



4th Session, 37th Parliament

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
(HANSARD)

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON

LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

Victoria

Tuesday, April 29, 2003

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BLAIR LEKSTROM, MLA, CHAIR

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**SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON
LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES**

Victoria
Tuesday, April 29, 2003

Chair:

* Blair Lekstrom (Peace River South L)

Deputy Chair:

* Sheila Orr (Victoria-Hillside L)

Members:

* Bill Belsey (North Coast L)
* Harry Bloy (Burquitlam L)
* Jeff Bray (Victoria-Beacon Hill L)
Tom Christensen (Okanagan-Vernon L)
* Mike Hunter (Nanaimo L)
* Ken Johnston (Vancouver-Fraserview L)
* Harold Long (Powell River-Sunshine Coast L)
* Barry Penner (Chilliwack-Kent L)
* Gillian Trumper (Alberni-Qualicum L)
John Wilson (Cariboo North L)
Joy MacPhail (Vancouver-Hastings NDP)

** denotes member present*

Clerk:

Craig James

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MINUTES

SELECT STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES



Tuesday, April 29, 2003
9:15 a.m.
Birch Committee Room
Parliament Buildings, Victoria

Present: Blair Lekstrom, MLA (Convener); Bill Belsey, MLA; Harry Bloy, MLA; Jeff Bray, MLA; Mike Hunter, MLA; Ken Johnston, MLA; Harold Long, MLA; Sheila Orr, MLA; Barry Penner, MLA; Gillian Trumper, MLA

Unavoidably Absent: Tom Christensen, MLA; John Wilson, MLA; Joy MacPhail, MLA

1. **Resolved**, that Mr. Blair Lekstrom, MLA, be elected Chair of the Committee.
2. **Resolved**, that Ms. Sheila Orr, MLA, be elected Deputy Chair of the Committee.
3. The role of the Committee was briefly described by the Clerk of Committees and Clerk Assistant.
4. The Committee adjourned at 9:26 a.m. to the call of the Chair.

Blair Lekstrom, MLA
Chair

Craig James
Clerk of Committees and
Clerk Assistant

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2003

The committee met at 9:22 a.m.

Election of Chair and Deputy Chair

B. Lekstrom: Good morning, again. I would like to call our meeting of the Select Standing Committee on Legislative Initiatives to order. We will begin our meeting. I will pass the microphone over to Craig to initiate the meeting. We will have to elect a Chair and then a Deputy Chair for this committee. Then we will proceed.

C. James: This being the first meeting of the Select Standing Committee on Legislative Initiatives and there not being a Chair, I'll call for nominations for the Chair.

M. Hunter: I nominate Mr. Blair Lekstrom.

C. James: Any further nominations? Any further nominations? There being no further nominations, I presume you accept the nomination?

B. Lekstrom: I do.

C. James: I'll put the question on the motion, then, that Mr. Lekstrom be Chair of the committee.

Motion approved.

[B. Lekstrom in the chair.]

B. Lekstrom (Chair): Thank you very much.

Our next order of business this morning for the select standing committee work is to elect the Deputy Chair for this committee. At this time I will call for nominations.

H. Bloy: I'd like to nominate Sheila Orr.

B. Lekstrom (Chair): Sheila Orr has been nominated. I will call for nominations again for a second time. Third and final time for nominations. I see no further nominations. I will declare nominations closed and ask if you will accept the nomination, Sheila.

S. Orr: I will. Thank you.

B. Lekstrom (Chair): Thank you. I will declare Sheila elected as our Deputy Chair for the Select Standing Committee on Legislative Initiatives.

B. Penner: Mr. Chair, you don't think we should have a recount? A recall? [Laughter.]

B. Lekstrom (Chair): It wasn't as tight as the last one.

With that, I'm going to ask Craig to give an overview to our committee as to the expectations and responsibilities of what we are to do as a legislative committee dealing with this initiative.

Committee Responsibilities

C. James: This committee is struck at the beginning of each parliament for the life of a parliament. It's the only committee so struck, and it doesn't die, so to speak, upon prorogation as all other select standing or special committees do in the Legislative Assembly.

Traditionally, this committee has consisted of the same members of the Select Standing Committee on Parliamentary Reform, Ethical Conduct, Standing Orders and Private Bills, and it has yet to receive any petitions or initiatives undertaken by citizens, say, of the province who wish to petition the Legislative Assembly to have certain things done. I refer you to the legislative initiatives act, which you may like to familiarize yourself with.

I know that last year there was some discussion within the chief electoral office that there may be a petition arriving that might meet the requirements of the act, which would then be passed on to this committee for its review. The committee would then report to the Legislative Assembly on the reasonableness of the petition for an initiative to be undertaken by the Legislative Assembly.

[0925]

I refer you to the legislation if you would like to familiarize yourself with it. Failing any referral from the Legislative Assembly through the chief electoral officer, the committee has yet to receive any terms of reference further than just organizing itself.

B. Lekstrom (Chair): Thank you very much, Craig.

What I will endeavour to do is put a copy of the legislative initiatives act together for each of the members of the committee and pass that out and make sure that everybody is familiar with that.

Are there any questions at this point before we close our meeting here this morning?

The committee adjourned at 9:26 a.m.