

Motion

Request to Government of Canada to Extend Maximum Term of 17th Legislative Assembly

WHEREAS Parliament is currently considering Bill C-15, the *Northwest Territories Devolution Act*, which includes a new *Northwest Territories Act* that would extend the maximum term of office of future NWT Legislative Assemblies from four to five years;

AND WHEREAS the Legislative Assemblies of Nunavut and Yukon already have five-year maximum terms of office as a result of past changes to federal legislation;

AND WHEREAS the next NWT general election is currently scheduled for October 5, 2015, in the same month as the next federal general election and municipal elections in several NWT communities;

AND WHEREAS overlapping elections create significant communications and administrative concerns, as well as the possibility of lower voter participation rates;

AND WHEREAS some provinces with elections scheduled for the fall of 2015 have extended their terms in order to avoid overlap in election periods, or are considering doing so in the near future;

NOW THEREFORE I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Thebacha, that this Legislative Assembly requests that the Government of Canada propose to Parliament an amendment to the *Northwest Territories Act* that would authorize this current 17th Legislative Assembly to extend its term to a period not exceeding five years;

AND FURTHER, that the Premier communicate this request to the Prime Minister;

AND FURTHERMORE, that should federal legislation be enacted as requested, the Board of Management of the Legislative Assembly propose a Bill at the earliest opportunity to defer the next NWT election to October 2016.



Date of Notice:	March 6, 2014	Moved by:	Mrs. Groenewegen
Date of Introduction:	March 10, 2014	Seconded by:	Mr. Miltenberger
Disposition:	Carried as Amended RV		
Carried:	March 10, 2014	Ruled Out of Order:	