotia budget estimates for the upcoming year. With that, I'll turn it over to Mr. Ferguson.

MR. NEIL FERGUSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to outline why we're here, Section 16 of the Auditor General Act and Section 19 of the Elections Act have mirror provisions that require the Auditor General and Elections Nova Scotia to submit to a committee of the House of Assembly designated for the purpose of considering those offices' estimates, the estimates of the sums of money they require for each budget year.

The committee reviews the estimates and then makes a recommendation that goes to the Treasury Board. That is why we're here today. The materials were submitted some time ago by both the offices. I note that we have people here from both of those offices in case there are any questions on the materials that were circulated. It appears to me, Mr. Chairman, that it would be appropriate then to open up the floor to discussion by the committee of any recommendations as to how to proceed with the estimates and whether they should go forward to Treasury Board as is.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Samson.

HON. MICHEL SAMSON: Mr. Chairman, on Page 5 of the Budget Estimates provided by the Office of the Auditor General, there are options provided there. I move that Option No. 2 be submitted to Treasury Board for consideration for the budget of the Office of the Auditor General, and I so move.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Samson - do we have a seconder? It's seconded by Mr. Corbett.

Would all those in favour of the motion please say Aye. Contrary minded, Nay.

The motion is carried.

Mr. Samson.

MR. SAMSON: Mr. Chairman, we've also been provided with the Budget Estimates for Elections Nova Scotia. I move that the Budget Estimates provided by Elections Nova Scotia be referred to the Treasury Board for their favourable consideration, and I so move.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Samson - do we have a seconder? It's seconded by Mr. d'Entremont.

Would all those in favour of the motion please say Aye. Contrary minded, Nay.

The motion is carried.

That concludes the business of this Special Committee of the House of Assembly. Thank you very much.

[The special committee adjourned at 2:36 p.m.]