

Votes and Proceedings

SECOND SESSION OF THE NINETEENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

November 2, 2022

The Assembly commenced sitting at 1:30 pm, with Mrs. Lesa Semmler, Deputy Speaker, presiding.

Members' Attendance

Present: Member for Deh Cho, Member for Great Slave, Honourable Member for Hay River North, Member for Hay River South, Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, Member for Kam Lake, Member for Monfwi, Honourable Member for Nahendeh, Member for Nunakput, Honourable Member for Range Lake, Honourable Member for Sahtu, Member for Thebacha, Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, Member for Yellowknife North, Honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Absent: Member for Frame Lake, Honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta.

Ministers' Statements

- 288-19(2) The Premier made a statement about negotiating treaty, land, resources, and self-government agreements.
- 289-19(2) The Minister of Education, Culture and Employment made a statement about strengthening our northern workforce.
- 290-19(2) The Minister responsible for the Status of Women made a statement regarding the Government of the Northwest Territories Action Plan for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Calls for Justice.

Members' Statements

- 1271-19(2) The Member for Hay River South made a statement regarding Marine Transportation Services and community resupply.
- 1272-19(2) The Member for Nunakput made a statement regarding the shortage of housing in Paulatuk.
- 1273-19(2) The Member for Great Slave made a statement regarding Lanky Court Apartments.
- 1274-19(2) The Member for Thebacha made a statement regarding barriers to public housing.
- 1275-19(2) The Member for Monfwi made a statement about healing and treatment centres.
- 1276-19(2) The Member for Tu Nedhé-Willideh made a statement regarding the Government of the Northwest Territories fiscal position.
- 1277-19(2) The Member for Kam Lake made a statement regarding the Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority deficit.
- 1278-19(2) The Member for Yellowknife North made a statement regarding the elimination of time changes in the Northwest Territories.
- 1279-19(2) The Member for Nahendeh made a statement regarding the retirement of Bernie Leader.
- 1280-19(2) The Member for Range Lake made a statement regarding the Indigenous Veterans Initiative.

Tabling of Documents

- 779-19(2) Plain Language Summary for Bill 62: *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act, No. 2*. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 780-19(2) Changing the Relationship: Action Plan in Response to the Calls for Justice on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People. Tabled by the Minister responsible for the Status of Women.
- 781-19(2) Inter-activity Transfers over \$250,000 April 1-June 30, 2022. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.

- 782-19(2) Plain Language Summary for Bill 63: *An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act*. Tabled by the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment.
- 783-19(2) 2021-2022 Annual Report on Official Languages. Tabled by the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment.
- 784-19(2) Administration of the Northwest Territories *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* Annual Report 2021-2022. Tabled by the Minister of Justice.
- 785-19(2) Tłı̄cho Community Services Agency Health and Social Services Agency Annual Report for 2021-2022. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.
- 786-19(2) 2022-2023 Health and Social Services Authority Budgets. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.
- 787-19(2) Hay River Health and Social Services Authority Annual Report 2021-2022. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.
- 788-19(2) Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority 2021-2022 Annual Report. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.
- 789-19(2) Connecting Us: Four Year Action Plan under the 25-year Transportation Strategy 2020-2024. Tabled by the Minister of Infrastructure.
- 790-19(2) Physical Activity, Sport and Recreation Fund 2021-2022 Annual Report. Tabled by the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs.
- 791-19(2) Follow-up Letter for Oral Question 1224-19(2): Court Decision Regarding Search of Łutsël K'é Camp. Tabled by the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources.
- 792-19(2) Plain Language Summary for Bill 61: *An Act to Amend the Ombud Act*. Tabled by the Member for Yellowknife North
- 793-19(2) Plain Language Summary for Bill 64: *An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, No. 3*. Tabled by the Member for Great Slave.

Motions

67-19(2) Appointment of Sergeant-At-Arms of the Northwest Territories
Legislative Assembly

Moved by the Member for Thebacha.

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hay River North, that Mr. Floyd Andrew Powder of Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, be recommended for appointment as Sergeant-at-Arms of the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly by the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories as recommended by the Board of Management of the Legislative Assembly;

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

AND FURTHERMORE, that the Legislative Assembly expresses its gratitude to Mr. Brian Thagard for his many years of loyal and dedicated service.

The motion was CARRIED.

First Reading of Bills

Bill 65 *Builder's Lien Act*

The Minister of Justice presented Bill 65, *Builder's Lien Act*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Deputy Speaker deemed Bill 65 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 66 *An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act*

The Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs presented Bill 66, *An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Deputy Speaker deemed Bill 66 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 67 *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*

The Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs presented Bill 67, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Deputy Speaker deemed Bill 67 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 68 *An Act to Amend the Child Day Care Act*

The Minister of Education, Culture and Employment presented Bill 68, *An Act to Amend the Child Day Care Act*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Deputy Speaker deemed Bill 68 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 69 *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 2, 2022-2023*

The Minister of Finance presented Bill 69, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 2, 2022-2023*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Deputy Speaker deemed Bill 69 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 70 *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 2, 2022-2023*

The Minister of Finance presented Bill 70, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 2, 2022-2023*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Deputy Speaker deemed Bill 70 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Second Reading of Bills

Bill 61 *An Act to Amend the Ombud Act*

The Member for Yellowknife North, seconded by the Member for Great Slave, moved that Bill 61, *An Act to Amend the Ombud Act* be read for the second time.

Bill 61 was referred to the Standing Committee on Government Operations.

Bill 62 *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nahendeh, moved that Bill 62, *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act*, be read for the second time.

