

Votes and Proceedings

SECOND SESSION OF THE NINETEENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

October 3, 2023

The Assembly commenced sitting at 1:30 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-Wiilideh, Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, Member for Yellowknife North, Honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Absent: None.

Ministers' Statements

- 385-19(2) The Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment provided a status report on the *Mineral Resources Act* regulations.
- 386-19(2) The Minister of Health and Social Services made a statement regarding the 2023-2028 Child, Youth and Family Services Strategic Direction and Action Plan.
- 387-19(2) The Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission made a statement regarding the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission's new President and Chief Executive Officer.

Members' Statements

- 1618-19(2) The Member for Hay River South made a statement regarding financial support for wildfire evacuees.
- 1619-19(2) The Member for Thebacha made a statement regarding Aurora College transition to a polytechnic university.
- 1620-19(2) The Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes made a statement regarding the Government of the Northwest Territories Affirmative Action Policy.
- 1621-19(2) The Member for Monfwi made a statement regarding the administrative burden of income support programs for residents with disabilities.
- 1622-19(2) The Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiliideh made a statement regarding the Yellowknife Lithium Project.
- 1623-19(2) The Member for Great Slave made a statement of support for the agrifood industry.
- 1624-19(2) The Member for Kam Lake made a statement regarding the government renewal initiative.
- 1625-19(2) The Member for Frame Lake made a statement regarding the Government of the Northwest Territories climate strategy.
- 1626-19(2) The Member for Yellowknife North made a statement regarding the Government of the Northwest Territories Affirmative Action Policy.
- 1627-19(2) The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South made a statement recognizing Special Olympics World Summer Games Gold Medal Winner Chelsey Makaro.
- 1628-19(2) The Honourable Member for Nahendeh made a statement recognizing North American Indigenous Games 2023 Nahendeh participants and the experience of athlete Eva Erasmus.
- 1629-19(2) The Member for Nunakput made a statement regarding missing person Frank Gruben.

Reports of Standing and Special Committees

- 75-19(2) Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures Report on the Review of the Rules of the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly, No. 2

The Member for Nunakput, seconded by the Member for Hay River South, moved that Committee Report 75-19(2): Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures Report on the Review of the Rules of the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly, No. 2 be deemed read and printed in Hansard in its entirety.

The motion was CARRIED.

The Member for Nunakput, seconded by the Member for Hay River South, moved that Committee Report 75-19(2): Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures Report on the Review of the Rules of the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly, No. 2 be received and referred to Committee of the Whole.

The motion was CARRIED.

Replies to the Commissioner's Address

- 4-19(2) The Member for Inuvik Boot Lake delivered a reply to the Commissioner's Address.

Tabling of Documents

- 1014-19(2) Child, Youth and Family Services Strategic Direction and Action Plan 2023-2028. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.
- 1015-19(2) NWT Department of Health and Social Services 2022-2023 Annual Report. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.
- 1016-19(2) Canada Energy Regulator's 2022-23 Annual Report of Activities under the Northwest Territories' *Oil and Gas Operations Act*. Tabled by the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment.
- 1017-19(2) Regional Economic Development Plan – Dehcho. Tabled by the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment.
- 1018-19(2) Regional Economic Development Plan – North Slave. Tabled by the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment.
- 1019-19(2) Regional Economic Development Plan – Sahtu. Tabled by the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment.
- 1020-19(2) Regional Economic Development Plan – South Slave. Tabled by the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment

- 1021-19(2) Regional Economic Development Plan – Beaufort-Delta. Tabled by the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment.
- 1022-19(2) Government of the Northwest Territories Public Service Announcement dated September 27, 2023, regarding an Indigenous Environmental Studies and Sciences Diploma Program. Tabled by the Member for Thebacha.
- 1023-19(2) Integrity Commissioner Investigation Report of Complaints that MLA Great Slave Breached Members' Code of Conduct. Tabled by the Speaker.

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 Committee Report 62-19(2): Standing Committee on Economic Development and Environment Report on Bill 74: *Forest Act*; Bill 74: *Forest Act*; Bill 78: *Waste Reduction and Resource Recovery Act*; Bill 83: *Liquor Act*; and Bill 92: *An Act to Amend the Petroleum Products and Carbon Tax Act, No. 3*, and reported progress with 10 motions carried, that Committee Report 62-19(2) is concluded, that Bills 74, 78, and 83 are ready for third reading, and that Bill 92 is ready for third reading as amended.

Committee Motion 477-19(2)

The Member for Deh Cho moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories undertake an independent, third-party comprehensive review of Government of the Northwest Territories' fire prevention and suppression with public engagement;

AND FURTHER, this review should consider the policy framework, coordination with other governments and agencies, funding for these activities, as well as departmental practices concerning firefighter safety.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 478-19(2)

The Member for Deh Cho moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department review what information it can and should provide regarding its internal interactive fire databases, its communication efforts and how information is presented and

organized on its website to improve access to and knowledge of fire prevention and suppression activities and practices.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 479-19(2)

The Member for Deh Cho moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that there be an annual meeting between relevant Government of the Northwest Territories departmental staff and each community to review values at risk, fire prevention and suppression preparedness, coordination of efforts and related matters.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 480-19(2)

The Member for Deh Cho moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that representatives from technical working groups should meet with Standing Committee earlier in the process, closer to the beginning of the co-drafting process, to discuss opportunities to share information on policy options and policy intentions for resource management legislation.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 481-19(2)

The Member for Deh Cho moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that, if the overall legislative timeframe allows, there should be the ability to extend Standing Committee reviews of resource management bills to allow for completion of the collaborative review process.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 482-19(2)

The Member for Deh Cho moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that exchanges between standing committees, the departments and technical working groups on the review of

resource management bills should be made public where possible and documented in committee reports on resource management bills.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 483-19(2)

The Member for Deh Cho moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that departments undertaking the co-drafting of resource management legislation and regulations should secure additional resources for this process and conduct more robust public engagement.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 484-19(2)

The Member for Deh Cho moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that departments undertaking the co-drafting of resource management legislation and regulations should share more information with the public about policy options and policy intentions and conduct public engagement earlier in the process, that is, not wait until the end of the co-drafting process;

AND FURTHER, public engagement can and should run concurrently with the co-drafting process.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 485-19(2)

The Member for Deh Cho moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Department of Environment and Climate Change prepare a detailed budget and work plan for continued co-development of regulations necessary for a new *Forest Act*, allowing for more public engagement on those regulations, and the implementation of its new responsibilities under a new *Forest Act*.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 486-19(2)

The Member for Frame Lake moved the following motion:

That clause 14.1 of Bill 74 be amended by

- (a) renumbering that clause as subclause 14.1(1);
- (b) deleting paragraphs (d) and (e) of that renumbered subclause and substituting the following:

- (d) any forest harvesting agreements entered into under subsection 25(1);
- (e) any extensions or variations of the wildfire season declared under subsection 28(2);
- (f) all wildfire prevention and preparedness plans submitted to the Forest Superintendent under subsection 45(2), any such plans resubmitted under subsection 45(3), and any hazard assessments conducted under subsection 45(5);
- (g) all permits and licences issued under subsection 48(2), other than those that authorize the holder to undertake activities set out in that subsection solely for personal purposes;
- (h) any prescribed information.

- (c) adding the following after that renumbered subclause:

- (2) Before publishing a forest harvesting agreement under paragraph (1)(d), the Minister may remove from the agreement any of the following information, the disclosure of which would be prohibited pursuant to the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*:
 - (a) any ecologically or culturally sensitive information;
 - (b) any information harmful to the financial or economic interests of a party to the agreement.
- (3) Information is not required to be published under subsection (1) if the information
 - (a) is prohibited from disclosure under an Act of Canada or an Act of the Northwest Territories; or
 - (b) is provided, implicitly or explicitly, in confidence to a person or body exercising powers or performing duties or functions under this Act, and is consistently treated as confidential information by the party providing the information.

The motion was DEFEATED.

Committee Motion 487-19(2)

The Member for Frame Lake moved the following motion:

That subclause 15.1(1) of Bill 74 be amended by

(a) adding the following immediately preceding subparagraph (a)(i):

(0.i) any research activities of the Forest Superintendent under paragraph 15(3)(b),

(b) deleting "; and" at the end of the English version of subparagraph (a)(iv) and substituting a semicolon; and

(c) deleting paragraph (b) and substituting the following:

(b) the total number of inspections and investigations conducted under Part 7;

(c) the total number and total amount of fines and other penalties imposed under Part 8; and

(d) any prescribed information.

The motion was DEFEATED.

Committee Motion 488-19(2)

The Member for Frame Lake moved the following motion:

That subclause 48(2.1) of Bill 74 be amended

(a) in paragraph (a), by striking out "in respect of the" and substituting "in respect of an"; and

(b) in paragraph (b), by striking out "that is applicable in respect of the" and substituting "or zoning bylaw that is applicable in respect of an".

The motion was DEFEATED.

Committee Motion 489-19(2)

The Member for Frame Lake moved the following motion:

That paragraph 127(z.01) of Bill 74 be deleted and the following substituted:

(z.01) respecting requirements for wildfire prevention and preparedness plans under subsection 45(2), and the amendment of such plans;

The motion was DEFEATED.

Committee Motion 490-19(2)

The Member for Frame Lake moved the following motion:

That paragraph 127(z.01.1) of Bill 74 be amended by

- (a) striking “, and” at the end of the English version of subparagraph (i) and substituting a comma;
- (b) striking out the semicolon at the end of subparagraph (ii) and substituting “, and”; and
- (c) adding the following after subparagraph (ii):
 - (iii) respecting time periods within which plans must be provided;

The motion was DEFEATED.

Committee Motion 491-19(2)

The Member for Frame Lake moved the following motion:

That Bill 74 be amended by adding the following after clause 128:

128.1. (1) Subject to subsection (2), before making regulations under this Act, the Minister shall

- (a) ensure that there is an opportunity for public engagement by
 - i. publishing a copy of the proposed regulations on a website maintained by the Government of the Northwest Territories, and
 - ii. ensuring that a reasonable period of time has been allotted for receiving feedback on the proposed regulations; and
- (b) consider any feedback provided on the proposed regulations under paragraph (a).

The motion was DEFEATED.

Committee Motion 492-19(2)

The Member for Frame Lake moved the following motion:

That clause 4 of Bill 92 be amended by deleting proposed subsection 20.2(2) and substituting the following:

- (2) The Minister shall, not later than eight months after the end of a fiscal year, prepare an annual report with respect to the collection and administration of carbon tax under this Act during that year.

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.

Third Reading of Bills

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

The Honourable Member for Hay River North seconded by the Honourable Member for Range Lake, moved that Bill 81, *An Act to Amend the Education Act, No. 2*, 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, 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. (17)

Members against: None. (0)

Members abstaining: None. (0)

Bill 93: *Practice of Engineering, Geoscience and Applied Science Technology Act*

The Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hay River North, moved that Bill 93, *Practice of Engineering, Geoscience and Applied Science Technology Act*, be read for the third time.

The Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Inuvik Twin Lakes, Deh Cho, Hay River South, 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. (17)

Members against: None. (0)

Members abstaining: None. (0)

Bill 94: *Miscellaneous Statute Law Amendment Act, 2023*

The Honourable Member for Hay River North, seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, moved that Bill 94, *Miscellaneous Statute Law Amendment Act, No. 2*, 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, 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. (17)

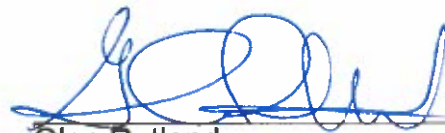
Members against: None. (0)

Members abstaining: None. (0)

The Speaker adjourned the House at 8:59 pm.



Hon. Frederick Blake Jr.
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



Glen Rutland
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly