

Votes and Proceedings

SECOND SESSION OF THE NINETEENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

March 28, 2023

The Assembly commenced sitting at 1:31 pm, with the Honourable Frederick Blake Jr., Speaker, presiding.

Members' Attendance

Present: Member for Deh Cho, Member for Frame Lake, Member for Great Slave, Honourable Member for Hay River North, Member for Hay River South, Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, 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-Willideh, Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, Member for Yellowknife North, Honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Absent: None

Ministers' Statements

- 341-19(2) The Minister of Infrastructure made a statement regarding cold weather testing.
- 342-19(2) The Minister of Finance made a statement regarding employee engagement and satisfaction.
- 343-19(2) The Minister responsible for Housing Northwest Territories made a statement on the renewal strategy wrap-up.

Members' Statements

- 1479-19(2) The Member for Thebacha made a statement regarding Indigenous involvement in the Taltson Hydro Project.

- 1480-19(2) The Member for Hay River South made a statement regarding disaster assistance relief options including property acquisition by the Government.
- 1481-19(2) The Member for Great Slave made a statement regarding the need for coordinated planning for infrastructure projects in communities.
- 1482-19(2) The Member for Nunakput made a statement regarding carbon taxation.
- 1483-19(2) The Member for Frame Lake made a statement regarding the regional study of the Lockhart All-Season Road.
- 1484-19(2) The Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes made a statement regarding carbon taxation.
- 1485-19(2) The Member for Kam Lake made a statement regarding the declining population in the Northwest Territories.
- 1486-19(2) The Member for Tu Nedhé-Willideh made a statement regarding spring carnivals in the Tu Nedhé-Willideh riding.
- 1487-19(2) The Member for Monfwi made a statement regarding the sale of housing units to families occupying them.
- 1488-19(2) The Member for Yellowknife North made a statement regarding universal free access to contraception.
- 1489-19(2) The Honourable Member for Nahendeh made a statement regarding the new post office in Nahanni Butte.

Reports of Standing and Special Committees

- 51-19(2) Standing Committee on Government Operations Report on Indigenous Representation in the Northwest Territories Public Service

The Member for Yellowknife North, seconded by the Member for Thebacha, moved that Committee Report 51-19(2): Standing Committee on Government Operations Report on Indigenous Representation in the Northwest Territories Public Service be received by the Assembly and moved into Committee of the Whole for further consideration.

The motion was CARRIED.

Tabling of Documents

- 898-19(2) 2022-23 Northwest Territories Hydro Corporation Amended Capital Budget. Tabled by the Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation.
- 899-19(2) 2022-23 Northwest Territories Power Corporation Amended Capital Budget. Tabled by the Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation.
- 900-19(2) 2023-24 Corporate Plan Northwest Territories Hydro Corporation and Northwest Territories Power Corporation. Tabled by the Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation.
- 901-19(2) CBC News Article dated March 28, 2023, titled "Nunavut flips stance on caribou protection again, now supports development ban on calving grounds". Tabled by the Member for Frame Lake.
- 902-19(2) February 24, 2023, Government of Nunavut Response to Final Written Submissions on Nunavut Land Use Plan. Tabled by the Member for Frame Lake.
- 903-19(2) Guidelines for the Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements, Public Safety Canada. Tabled by the Member for Hay River South.
- 904-19(2) Public Safety Canada, Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements Interpretation Bulletin Number 8, Date: July 2017, Innovative Recovery Solutions. Tabled by the Member for Hay River South.

Notices of Motion

- 78-19(2) Extended Adjournment of the House to May 25, 2023
Notice given by the Member for Hay River South.
- 79-19(2) Expression of Gratitude to Clerk, Tim Mercer, for Dedicated and Exemplary Service
Notice given by the Member for Thebacha.

Motions

- 77-19(2) Review of Territorial Land Lease Policy and Procedures

Moved by the Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes.

NOW THEREFORE, I MOVE, seconded by the Member for Yellowknife North, that this Legislative Assembly calls upon the Government of the Northwest Territories to forgive and pause the collection of current and new lease payments and fees of all Indigenous cabin lease holders immediately;

AND FURTHER, the Government of the Northwest Territories complete a review of cabin and recreational leases to ensure there is no infringement of Indigenous rights through the collection of taxes and fees;

AND FURTHERMORE, the Government of the Northwest Territories develop more consistent land use policies that are representative of completed land resources and self-government agreements and on-going land, resources and self-government negotiations;

AND FURTHERMORE, the Government of the Northwest Territories provide a response to this motion within 120 days.

The Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Member for Deh Cho, Member for Frame Lake, Member for Great Slave, Member for Hay River South, Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, Member for Kam Lake, Member for Monfwi, Member for Nunakput, Member for Thebacha, Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Member for Yellowknife North. (11)

Members against: None. (0)

Members abstaining: Honourable Member for Hay River North, Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, Honourable Member for Nahendeh, Honourable Member for Range Lake, Honourable Member for Sahtu, Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, Honourable Member for Yellowknife South. (7)

The motion was CARRIED.

First Reading of Bills

Bill 77: *Nursing Profession Act*

The Minister of Health and Social Services presented Bill 77, *Nursing Profession Act*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 77 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 78: *Waste Reduction and Resource Recovery Act*

The Minister of Environment and Natural Resources presented Bill 78, *Waste Reduction and Resource Recovery Act*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 78 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 79: *An Act to Amend the Judicature Act*

The Minister of Justice presented Bill 79, *An Act to Amend the Judicature Act*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 79 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 86: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 3, 2022-2023*

The Minister of Finance presented Bill 86, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 3, 2022-2023*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 86 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 87: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 3, 2022-2023*

The Minister of Finance presented Bill 87, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 3, 2022-2023*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 79 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 88: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 1, 2023-2024*

The Minister of Justice presented Bill 88, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 1, 2023-2024*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 88 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Second Reading of Bills

Bill 86: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 3, 2022-2023*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nahendeh, moved that Bill 86, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 3, 2022-2023*, be read for the second time.

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 87: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 3, 2022-2023*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, moved that Bill 87, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 3, 2022-2023*, be read for the second time.

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 88: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 1, 2023-2024*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved that Bill 88, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 1, 2023-2024*, be read for the second time.

The motion was CARRIED.

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 Tabled Document 813-19(2): 2023-2024 Main Estimates; Committee Report 42-19(2): Standing Committee on Government Operations Report on Bill 66: *An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act*; Committee Report 48-19(2): Standing Committee on Social Development Report on the Review of Bill 68: *An Act to Amend the Child Day Care Act*; Bill 60: *An Act to Amend the Petroleum Products and Carbon Tax Act*; Bill 66: *An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act*; Bill 67: *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*; Bill 73: *An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, No.4*; and Bill 76: *An Act to Amend the Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, and reported progress with 14 motions carried, that Committee Report 42-19(2) and Committee Report 48-19(2) are concluded, that Bills 60,

66, 67, 73, and 76 are ready for third reading, that consideration of Tabled Document 813-19(2) is concluded, that the House concur in those estimates and that an appropriation bill be based thereon and be introduced without delay.

Committee Motion 394-19(2)

The Member for Frame Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that consideration of Tabled Document 813-19(2), Main Estimates 2023-2024 be now concluded and that Tabled Document 813-19(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 395-19(2)

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories:

1. Form an advisory group including representation from all parties;
2. Review the 2030 early learning and child care strategy on the inclusion of child care operators in goals and vision;
3. Establish and share a Northwest Territories vision and mission of the early learning and child care sector, including principles and explaining where the federal child care agreements fit, requiring five-year reviews to check if the Northwest Territories is fulfilling its vision;
4. Conduct an independent review of the roll-out of the early learning and child day care agreement;
5. Conduct an independent review of the Child Day Care Act; and
6. Address the crisis of confidence by reconciling with the Northwest Territories early learning child care sector and starting with
 - Improving communication by increasing responsiveness to clients and establishing client service standards; and
 - Committing to explaining processes to the public before implementation, providing plain language materials and designating communication channels for operators to

access early childhood education specialists and information.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 396-19(2)

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Education, Culture and Employment improve and provide clarity on how a person may complain about an organization's service to the public by:

- (1) Providing guidance material for the complaints process to support parents and staff; and
- (2) Developing a policy on the complaints process.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 397-19(2)

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories:

- Provide investigative training to all staff involved in the complaints and appeals processes;
- Make this training obligatory for all staff involved; and
- Build competence by ensuring that investigations are not vexatious and are appropriately carried out.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 398-19(2)

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories ensures that administrative decisions are reasonable by considering the outcome of decisions and the process to come to the decisions.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 399-19(2)

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories review the appeals process in the *Child Day Care Act*,

A) In the short term with the view to

1. Identify and make improvements to make sure that the *Act* clearly outlines how appeals can be requested and considered;
2. Clarify how complaints and appeal processes are distinguished in the *Act*; and
3. Recommend how administrative decisions are made fairly, consistently, and in accordance with the legislation; and

B) In the long term, with the view to

1. Fully review the appeals section;
2. Include comparison with other jurisdictions; and
3. Result in a modernized appeals section.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 400-19(2)

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories include in its vision of a sustainable child care system information on the following:

- How to support the early learning and child care sector in its transition;
- How to embrace NWT realities without disadvantaging any of the existing parts of the child care sector; and
- Considerations for licencing and supporting that proportion of the child care sector constituted by for-profit day homes.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 401-19(2)

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories:

- Recognize that the actions started under the federal agreement have initiated systems change in the Northwest Territories early learning and child care sector and require immediate action by the Government of the Northwest Territories to reduce the volatility that may unfold;
- And further, identify shortfalls in funding targets outside of the federal agreement, focused on Northwest Territories needs, including but not limited to:
 - Capital and operating funding allocations;
 - Incentive loans for new buildings and retrofits;
 - Campaign action attracting potential child care educators;
 - Bonus for child care certificate completions; and
 - Strategies to support professional development for ELCC workers to allow training without impacting existing work schedules.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 402-19(2)

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories view the obligation to consult on regulations as an opportunity for innovation, inclusiveness, flexibility and reconciliation and be open to considering detailed feedback.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 403-19(2)

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee urges the Government of the Northwest Territories to be innovative and identify options for increasing child day care spots at no or little cost, including, but not limited to:

- Changing the ratio of educators to children under two years of age by reducing the age of the infant category to children under 18 months

of age. This would create additional spaces for children 18 months and older;

- Completing negotiations with housing northwest territories to allow licensed child care to operate in public housing;
- Creating subgroups or sublicences to allow child care centres, school-based child care and child care offered in homes to offer licensed spaces.
- Create substitute lists or licencing to back-fill so that if one educator gets sick, not all six kids must stay home.
- Create additional lists or licencing to enable before and after school day care, including evening care, so that educators who have time can take additional hours.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 404-19(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.

Committee Motion 405-19(2)

The Member for Frame Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that the Appendix of Bill 60 be deleted and the following substituted:

SCHEDULE

Item	Type of Fuel	Carbon Tax Rate							
		Effective For the Period Beginning April 1, 2023 and ending March 31, 2024	Effective For the Period Beginning April 1, 2024 and ending March 31, 2025	Effective For the Period Beginning April 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2026	Effective For the Period Beginning April 1, 2026 and ending March 31, 2027	Effective For the Period Beginning April 1, 2027 and ending March 31, 2028	Effective For the Period Beginning April 1, 2028 and ending March 31, 2029	Effective For the Period Beginning April 1, 2029 and ending March 31, 2030	Effective For the Period Beginning April 1, 2030 and thereafter
1	Aviation Gasoline	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt
2	Aviation Jet fuel	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt
3	Butane	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L
4	Diesel	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L
5	Gasoline	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L
6	Naphtha	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L
7	Natural gas	\$0/m ³	\$0/m ³	\$0/m ³	\$0/m ³	\$0/m ³	\$0/m ³	\$0/m ³	\$0/m ³
8	Propane	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L	\$0/L

The Member for Frame Lake requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Frame Lake. (1)

Members against: Hay River South, Kam Lake, Yellowknife North, Monfwi, Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake, Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North. (11)

Members abstaining: Deh Cho, Thebacha, Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Great Slave. (4)

The motion was DEFEATED.

Committee Motion 406-19(2)

The Member for Hay River South moved the following motion:

I MOVE that clause 2 of Bill 73 be amended by adding the following after proposed subclause 21(1):

(1.1) Notwithstanding subsection (1), the amounts set out in Parts 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule C shall not be adjusted on April 1, 2023.

The Member for Hay River South requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Hay River South, Yellowknife North, Monfwi, Hay River North. (4)

Members against: Deh Cho, Thebacha, Kam Lake, Frame Lake, Great Slave, Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake, Yellowknife Centre. (11)

Members abstaining: Tu Nedhé-Wiillideh. (1)

The motion was DEFEATED.

Committee Motion 407-19(2)

The Member for Frame Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that clause 3 of Bill 73 be amended by deleting “on assent” and substituting “on September 4, 2023”.

The Member for Frame Lake requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Deh Cho, Frame Lake, Great Slave. (3)

Members against: Hay River South, Thebacha, Kam Lake, Yellowknife North, Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North. (8)

Members abstaining: Tu Nedhé-Wiillideh, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake. (4)

The motion was DEFEATED.

The Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, moved concurrence of the report of the Committee of the Whole.

The motion was CARRIED.

Third 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 third time.

The Member for Yellowknife North requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Inuvik Twin Lakes, Deh Cho, Hay River South, Thebacha, Kam Lake, Frame Lake, Nunakput, Yellowknife North, Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Monfwi, Great Slave. (11)

Members against: None. (0)

Members abstaining: Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake, Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North. (7)

The motion was CARRIED.

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

The Honourable Member for Hay River North, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved that Bill 63, *An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act*, be read for the third time.

The Honourable Member for Hay River North requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Inuvik Twin Lakes, Deh Cho, Hay River South, Thebacha, Kam Lake, Frame Lake, Nunakput, Yellowknife North, Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Monfwi, Great Slave, Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake, Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North. (18)

Members against: None. (0)

Members abstaining: None. (0)

Bill 86: *Supplementary Appropriation (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 3, 2022-2023*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nahendeh, moved that Bill 86, *Supplementary Appropriation (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 3, 2022-2023*, be read for the third time.

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Inuvik Twin Lakes, Deh Cho, Hay River South, Thebacha, Kam Lake, Nunakput, Yellowknife North, Great

Slave, Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake, Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North. (15)

Members against: Frame Lake, Tu Nedhé-Willideh, Monfwi. (3)

Members abstaining: None. (0)

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 87: *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations Expenditures), No. 3, 2022-2023*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, moved that Bill 87, *Supplementary Appropriation (Operations Expenditures), No. 3, 2022-2023*, be read for the third time.

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Inuvik Twin Lakes, Deh Cho, Hay River South, Thebacha, Kam Lake, Frame Lake, Nunakput, Yellowknife North, Tu Nedhé-Willideh, Monfwi, Great Slave, Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake, Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North. (18)

Members against: None. (0)

Members abstaining: None. (0)

Bill 88: *Supplementary Appropriation (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 1, 2023-2024*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved that Bill 88, *Supplementary Appropriation (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 1, 2023-2024*, be read for the third time.

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Inuvik Twin Lakes, Deh Cho, Hay River South, Thebacha, Kam Lake, Frame Lake, Nunakput, Yellowknife North, Tu Nedhé-Willideh, Monfwi, Great Slave, Nahendeh,

Yellowknife South, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake,
Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North. (18)

Members against: None. (0)

Members abstaining: None. (0)

The Speaker adjourned the House at 10:00 pm.



Hon. Frederick Blake Jr.
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



Tim Mercer
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly