

FIRST SESSION OF THE TWENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

February 26, 2024

The Assembly commenced sitting at 1:30 p.m. with the Honourable Shane Thompson, Speaker, presiding.

Members' Attendance

Present: Member for Dehcho, Member for Frame Lake, Member for Great Slave, Honourable Member for Hay River North, Honourable Member for Hay River South, Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, Honourable Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, Honourable Member for Kam Lake, Member for Mackenzie Delta, Member for Monfwi, Honourable Member for Nunakput, Member for Range Lake, Member for Sahtu, Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Member for Yellowknife Centre, Member for Yellowknife North, Honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Absent: Honourable Member for Thebacha.

Ministers' Statements

- 21-20(1) The Minister of Education, Culture and Employment made a statement about enhancing the Northwest Territories workforce.
- 22-20(1) The Minister of Infrastructure made a statement regarding 2023 transportation infrastructure improvement projects.
- 23-20(1) The Premier made a statement regarding the absence of the Honourable Member for Thebacha from the House.

Members' Statements

- 105-20(1) The Member for Range Lake made a statement about working with non-government organizations.
- 106-20(1) The Member for Inuvik Boot Lake made a statement extending congratulations to Inuvik athletes and organizers.

- 107-20(1) The Member for Great Slave made a statement regarding extended health benefits policy.
- 108-20(1) The Member for Sahtu made a statement regarding the Great Bear River Bridge.
- 109-20(1) The Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh made a statement about improving public housing in Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh communities.
- 110-20(1) The Member for Monfwi made a statement regarding the municipal funding gap.
- 111-20(1) The Member for Mackenzie Delta made a statement regarding inadequate hotel accommodations for medical travel clients.
- 112-20(1) The Member for Yellowknife Centre made a statement regarding the cost of living.
- 113-20(1) The Member for Yellowknife North made a statement regarding impacts of alcohol consumption and the Government of the Northwest Territories alcohol strategy.
- 114-20(1) The Member for Dehcho made a statement regarding public health and safety promotion resources.
- 115-20(1) The Member for Frame Lake made a statement regarding events at the 2024 Snowking's Winter Festival.
- 116-20(1) The Honourable Member for Nahendeh delivered a eulogy for Darcy Lafferty.

Tabling of Documents

- 41-20(1) Plain Language Summary for Bill 2: *Missing Persons Act*. Tabled by the Minister of Justice.
- 42-20(1) Statement of Consistency for Bill 2: *Missing Persons Act*. Tabled by the Minister of Justice.
- 43-20(1) Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories 2022-2023 Annual Report. Tabled by the Minister responsible for the Status of Women.

- 44-20(1) Workers' Advisor Office Northwest Territories and Nunavut 2023 Annual Report. Tabled by the Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission.
- 45-20(1) Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission 2024 Corporate Plan. Tabled by the Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission.
- 46-20(1) Common Priorities Presented to the 20th Legislative Assembly by Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) Collective Voices. Tabled by the Member for Range Lake.

Notices of Motion

- 20-20(1) Affirming Housing as a Human Right
Notice given by the Member for Dehcho.
- 21-20(1) Taking Action to Address Housing as a Human Right
Notice given by the Member for Dehcho.

First Reading of Bills

- Bill 4: *Interim Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures) 2024-2025*
Introduced by the Minister of Finance.
In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 4 read for the first time and ready for second reading.
The motion was CARRIED.

Second Reading of Bills

- Bill 2: *Missing Persons Act*
Introduced by the Minister of Justice.
The Honourable Member for Hay River North, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, moved that Bill 2, *Missing Persons Act*, be read for the second time.
The motion was CARRIED.
Bill 2 was referred to the Standing Committee on Social Development.

Bill 4: *Interim Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures) 2024-2025*

Introduced by the Minister of Finance.

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hay River South, moved that Bill 4, *Interim Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures) 2024-2025*, 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 Tu Nedhé-Willideh, reported that the Committee of the Whole considered Tabled Document 28-20(1): Supplementary Estimates (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 4, 2023-2024; and Tabled Document 29-20(1): Supplementary Estimates (Operations Expenditures), No. 3, 2023-2024 and reported progress, with one motion carried, that consideration of Tabled Document 28-20(1) is concluded, that the House concurred with those estimates, and that an appropriation bill base thereon be introduced without delay.

Committee Motion 2-20(1)

The Member for Inuvik Boot Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that consideration of Tabled Document 28-20(1), Supplementary Estimates (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 3, 2023-2024, be now concluded and that Tabled Document 28-20(1) be reported and recommended as ready for further consideration in formal Session through the form of an appropriation bill.

The motion was CARRIED.

The Member for Tu Nedhé-Willideh, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, moved concurrence of the report of the Committee of the Whole. The motion was CARRIED.

Third Reading of Bills

Bill 1: *An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*

The Member for Yellowknife Centre, seconded by the Honourable Member for Kam Lake, moved that Bill 1, *An Act to Amend the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, be read for the third time.

The Member from Yellowknife Centre requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Member for Dehcho, Member for Frame Lake, Member for Great Slave, Honourable Member for Hay River North, Honourable Member for Hay River South, Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, Honourable Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, Honourable Member for Kam Lake, Member for Mackenzie Delta, Member for Monfwi, Honourable Member for Nunakput, Member for Range Lake, Member for Sahtu, Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Member for Yellowknife Centre, Member for Yellowknife North, Honourable Member for Yellowknife South. (17)

Members against: (0)

Members abstaining: (0)

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 4: *Interim Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures) 2024-2025*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hay River South, moved that Bill 4, *Interim Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures) 2024-2025*, be read for the third time.

The Minister of Finance requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Member for Dehcho, Member for Frame Lake, Member for Great Slave, Honourable Member for Hay River North, Honourable Member for Hay River South, Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, Honourable Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, Honourable Member for Kam Lake, Member for Mackenzie Delta, Member for Monfwi, Honourable Member for Nunakput, Member for Range Lake, Member for Sahtu, Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Member for Yellowknife Centre, Member for Yellowknife North, Honourable Member for Yellowknife South. (17)

Members against: (0)

Members abstaining: (0)

The motion was CARRIED.

The Speaker adjourned the House at 5:53 p.m.



Hon. Shane Thompson
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



Glen Rutland
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly