

Chapter 30

Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies

1.0 MAIN POINTS

Through its work and recommendations, the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies helps the Legislative Assembly hold the Government of Saskatchewan accountable for its management of the Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan (CIC) and its subsidiary corporations.¹ The Committee does this, in part, by reviewing chapters in our Reports, as well as reviewing annual reports and related financial statements of agencies within its assigned scope.

At September 2025, the Committee had yet to review nine chapters in our Reports related to CIC and its subsidiaries. The Committee last met to review our Reports and CIC and subsidiary annual reports in December 2022, almost three years ago.

At September 2025, the Committee had not reviewed the last three years of annual reports of CIC and its subsidiaries. The 2022–23 annual reports were available in July 2023, 2023–24 annual reports in July 2024, and the 2024–25 annual reports in June 2025. Annual reports are key accountability documents.

Timely review of our Reports' chapters and agencies' annual reports demonstrate the Committee undertakes appropriate scrutiny and holds agencies accountable.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter outlines the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies' role and responsibilities mainly focusing on those responsibilities and activities related to our Office's audit work between October 2024 and September 2025. It also describes the overall status of the Committee's recommendations resulting from our audit work, along with the status of its review of CIC and its subsidiary corporations' annual reports.

2.1 Committee Role and Responsibilities

The Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies is one of the Legislative Assembly's four policy field committees.² The Committee's assigned scope encompasses CIC and its subsidiary corporations, supply and services (e.g., Ministry of SaskBuilds and Procurement), central government agencies (e.g., Ministry of Finance), liquor, gaming, and all other revenue-related agencies and entities. See **Figure 1** for a brief description of policy field committees' responsibilities.

¹ Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan subsidiaries include Lotteries and Gaming Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Government Insurance, Saskatchewan Power Corporation, Saskatchewan Telecommunications Holding Corporation, SaskEnergy Incorporated, and Saskatchewan Water Corporation.

² Policy field committees include the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies, Standing Committee on the Economy, Standing Committee on Human Services, and Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs and Justice.



Figure 1—Policy Field Committees’ Responsibilities

The Legislative Assembly makes policy field committees responsible for examining certain documents within their assigned subject area. These documents include bills and regulations (proposed laws), estimates, and annual reports. During their reviews, these committees can consider issues of current concern, future objectives, and past performance.

Policy field committees can also conduct inquiries into matters within their mandated subject area. They provide the Assembly with reports on their activities and can make recommendations to the Assembly for its consideration.

The Standing Committee on House Services determines the membership for each policy field committee. Policy field committee meetings are open to the public. The Assembly’s website contains information about the composition of each committee and records of their meetings (i.e., meeting notices, Hansard verbatim, minutes, videos, and reports).

Each committee establishes a steering committee composed of the Chair and Deputy Chair. The steering committee determines how it will plan and organize its business and makes recommendations related to the committee’s meeting agenda, the calling of witnesses, and times of sittings. Their meetings are conducted in-camera and, unless otherwise authorized, decisions made by the steering committee must be ratified by the full committee.

Source: www.legassembly.sk.ca/media/qkeph2ay/currentruleswithdestinations.pdf#page=38 (6 October 2025).

The Assembly gave the Committee the following responsibilities in addition to those typically given to a policy field committee:

- The Assembly, through *The Provincial Auditor Act* and under its *Rules and Procedures of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan*, refers portions of our Reports (chapters) related to CIC and its subsidiary corporations to the Committee.³ When the Committee considers chapters from our Reports, our Office and the corporations’ appointed auditor, if any, attend to assist in its review.
- The Assembly requires the Minister responsible for CIC to notify the Committee, in writing, about significant transactions of CIC and any of its subsidiaries within 90 days of the transaction.⁴ The notification must outline the transaction’s objectives, the financial implications, a statement of any changed liabilities, and the authority under which the transaction was made.⁵
- The Assembly periodically refers regulations and bylaws of professional associations (e.g., CPA Saskatchewan) to the Committee for its review.

Figure 2 lists the members of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies.

Figure 2—Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies’ Members at September 30, 2025

Member Name		
Doug Steele, Chair Erika Ritchie, Deputy Chair	Chris Beaudry Terri Bromm Brad Crassweller	Don McBean Jordan McPhail

Source: www.legassembly.sk.ca/legislative-business/legislative-committees/crown-and-central-agencies/ (30 September 2025).

³ Section 14.1(8) of *The Provincial Auditor Act* and rule 145(3) of *The Rules and Procedures of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan*.

⁴ The Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies defines significant transactions as those material in amount and outside the ordinary course of business or are judged to be sensitive and likely of interest to legislators and the public.

⁵ Rule 145(4) of *The Rules and Procedures of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan*.

2.2 Frequency and Purpose of Committee Meetings

For the period from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025, the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies met eight times (prior period: eight times) with the purpose of reviewing bills (proposed laws), the 2024–25 Supplementary Estimates, and the 2025–26 Estimates related to agencies within its subject area.

During this period, the Committee made two reports to the Assembly:

- On December 9, 2024, the Committee presented the *First Report of the Thirtieth Legislature* outlining the 2024–25 Supplementary Estimates considered, and the resolutions adopted by the Committee
- On April 16, 2025, the Committee presented the *Second Report of the Thirtieth Legislature* outlining the 2025–26 Estimates and 2024–25 Supplementary Estimates considered, and the resolutions adopted by the Committee

The Committee did not receive any significant transaction reports.

3.0 STATUS OF COMMITTEE WORK

3.1 Committee Work Related to Our Audits

The Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies did not consider any chapters from our Reports from October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025. The Committee last reviewed our Report chapters related to audits of CIC and/or its subsidiaries in December 2022.

As shown in **Figure 3**, as at September 30, 2025, the Committee had not yet considered nine chapters from our Reports. The oldest chapter is from our *2022 Report – Volume 2* released in December 2022, almost three years ago.

Figure 3—Chapters the Committee Had Not Yet Considered as of September 30, 2025

Agency	Report	Chapter	New Recommendations to be Considered
Saskatchewan Government Insurance ^A	2022 – Volume 2	11	2
Standing Committee on Crown & Central Agencies	2022 – Volume 2	26	-
Saskatchewan Water Corporation	2023 – Volume 1	22	-
Standing Committee on Crown & Central Agencies	2023 – Volume 2	31	-
Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation ^B	2024 – Volume 1	16	-
Saskatchewan Power Corporation ^A	2024 – Volume 2	14	2
Saskatchewan Power Corporation	2024 – Volume 2	30	-
Standing Committee on Crown & Central Agencies	2024 – Volume 2	32	-
Saskatchewan Power Corporation	2025 – Volume 1	20	-

^A At September 30, 2025, the Committee had not yet considered recommendations from our chapters about Saskatchewan Government Insurance's processes to license commercial drivers and Saskatchewan Power Corporation's processes to transition to low and non-emitting energy sources.

^B Effective June 1, 2023, Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation became a subsidiary of Lotteries and Gaming Saskatchewan Corporation.



The Committee last reported to the Legislative Assembly about its review of our chapters on March 21, 2023 (i.e., *Sixth Report of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature*). This report contained seven recommendations resulting from its review of relevant chapters for the period from November 17, 2021, to March 21, 2023.

Timely review of our Reports' chapters and agencies' annual reports demonstrate the Committee undertakes appropriate scrutiny and holds agencies accountable.

3.2 Implementation of the Committee's Audit-Related Recommendations

By September 30, 2025, CIC and its subsidiaries fully implemented all of the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies' 15 recommendations made during the previous five years.^{6,7} This does not include the four new audit recommendations not considered by the Committee noted in **Figure 3**.

3.3 Committee Review of CIC Sector Annual Reports

Annual reports are key accountability documents. As a policy field committee, the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies is responsible for examining annual reports including related financial statements of agencies within its subject area (e.g., CIC and its subsidiary corporations).

Each year, CIC and its subsidiary corporations prepare annual reports and financial statements. Each summer, the annual reports are tabled in the Assembly and available for the Committee's review.

As of September 30, 2025, the Committee had not reviewed the last three years of annual reports of CIC and its subsidiary corporations.

The 2022–23 annual reports were tabled with the Committee in July 2023, the 2023–24 annual reports were tabled in July 2024, and the 2024–25 annual reports were tabled in June 2025.⁸

⁶ The Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies asked our Office to assess and report on the status of the recommendations it makes and reports to the Legislative Assembly resulting from our audit work. We assess the status of financial-related recommendations each year as part of annual integrated audits. As part of performance audit follow-ups, we assess other recommendations either two or three years after the original audit and, subsequently every two or three years, until the recommendations are either implemented or no longer relevant.

⁷ Calculations are based on the Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies' recommendations made in the previous five years—up to and including the *Second Report of the Thirtieth Legislature*.

⁸ Committee's Branch, Legislative Assembly Service, Standing Committee on Crown and Central Agencies, *Business Referred to Committee*.