

Votes and Proceedings

SECOND SESSION OF THE NINETEENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

December 7, 2021

The Assembly commenced sitting at 1:30 pm, with the Honourable Frederick Blake Jr., Speaker, presiding.

Ministers' Statements

- 194-19(2) The Minister of Environment and Natural Resources made a statement about continuing climate leadership.
- 195-19(2) The Minister of Infrastructure provided an update on the 2030 Energy Strategy.

Members' Statements

- 867-19(2) The Member for Thebacha made a statement regarding unity in the Legislative Assembly.
- 868-19(2) The Member for Frame Lake made a statement regarding the Government of the Northwest Territories and Chamber of Mines COVID-19 Recovery Working Group.
- 869-19(2) The Member for Deh Cho made a statement regarding abstinence from alcohol and drugs.
- 870-19(2) The Member for Great Slave made a statement regarding Home Base Yellowknife.
- 871-19(2) The Member for Nunakput made a statement regarding a health advocate for medical travel and Nunakput residents.
- 872-19(2) The Member for Monfwi made a statement regarding community-based education programs in small communities.

- 873-19(2) The Member for Hay River South made a statement regarding safe shelters in regional centres and small communities.
- 874-19(2) The Member for Yellowknife North made a statement regarding the arts community in the Northwest Territories.
- 875-19(2) The Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes made a statement regarding procurement decisions by government and Crown corporations.
- 876-19(2) The Member for Kam Lake made a statement regarding the needs of the arts community in the Northwest Territories.
- 877-19(2) The Honourable Member for Nahendeh delivered a eulogy for Mary Bernadine MacKinnon.

Written Questions

- 32-19(2) The Member for Frame Lake asked a question of the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment regarding map staking versus claim staking for mineral rights.

Tabling of Documents

- 519-19(2) NWT Climate Change Action Plan Annual Report 2020-21. Tabled by the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources.
- 520-19(2) NWT Water Stewardship Strategy Action Plan 2021-2025. Tabled by the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources.
- 521-19(2) NWT Water Stewardship Strategy Action Plan 2021-2025 Plain Language Summary. Tabled by the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources.
- 522-19(2) Responding to Climate Change in the NWT Plain Language Overview Report 2020/21. Tabled by the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources.
- 523-19(2) Northwest Territories Carbon Tax Report 2020/21. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 524-19(2) Northwest Territories Energy Initiatives Report 2020-2021 – Reporting on Actions under the 2030 Energy Strategy. Tabled by the Minister of Infrastructure.

- 525-19(2) Follow-up Letter for Oral Question 782-19(2): NTPC COVID-19 Vaccination Policy. Tabled by the Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation.
- 526-19(2) Plain Language Summary for Bill 41: *Justice Administration Statutes Amendment Act*. Tabled by the Minister of Justice.
- 527-19(2) Rules of the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly dated December 7, 2021. Tabled by the Speaker.
- 528-19(2) 2021 Review of Members' Compensation and Benefits – Northwest Territories. Tabled by the Speaker.

Notices of Motion

- 46-19(2) Appointments to Board of Management and Standing Committee on Government Operations.
Notice given by the Member for Frame Lake.
- 47-19(2) Repeal and Replace the Rules of the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly.
Notice given by the Member for Thebacha.
- 48-19(2) Extended Adjournment of the House to February 2, 2022.
Notice given by the Member for Thebacha.

Motions

- 44-19(2) Appointment of Equal Pay Commissioner.

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, that Ms. Bronwyn Watters be appointed as the Equal Pay Commissioner in accordance with the *Public Service Act* by the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories as recommended by the Legislative Assembly.

AND FURTHER that the Speaker be authorized to communicate the effective date of the appointment to the Commissioner.

The motion was CARRIED.

- 45-19(2) Move Committee Report 22-19(2) into Committee of the Whole.

Moved by the Member for Nunakput:

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Frame Lake that Committee Report 22-19(2), Standing Committee on Economic Development and Environment Report on Telecommunications be received and referred to Committee of the Whole for consideration later today.

The motion was CARRIED.

Second Reading of Bills

Bill 41 *Justice Administration Statutes Amendment Act*

The Honourable Member for Hay River South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved that Bill 41, *Justice Administration Statutes Amendment Act*, be read for the second time.

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 41 was referred to the Standing Committee on Social Development.

Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

The Chair, the Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, reported that the Committee of the Whole considered Bill 23: *An Act to Amend the Public Utilities Act*; Bill 29: *Resource Royalty Information Disclosure Statute Amendment Act*; Bill 30: *An Act to Amend the Aurora College Act*; Committee Report 20-19(2): Standing Committee on Social Development Report on the Review of Bill 30: *An Act to Amend the Aurora College Act*; Committee Report 21-19(2): Standing Committee on Economic Development and Environment Report on the Government of the Northwest Territories Approach to the Mining Regime Fiscal Review; Committee Report 22-19(2): Standing Committee on Government Operations Report on the Review of the 2018-19 and 2019-20 Public Accounts; and Tabled Document 437-19(2): Capital Estimates 2022-2023 and reported progress, with 13 motions adopted, that Committee Report 20-19(2), Standing Committee on Social Development Report on the Review of Bill 30: *An Act to Amend the Aurora College Act* and Committee Report 22-19(2), Standing Committee on Government Operations Report on the Review of the 2018-19 and 2019-20 Public Accounts are concluded, that Bill 30, *An Act to Amend the Aurora College Act* is ready for Third Reading, that consideration of Tabled Document 437-19(2), Capital Estimates 2022-2023 is concluded, that the House concur in those estimates and that an appropriation bill based thereon be introduced without delay.

Committee Motion 164-19(2)

The Member for Frame Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that consideration of Tabled Document 437-19(2), Main Estimates 2022-2023, be now concluded and that Tabled Document 437-19(2) be reported and recommended as ready for further consideration in formal Session through the form of an appropriation bill.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 165-19(2)

The Member for Nunakput moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories continue to invest in publicly-owned backbone internet infrastructure in the Northwest Territories;

AND FURTHER, specifically, the Government of the Northwest Territories should prioritize the opportunity to create fibre redundancy in the Northwest Territories.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 166-19(2)

The Member for Nunakput moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories ensure fibre to the home is made available to Tuktoyaktuk residents at the completion of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk fibre line installation.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 167-19(2)

The Member for Nunakput moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories ensure all backbone internet infrastructure in communities accommodates open wholesale access to NWT businesses, to co-locate internet services at a fair price to NWT businesses.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 168-19(2)

The Member for Nunakput moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories advocate to the Canadian Radio Telecommunications Commission to set aside funding under its broadband fund for smaller service providers and Indigenous-owned businesses to help promote competition.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 169-19(2)

The Member for Nunakput moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories ensure all publicly-funded internet backbone infrastructure in the Northwest Territories provide wholesale high-speed third-party internet access.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 170-19(2)

The Member for Nunakput moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories address the digital divide within the Northwest Territories by providing free access to basic internet packages through Income Assistance funding and Northwest Territories Housing Corporation public housing units.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 171-19(2)

The Member for Nunakput moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories address the digital divide by building partnerships that can provide free wi-fi service in all regional centres.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 172-19(2)

The Member for Nunakput moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories procure internet services in smaller pieces so that local internet service providers can effectively bid on these opportunities.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 173-19(2)

The Member for Nunakput moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories provide a response to the recommendations contained in this report within 120 days.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 174-19(2)

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories speak to questions on co-drafting legislation and co-management beyond resource management-based legislation and discuss this concept with the NWT council of leaders.

Committee Motion 175-19(2)

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Education, Culture, and Employment and Aurora College take note of this request that engagement timelines are respectful and sufficient for stakeholders to support meaningful consultation, and ensure that the timeframes for engagement and consultation concerning the polytechnic university are adequate.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 176-19(2)

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories provide a response to the recommendations contained in this report within 120 days.

The motion was CARRIED.

The Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hay River North, moved concurrence of the report of the Committee of the Whole. The motion was CARRIED.

The Speaker adjourned the House at 4:49 pm.



Hon. Frederick Blake Jr.
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



Tim Mercer
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly