

Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills

Final Report **Bill 208, *Alberta Investment*** ***Management Corporation Amendment*** ***Act, 2020***

Thirtieth Legislature
Second Session
March 2021



Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills

3rd Floor

9820 – 107 Street

Edmonton AB T5K 1E7

780.984.6019

BillsCommittee.Admin@assembly.ab.ca



STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS AND PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

March 2021

**To the Honourable Nathan Cooper
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
of the Province of Alberta**

I have the honour of submitting, on behalf of the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills, the Committee's final report containing recommendations on Bill 208, *Alberta Investment Management Corporation Amendment Act, 2020*, for consideration by the Legislative Assembly of Alberta.

Sincerely,

[original signed]

Mike Ellis, MLA
Chair, Standing Committee
on Private Bills and
Private Members' Public Bills

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MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BILLS AND PRIVATE MEMBERS' PUBLIC BILLS

30th Legislature, Second Session

Mike Ellis, MLA
Chair
Calgary-West (UC)

Joseph R. Schow, MLA
Deputy Chair
Cardston-Siksika (UC)

Mickey K. Amery, MLA
Calgary-Cross (UC)

Christian E. Nielsen, MLA
Edmonton-Decore (NDP)

Thomas Dang, MLA
Edmonton-South (NDP)

Brad Rutherford, MLA
Leduc-Beaumont (UC)

Shane C. Getson, MLA
Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland (UC)

Lori Sigurdson, MLA
Edmonton-Riverview (NDP)

Michaela L. Glasgo, MLA
Brooks-Medicine Hat (UC)

R.J. Sigurdson, MLA*
Highwood (UC)

Janis Irwin, MLA
Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood (NDP)

Substitutions pursuant to Standing Order 56(2.1-2.4):

Jonathon Carson, MLA†
Edmonton-West Henday (NDP)

Whitney Issik, MLA§
Calgary-Glenmore (UC)

Laila Goodridge, MLA‡
Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche (UC)

Dan D.A. Williams, MLA**
Peace River (UC)

Members also in attendance on February 26, and March 8, 2021:

Shannon Phillips, MLA
Lethbridge-West (NDP)

Jason Stephan, MLA
Red Deer-South (UC)

* Acting Deputy Chair on March 8, 2021

† Substitute for Thomas Dang on February 26, 2021

‡ Substitute for Michaela Glasgo on February 26, 2021

§ Substitute for Mickey Amery on March 8, 2021

** Substitute for Joseph Schow on March 8, 2021

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Bill 208, *Alberta Investment Management Corporation Amendment Act, 2020*, was introduced and received first reading on December 3, 2020.

2.0 ORDER OF REFERENCE

Pursuant to Standing Order 74.11:

- (1) After a public Bill other than a Government Bill has been read a first time, the Bill stands referred to the Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills Committee.
- (2) The Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills Committee shall report back to the Assembly within 8 sitting days of the day on which the Bill was referred to the Committee.

3.0 COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

As part of the Committee's review of Bill 208 a Committee meeting was held on February 26, 2021. At that meeting the sponsor of Bill 208, Shannon Phillips, Member for Lethbridge-West, made a presentation on the Bill to the Committee, and the Committee received a technical briefing from the Ministry of Treasury Board and Finance on the Bill. On March 8, 2021, three stakeholders made oral presentations to the Committee, and the Committee completed deliberations on Bill 208.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Pursuant to Standing Order 74.2 the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills recommends

that Bill 208, *Alberta Investment Management Corporation Amendment Act, 2020*, not proceed.

APPENDIX A: MINORITY REPORT

The NDP Caucus Members of the Standing Committee on Private Bills and Private Members' Public Bills (the "Committee") disagree with the Committee's recommendation that Bill 208: Alberta Investment Management Corporation Amendment Act, 2020, not proceed. Once again, UCP Caucus members have used their majority on the Committee to block an NDP-sponsored bill to be debated in the Legislature. This is concerning because the subject material of the bill pertained to matters of pensions, including reform of AIMCo to make it more representative and accountable. Bill 208 also would have given Albertans the final say on the future of the Canada Pension Plan through a referendum. These are popular ideas amongst Albertans and the bill was clearly written based on what Albertans across the province have been calling for.

The NDP invited three stakeholders to present in support of the bill who represented the perspectives of firefighters, teachers, and working people. Collectively, these stakeholders represent hundreds of thousands of Albertans. The UCP invited no one to present and yet still felt their opposition to the reforms were more important than the perspectives of these stakeholders and who they represent. We know from correspondence in our own constituencies that Albertans are upset with the performance of AIMCo and are worried about the future of the Canada Pension Plan. Unfortunately, the UCP decided to again block a piece of legislation from being debated in the legislature simply because it provides a different perspective than the Premier and his Cabinet.

Thomas Dang, MLA

Janis Irwin, MLA

Chris Nielsen, MLA

Lori Sigurdson, MLA

APPENDIX B: LIST OF ORAL PRESENTERS

Organization	Name
Alberta Federation of Labour	Mr. Gil McGowan, President
Private Citizen	Mr. Greg Meeker
President, Alberta Firefighters Association	Mr. Brad Readman, President