

Standing Committee on
Government Operations



Committee Transition Overview and Considerations

Standing Committee on Government Operations

The Standing Committee on Government Operations shall consider the following matters with respect to the Departments of the Executive and Indigenous Affairs; Finance; Workers Safety and Compensation Commission; Northwest Territories Power Corporation; and Municipal and Community Affairs:

- A. Review multi-year business plans and budgets, bills, boards and agencies;
- B. Review departmental performance and official language issues, including that of boards and agencies;
- C. Review, as necessary or appropriate, the annual and other reports of the Statutory Officers of the Legislative Assembly, including the Languages Commissioner, the Information and Privacy Commissioner, the Equal Pay Commissioner, the Ombud, and the Human Rights Commission;
- D. Examine the reports of the annual financial statements and public accounts of the Government of the Northwest Territories and the report of the Auditor General;
- E. In the event that the Assembly is not in Session, the Speaker may provide the Auditor General's Report and the Minister of Finance may provide the Public Accounts to the Committee for review, which may include public hearings, in advance of tabling; and
- F. Consider any other matter referred by the House.

Total Number of Meetings: 143

Key Reviews and Reports (Appendix D)

Total Number of Bills Reviewed: 15

Total Number of Reports: 33

Committee Initiatives: 2

- Increasing Indigenous Representation in the Public Service
- Official Languages

Recommendations for follow-up in the next assembly:

The 20th Assembly's SCOGO should consider the following committee priorities and processes from the last Assembly:

Indigenous representation in the public service

- Ensure accountability for Indigenous Recruitment and Retention Action Plan and each department's Indigenous Employment Plans
- Extend representation measures and targets to all agencies, boards, crown corporations, and statutory offices.

Past audits

- Set up consistent approach for reviewing audit recommendation implementation

Official languages

- Advocate for transformative legislation in the 20th Assembly

Bill 85: UNDRIP Implementation Act

- Set up a mechanism for Regular Members to be informed about Action Plan Committee work
- Monitor implementation of report recommendations
- Scrutinize GNWT for implementing the Declaration

Public accounts

- Advocate for outstanding recommendations
- Set timing of reviews before the Mains (January)

Emergency management

- Request timely monthly financial reporting on wildfire recovery
- Consider which tool (e.g., public inquiry, task force) for independent and comprehensive review of 2023 wildfires and emergency management

Municipal and Community Affairs

- Monitor and narrow in real terms the municipal funding gap
- Scrutinize and support MACA legislative development capacity and progress, including promised legislation (e.g., PATA part #2, seniors property tax relief)

Northwest Territories Heritage Fund

- *Conduct a review and report on the status of the Northwest Territories Heritage Fund*

Appendix A:

Standing Committee on Government Operations Bills: 15

- Bill 98 – An Act to Amend the Emergency Management Act
- Bill 92- An Act to Amend the Petroleum Products and Carbon Tax Act, No. 3
- Bill 91- An Act to Amend the Petroleum Products and Carbon Tax Act, No.2
- Bill 85- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Implementation Act
- Bill 83- Liquor Act
- Bill 67: An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act
- Bill 66: An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act
- Bill 63: An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act
- Bill 62: An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act, No. 2
- Bill 61: An Act to Amend the Ombud Act (PMB- RJ)
- Bill 60: An Act to Amend the Petroleum Products and Carbon Tax Act
- Bill 53: An Act to Amend the Liquor Act
- Bill 33: National Indigenous Peoples Day Act
- Bill 32: An Act to Amend the Northern Employees Benefits Services Pension Plan Act
- Bill 16: An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act

Total Number of Reports Read: 33

- Report on the Review of the 2021-2022 Annual Report of the Ombud (Sept 28, 2023)
- Report on the Review of the 2021-2022 Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner (Sept 28, 2023)
- Report on the Review of the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 Annual Reports of the Northwest Territories Human Rights Commission (Sept 29, 2023)
- Report on Review of Bill 83: Liquor Act (Sept 28, 2023)
- Report on Review of Bill 92: Petroleum Products and Carbon Tax Act, No. 3 (Sept 28, 2023)
- Report on the Review of 2021/2022 Public Accounts (Sept 28, 2023)
- Report on the Review of 2022 Audit of Addictions Prevention and Recovery Services, No.2 (Sept 28, 2023)
- Report on the Review of the 2020 Audit of Early Childhood to Grade 12 Education, No. 2 (Sept 28, 2023)
- Report on the Review of the 2021-2022 Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (Sept 28, 2023)
- Report on Bill 85: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Implementation Act. (Sept 27, 2023)
- Report on Indigenous Representation in the Northwest Territories Public Service (Mar 28, 23)
- Report on the 2021-22 Review of the Official Languages Act (Mar 27, 23)
- Report on Bill 67: An Act to Amend the Fire Prevention Act (Mar 02, 23)
- Report on Bill 60: An Act to Amend the Petroleum Products and Carbon Tax Act (Mar 01, 23)
- Report on Bill 63: An Act to Amend the Official Languages Act (Feb 28, 23)
- Report on Bill 66: An Act to Amend the Property Assessment and Taxation Act (Feb 27, 23)
- Report on the Review of Bill 61: An Act to Amend the Ombud Act (Feb 14, 23)

- Report on Bill 62: An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act, No. 2 (Feb 07, 23)
- Report on the Review of the 2022 Audit of Addictions Prevention and Recovery Services (Nov 01, 22)
- Report on the Review of the 2020-2021 Public Accounts (Oct 28, 22)
- Report on the Review of the 2020-2021 Annual Report of the Ombud (Oct 18, 22)
- Report on the Review of the 2020-2021 Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (May 30, 22)
- Report on the Review of the Languages Commissioner for the Northwest Territories Annual Report 2020-2021 (May 26, 22)
- Report on Bill 37: An Act to Amend the Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Mar 09, 22)
- Report on the Review of the 2018-19 and 2019-20 Public Accounts (Dec 02, 21)
- Report on the Review of Bill 23 (Nov 22, 21)
- Report on the Review of the 2019-2020 Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (Jun 01, 21)
- Report on the Review of the Auditor General's 2020 Audit of Early Childhood to Grade 12 Education in the Northwest Territories (Jun 01, 21)
- Report on the Review of the 2019-20 Northwest Territories Ombud Annual Report (May 28, 2021)
- Report on the Review of the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 Annual Reports of the Official Languages Commissioner (Nov 03, 20)
- Report on the Review of the 2018-2019 Northwest Territories Human Rights Commission Annual Report (Oct, 27, 20)
- Report on the Review of the 2018-2019 Annual Report of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of the Northwest Territories (Oct, 27, 20)
- Report on Long-Term Post-Pandemic Recovery: Recommendations to the GNWT (Jun 09, 20)