Bill 62 was referred to the Standing Committee on Government Operations.

Bill 63 *An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act*

The Honourable Member for Hay River North seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, moved that Bill 63, *An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act*, be read for the second time.

Bill 63 was referred to the Standing Committee on Government Operations.

Bill 69 *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 2, 2022-2023*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved that Bill 69, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 2, 2022-2023*, be read for the second time.

Bill 70 *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 2, 2022-2023*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, moved that Bill 70, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 2, 2022-2023*, be read for the second time

Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

The Deputy Chair, the Member for Deh Cho, reported that the Committee of the Whole considered Tabled Document 723-19(2): 2023-2024 Capital Estimates; and Committee Report 37-19(2): Standing Committee on Government Operations Report on the Review of the 2022 Audit of Addictions Prevention and Recovery Services, and reported progress with 15 motions carried, that Consideration of Committee Report 37-19(2) is concluded, that consideration of Tabled Document 723-19(2) is concluded, that the House concur in those estimates and that an appropriation Bill to be based thereon be introduced without delay.

Committee Motion 333-19(2)

The Member for Great Slave moved the following motion:

I MOVE that consideration of Tabled Document 723-19(2), Capital Estimates 2023-2024, be now concluded and that Tabled Document 723-19(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 334-19(2)

The Member for Yellowknife North moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services review and relax administrative requirements to access the On the Land Healing Fund, with a view to ensuring full uptake of budgeted funds in 2022-23, and report on whether the funds were dispersed.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 335-19(2)

The Member for Yellowknife North moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories increase funding for grants and contribution programs that target men's wellness.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 336-19(2)

The Member for Yellowknife North moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services, in consultation with Indigenous Governments and by spring 2023, sponsor a Men's Wellness Conference. The conference should focus on hearing, learning, and sharing about the root causes of issues facing some men, such as racism, trauma, isolation, violence, and addictions.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 337-19(2)

The Member for Yellowknife North moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services, in collaboration with the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs, add an eighth priority area to the Addictions Prevention and Recovery Workplan focusing on people aged 29 and under. This priority area should include clear commitments and performance measures to:

- Increase access to and uptake in counselling and healing supports;
and
- Increase youth participation in sports and recreation, including measures to improve access to facilities and programming.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 338-19(2)

The Member for Yellowknife North moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services implement an approach to measure whether users and non-users of GNWT addictions services find those services to be culturally safe and provide a timeline for implementation.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 339-19(2)

The Member for Yellowknife North moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories conduct a whole-of-government review of cultural safety in all standards and policies associated with GNWT programs and services and provide a timeline for implementation. This review should identify barriers to cultural safety to inform efforts to remove or reduce identified barriers.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 340-19(2)

The Member for Yellowknife North moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services and Health and Social Services Authorities, in collaboration with the Department of Finance, prioritize their commitment to revise hiring practices for addictions positions to recognize the value of Indigenous qualifications. The Committee further recommends the timeline for this work to be moved up by six months, to 2023-24 Q2.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 341-19(2)

The Member for Yellowknife North moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services and Health and Social Services Authorities review and adjust standards of practice to recognize the value of Indigenous knowledge and provide a timeline for implementation.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 342-19(2)

The Member for Yellowknife North moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services and Health and Social Services Authorities set up a distinct method for frontline staff to identify barriers to care and cultural safety or propose better practices and policies on an ongoing basis and provide a timeline for implementation.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 343-19(2)

The Member for Yellowknife North moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services (HSS) collect and analyze data from residents who do not use GNWT addictions prevention and recovery services, to identify creative ways to remove barriers and make services more culturally safe and provide a timeline for implementation.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 344-19(2)

The Member for Yellowknife North moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories, in collaboration with Indigenous governments, pursue federal funding to help set up healing centres in the Northwest Territories.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 345-19(2)

The Member for Yellowknife North moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services present performance measures for each activity in the Addictions Prevention and Recovery Workplan and provide a timeline for implementation. The Department should report on progress with:

- A web-based tracker, similar to ECE's Action Plan to Improve Student Outcomes Progress Tracker, on a quarterly basis; and
- A public briefing at Committee, in spring/summer 2023 before the 19th Assembly ends.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 346-19(2)

The Member for Yellowknife North moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services make changes to its Addictions Prevention and Recovery Workplan as soon as possible to reflect the recommendations contained in this Committee report (Standing Committee on Government Operations Report on the Review of the 2022 Audit of Addictions Prevention and Recovery Services).

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 347-19(2)

The Member for Yellowknife North moved the following motion:

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

The motion was CARRIED.

The Member for Deh Cho, seconded by the Member for Nunakput, moved concurrence of the report of the Committee of the Whole. The motion was CARRIED.

Third Reading of Bills

Bill 69: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 2, 2022-2023*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved that Bill 69, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 2, 2022-2023*, be read for the third time and requested a recorded vote.

The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Deh Cho, Hay River South, Thebacha, Kam Lake, Nunakput, Yellowknife North, Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Monfwi, Great Slave, Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake, Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North. (16)

Members against: (0)

Members abstaining: (0)

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 70: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 2, 2022-2023*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, moved that Bill 70, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 2, 2022-2023*, be read for the third time and requested a recorded vote.

The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Deh Cho, Hay River South, Thebacha, Kam Lake, Nunakput, Yellowknife North, Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Monfwi, Great Slave, Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake, Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North. (16)

Members against: (0)

Members abstaining: (0)

The motion was CARRIED.

The Deputy Speaker adjourned the House at 5:10 pm.



Hon. Frederick Blake Jr.
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



Tim Mercer
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly