



Second Session, 38th Parliament

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REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
(HANSARD)

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SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON

FINANCE AND  
GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Victoria

Monday, October 23, 2006

Issue No. 38

BLAIR LEKSTROM, MLA, CHAIR

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**SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES**

Victoria  
Monday, October 23, 2006

- Chair:* \* Blair Lekstrom (Peace River South L)
- Deputy Chair:* \* Bruce Ralston (Surrey-Whalley NDP)
- Members:*
- \* Iain Black (Port Moody-Westwood L)
  - \* Harry Bloy (Burquitlam L)
  - \* Randy Hawes (Maple Ridge-Mission L)
  - \* Dave S. Hayer (Surrey-Tynehead L)
  - \* Richard T. Lee (Burnaby North L)
  - \* John Horgan (Malahat-Juan de Fuca NDP)
  - \* Jenny Wai Ching Kwan (Vancouver-Mount Pleasant NDP)
  - \* Bob Simpson (Cariboo North NDP)

*\*denotes member present*

*Clerk:* Kate Ryan-Lloyd

*Committee Staff:* Jonathan Fershau (Committee Research Analyst)  
Simon Gray-Schleihauf (Committee Researcher)  
Geneviève Murray (Committee Researcher)  
Mary Storzer (Committee Researcher)

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**CONTENTS**

Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services

Monday, October 23, 2006

	<b>Page</b>
Proceedings.....	1011



MINUTES

# SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES



Monday, October 23, 2006  
9 a.m.

Douglas Fir Committee Room  
Parliament Buildings, Victoria

**Present:** Blair Lekstrom, MLA (Chair); Bruce Ralston, MLA (Deputy Chair); Iain Black, MLA; Harry Bloy, MLA; Randy Hawes, MLA; Dave S. Hayer, MLA; John Horgan, MLA; Jenny Wai Ching Kwan, MLA; Richard T. Lee, MLA; Bob Simpson, MLA

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.
2. **Resolved**, that the Committee meet in-camera to discuss its draft report. (Harry Bloy, MLA)
3. The Committee met in-camera from 9:19 a.m. to 11:26 a.m.
4. **Resolved**, that the Committee resume its meeting in public session. (Richard Lee, MLA)
5. The Committee adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

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Blair Lekstrom, MLA  
Chair

Kate Ryan-Lloyd  
Clerk Assistant and  
Committee Clerk





MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2006

The committee met at 9:15 a.m.

[B. Lekstrom in the chair.]

**B. Lekstrom (Chair):** Good morning, everyone. I'd like to call the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services to order and welcome everyone here.

We have reached a milestone in our committee's work. We have completed the public consultation process. The on-line submission cutoff was on Friday at midnight. We are just in the process.... You will receive here within the next couple of minutes the printed-off stats on responses from both on-line submissions and the questionnaire. I think there were well over 4,000 on the questionnaire and about 2,700 — if memory serves me, in that range — from the written submissions that were put forward.

Our research staff has combined all of the information that was put forward from both the work that we have done as well as the written submissions and put it into graph form, which we will be going over. I will ask our research staff to give us an update on that.

I thought the process went very well. I think the public sessions were well attended and put forward a wide variety of issues for our consideration. We will go through that. It would be my plan as Chair to begin the development of our report and preparation for it by having Jonathan, our researcher, go through the on-line written submissions through the graph and the information he has put together. Any questions at that point through to our researchers would be welcome.

Following that, I thought a round table from each of the members to give some direction as to how our committee would like to proceed in the sense of what we each heard as members. I think there are some pretty common themes that we probably all have heard the same. There will be other presentations that were put forward that stuck in each of our minds as something I'm sure we would feel should be important and should be discussed.

The development of our report has been dealt with in camera. We don't write our report in a public session. The simple matter of the fact is that on the 14th of November we will present this report to the Legislative Assembly, at which time it will become a full public document. But I do want to thank the members for their work. This is a great deal of work in a very short time frame. The schedule, I know, has been somewhat hectic, trying to complete this job as well as all of the duties that you're required to do as an MLA for your constituency.

With that, I think what we will do is I will look for a motion just prior to going in camera. We do have some research staff at the back of the room who are here, and I would look to members of the committee if it would be acceptable that they sit through the in-camera portion — unless there's any opposition to that?

**D. Hayer:** Fine.

**B. Lekstrom (Chair):** We have Mary Storzer, Simon Gray-Schleihauf and Geneviève Murray with us in the back, just so that you know who is joining us.

With that, I will look for a motion to go in camera, and we'll begin deliberations on the development.

The committee continued in camera from 9:19 a.m. to 11:26 a.m.

**B. Lekstrom (Chair):** We are now back into the public session of our meeting. We have been discussing the development of the draft report — the contents of what may or may not be in that report — which has to be submitted no later than the 15th of November.

I think the process and the preliminary discussions we've had have been very useful. I want to thank the members for their commitment to this process.

Before we adjourn, I will look to members of the committee. Is there any other business to be brought before the committee here today? Seeing none, a motion to adjourn would be in order.

We stand adjourned.

The committee adjourned at 11:27 a.m.



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