

## Votes and Proceedings

### SECOND SESSION OF THE NINETEENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

March 29, 2023

The Assembly commenced sitting at 1:31 pm, with the Honourable Frederick Blake Jr., 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-Wiilideh, Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, Member for Yellowknife North, Honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Absent: None

#### Ministers' Statements

- 344-19(2) The Minister of Health and Social Services made a statement regarding the NWT Alcohol Strategy.
- 345-19(2) The Premier made a statement regarding the COVID-19 Lessons Learned Report.
- 346-19(2) The Minister of Finance made a statement regarding the Diversity and Inclusion Framework.

#### Members' Statements

- 1490-19(2) The Member for Hay River South made a statement regarding treatment facilities.

- 1491-19(2) The Member for Thebacha made a statement regarding government decentralization.
- 1492-19(2) The Member for Frame Lake made a statement regarding the Project Assessment Policy Review.
- 1493-19(2) The Member for Nunakput made a statement regarding income assistance clawbacks.
- 1494-19(2) The Member for Deh Cho made a statement regarding small health centre diagnosis concerns.
- 1495-19(2) The Member for Great Slave made a statement about housing for seniors.
- 1496-19(2) The Member for Yellowknife North made a statement regarding the Taltson Hydro Expansion Project.
- 1497-19(2) The Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh made a statement regarding a public inquiry into the environmental impact of the Cosmo 954 Crash.
- 1498-19(2) The Member for Kam Lake made a statement regarding the Government of the Northwest Territories Indigenous languages system.
- 1499-19(2) The Honourable Member for Nahendeh made a statement regarding the Nahanni National Park Agreement.

#### Returns to Written Questions

- 64-19(2) The Clerk tabled a return to Written Question 64-19(2) from the Minister responsible for Housing Northwest Territories to the Member for Kam Lake regarding the Housing NWT funding formula for local housing organizations.

#### Tabling of Documents

- 905-19(2) Plain Language Summary for Bill 77: *Nursing Profession Act*. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.
- 906-19(2) An Alcohol Strategy for the Northwest Territories Final Report March 2023. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.
- 907-19(2) *Tobacco and Vapour Products Control Act* Three-Year Report 2023. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.

- 908-19(2) Plain Language Summary for Bill 78: *Waste Reduction and Resource Recovery Act*. Tabled by the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources.
- 909-19(2) Plain Language Summary for Bill 79: *An Act to Amend the Judicature Act*. Tabled by the Minister of Justice.
- 910-19(2) Additional Information for Return to Written Question 64-19(2): Housing NWT Funding Formula for Local Housing Organizations. Tabled by the Minister responsible for Housing Northwest Territories.
- 911-19(2) Housing NWT 2023-24 Consolidated Operating Budget. Tabled by the Minister responsible for Housing Northwest Territories.
- 912-19(2) Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board 2022 Annual Report. Tabled by the Minister responsible for the Public Utilities Board.
- 913-19(2) Inter-Activity Transfers Exceeding \$250,000 (April 1 to December 31, 2022). Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 914-19(2) Inter-Activity Transfers Exceeding \$250,000 (April 1 to September 30, 2022). Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 915-19(2) Diversity and Inclusion Framework Document. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 916-19(2) Learning from the Response to COVID-19 Report and Recommendations. Tabled by the Premier.

#### First Reading of Bills

Bill 80: *Dental Hygienists Profession Statute Amendment Act*

The Member for Kam Lake presented Bill 80, Dental Hygienists Profession Statute Amendment Act.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 80 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 81: *An Act to Amend the Education Act, No. 2*

The Minister of Education, Culture and Employment presented Bill 81, *An Act to Amend the Education Act, No. 2*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 81 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 82: *Legal Profession Act*

The Minister of Justice presented Bill 82, *Legal Profession Act*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 82 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 83: *Liquor Act*

The Minister of Finance presented Bill 83, *Liquor Act*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 83 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 84: *An Act to Amend the Northwest Territories Business Development and Investment Corporation Act*

The Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment presented Bill 84, *An Act to Amend the Northwest Territories Business Development and Investment Corporation Act*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 84 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 85: *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Implementation Act*

The Premier presented Bill 85, *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Implementation Act*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 85 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Bill 89: *Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), 2023-2024*

The Minister of Finance presented Bill 89, *Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), 2023-2024*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 89 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

## Second Reading of Bills

**Bill 77:**            *Nursing Profession Act*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Range Lake, moved that Bill 77, *Nursing Profession Act*, be read for the second time.

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 77 was referred to the Standing Committee on Social Development.

**Bill 78:**            *Waste Reduction and Recovery Act*

The Honourable Member for Nahendeh, seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, moved that Bill 78, *Waste Reduction and Recovery Act*, be read for the second time.

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 78 was referred to the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Environment.

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

The Honourable Member for Hay River North, seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, moved that Bill 79, *An Act to Amend the Judicature Act*, be read for the second time.

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 79 was referred to the Standing Committee on Government Operations.

**Bill 89:**            *Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), 2023-2024*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved that Bill 89, *Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), 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 Bill 68: *An Act to Amend the Child Day Care Act*; Committee Report 47-19(2): Standing Committee on Social Development Report on Homelessness Prevention: Supporting Pathways to Housing NWT Residents; Committee Report 50-19(2): Standing Committee on Social Development - Strengthening Community Supports, Lifting Youth Voices: Recommendations on Suicide Prevention; and Tabled Document 694-19(2): Northwest Territories Coroner Service 2021-2022 Early Release of Suicide Data, and reported progress with 29 motions carried, that Committee Reports 47-19(2) and 50-19(2) and Tabled Document 694-19(2) are concluded, and that Bill 68 is ready for third reading.

### **Committee Motion 408-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that clause 13 of Bill 68 be amended by deleting proposed subclause 19.2(2) and substituting the following:

- (2) An operator shall not
  - (a) Relatiate against a complainant under section 19.1; or
  - (b) Disclose the identity of a complainant under section 19.1 except as is reasonably required to respond to the complaint.

The Honourable Member for Hay River North moved the following motion to amend Committee Motion 408-19(2):

I MOVE that Committee Motion 408-19(2): Bill 678, *An Act to Amend the Child Day Care Act*, which amends clause 13 of Bill 68, be amended

- (a) By deleting proposed paragraph 19.2.(2)(b) and substituting the following:
  - (b) Disclose the identity of a complainant under section 19.1.
- (b) By adding the following after proposed subclause 19.2(2):
  - (3) Notwithstanding paragraph (2)(b), an operator may disclose the identity of a complainant
    - (a) To a lawyer retained by the operator to provide legal services in respect of the complaint; or
    - (b) As authorized by the Director.

The motion to amend Committee Motion 408-19(2) was DEFEATED.

The Member for Kam Lake requested a recorded vote on Committee Motion 408-19(2). The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Deh Cho, Thebacha, Kam Lake, Nunakput, Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Monfwi, Great Slave. (7)

Members against: Hay River South, Yellowknife North. (2)

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

The result of the recorded vote was a tie. The Chair of the Committee of the Whole, the Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, cast the tie-breaking vote. The motion was DEFEATED.

#### **Committee Motion 409-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services provide financial and human resources support to youth-led non-governmental organizations to host a territorial youth conference on mental health and wellness before the end of the 19th Assembly.

The motion was CARRIED.

#### **Committee Motion 410-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services develop aftercare processes for persons discharged from hospitals and health care centres following suicidal ideation and attempts to reduce suicide re-attempts and loss of life.

The motion was CARRIED.

#### **Committee Motion 411-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services establish a youth and family addictions support and healing centre in the Northwest Territories.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 412-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services expedite and streamline the application, approval, and reporting requirements for the Community Suicide Prevention Fund.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 413-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services expand the eligibility for projects under the Community Suicide Prevention Fund to include sports, arts and recreational programming; culture, language and on-the-land programming; and informal elder/respected community member-youth mentorships.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 414-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services increase the Community Suicide Prevention Fund to \$1 million dollars annually.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 415-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that Housing Northwest Territories develop a supportive community housing strategy focused on youth and youth aging out of care.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 416-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:



I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Education, Culture and Employment review and amend the Career and Education Advisor job description to recruit Indigenous persons in these positions.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 417-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that Education, Culture and Employment make the guidelines for ensuring LGBTQ+ equity, safety and inclusion in Northwest Territories schools training mandatory in Northwest Territories schools.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 418-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that Municipal and Community Affairs increase funding for the Youth Centres Initiative to a maximum of \$100,000 for each recipient to ensure that youth have positive and safe spaces to be free of alcohol, drugs and violence.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 419-19(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 this report in 120 days.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 420-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that Housing Northwest Territories establish a youth housing fund by the 2023-2024 fiscal year with sustainable, multi-year funding available to Indigenous governments and non-governmental

organizations to purchase, operate and manage safe housing for children and youth in care.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 421-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services create an Indigenous Child and Family Services Navigator position dedicated to youth who are aging out of care to find stable housing and other supports.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 422-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs lead an all-of-government approach to ensuring all children and youth have access to sports with increased funding, subsidies and vouchers for sports equipment and registration fees.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 423-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that Housing Northwest Territories establish a women's housing fund by the 2023-2024 fiscal year that provides sustainable, multi-year funding to Indigenous governments and non-profit organizations to purchase, operate and manage housing for women and their children who are at risk of violence or have experienced violence.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 424-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services lead the development of 2SLGBTQIPA+ guidelines for

emergency shelters, transitional housing and non-profit organizations providing housing and homelessness prevention supports by the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 425-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Justice increase funding to the Men's Healing Fund to support regional healing programs for the holistic health and well-being of men.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 426-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories complete Truth and Reconciliation Call to Action #21 and secure substantive federal funding for a Northwest Territories Indigenous healing centre to support Indigenous individuals who have been harmed and/or traumatized by the Indian residential schools system, Sixties Scoop, and other acts of colonization.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 427-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services expedite the application, approval and reporting requirement process of the On-the-land Healing Fund to uphold Indigenous governments' and organizations' self-determination and ensure allocation of annual funds.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 428-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories take an all-of-government approach to providing sustainable, multi-

year funding for emergency shelters, transitional housing with wrap-around sobriety and mental health supports, and supported living housing with managed alcohol and harm reduction programs.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 429-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that Housing Northwest Territories work with Indigenous governments and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to establish an Indigenous housing fund that will provide Indigenous governments and/or Indigenous non-governmental organizations financial support to purchase, operate and manage housing aimed at Indigenous individuals and families.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 430-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories work with Indigenous governments, architects, engineers, and other professionals to develop a suite of Indigenous-led, climate change responsive designs for emergency shelters, transitional housing, affordable housing, housing for seniors and housing for those with disabilities.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 431-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories meet its commitment to develop an all-of-government homelessness prevention strategy by April 2023.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 432-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Education, Culture and Employment partner with the northern private sector, non-governmental organizations, and Indigenous governments to develop one-year lease agreements and rental assistance payments to accommodate private sector lease requirements to support housing partnerships and increase access to affordable housing.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 433-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that Housing Northwest Territories amend the collection policy and forgive any arrears up to \$30,000 for Indian residential school survivors as an act of reconciliation before the end of the 19th Assembly.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 434-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that Housing Northwest Territories implement the principles of the collections policy and develop a strategy by the 2023-2024 fiscal year to forgive arrears that cannot be collected despite demonstrated effort.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 435-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that Housing Northwest Territories eradicate the residency policy and update the public housing point rating system with community membership as an additional factor with corresponding points and significant weight.

The motion was CARRIED.

**Committee Motion 436-19(2)**

The Member for Kam Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that Housing Northwest Territories develop a first right of refusal clause in leasing agreements to ensure family members of tenants receive the first opportunity to lease a public housing unit before the unit goes to market.

The motion was CARRIED.

### **Committee Motion 437-19(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 this report in 120 days.

The motion was CARRIED.

The Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, seconded by the Member for Kam Lake, moved concurrence of the report of the Committee of the Whole. The motion was CARRIED.

### Third Reading of Bills

**Bill 60:**                    *An Act to Amend the Petroleum Products and Carbon Tax Act*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hay River North, moved that Bill 60, *An Act to Amend the Petroleum Products and Carbon Tax Act*, 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: Hay River South, Yellowknife North, Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake, Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North. (9)

Members against: Inuvik Twin Lakes, Deh Cho, Thebacha, Kam Lake, Nunakput, Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Monfwi, Great Slave. (8)

Members abstaining: None. (0)

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

The Honourable Member for Nahendeh, seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, moved that Bill 66, *An*

*Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act*, be read for the third time.

The Honourable Member for Nahendeh 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, Tu Nedhé-Willideh, Monfwi, Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake, Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North. (16)

Members against: None. (0)

Members abstaining: None. (0)

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

The Honourable Member for Nahendeh, seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, moved that Bill 67, *An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act*, be read for the third time.

The Honourable Member for Nahendeh 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, Tu Nedhé-Willideh, Monfwi, Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake, Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North. (16)

Members against: None. (0)

Members abstaining: None. (0)

Bill 73: *An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, No. 4*

The Member for Thebacha, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nahendeh, moved that Bill 73, *An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act, No. 4*, be read for the third time.

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

Members for: Inuvik Twin Lakes, Deh Cho, Thebacha, Kam Lake, Nunakput, Yellowknife North, Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Sahtu,

Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake, Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North.  
(13)

Members against: Hay River South, Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Monfwi.  
(3)

Members abstaining: None. (0)

Bill 76:

*An Act to Amend the Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*

The Member for Thebacha, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hay River North, moved that Bill 76, *An Act to Amend the Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, be read for the third time.

The Member for Thebacha 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, Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Monfwi, Great Slave, Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake, Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North.  
(17)

Members against: None. (0)

Members abstaining: None. (0)

Bill 89:

*Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures) 2023-2024*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved that Bill 89, *Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures) 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, Nunakput, Yellowknife North, Monfwi, Great Slave, Nahendeh, Yellowknife South, Sahtu, Range Lake, Inuvik Boot Lake, Yellowknife Centre, Hay River North. (16)

Members against: Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh. (1)

Members abstaining: None. (0)

The Speaker adjourned the House at 8:40 pm.





Hon. Frederick Blake Jr.  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



Tim Mercer  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly