

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
5TH COUNCIL, 30TH SESSION**

TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 13-30

TABLED ON JUNE 23, 1965



NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 13

The attached brief on educational leave for teachers in the Northwest Territories is submitted by the Northwest Territories Teachers Association.

TO - THE COMMISSIONER AND COUNCIL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES.

FROM - THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

Re: Educational Leave for Teachers in the Northwest Territories.

I. EXISTING PROVISIONS.

1. Six weeks of educational leave with pay are provided under existing regulations for federally-employed teachers ONCE during any THREE YEAR PERIOD.
2. There exists no provision for sabbatical leave for federally-employed teachers at present.
3. The Yellowknife Public School Board has a sabbatical year provision for its own staff based upon ten years of service at two-thirds of annual salary.

II. INADEQUACIES OF EXISTING PROVISIONS.

1. Six weeks is insufficient time to complete most university credit courses.
2. There is no provision for travelling time in connection with educational leave.
3. Restricting educational leave to once every three years is impractical, does not provide for continuing study from year to year, and would, in fact, require a minimum of thirty years of staggered attendance at summer school to complete one full university year of five credit courses.
4. Educational leave is costly to the teacher, particularly since he is presently deprived of Isolated Posts allowances while in attendance at summer school, even though his family may be residing in the Northwest Territories while he attends school in southern Canada. Should he take his family with him, he must, in fact, support two residences since his rental in the North continues if he wishes to retain his housing unit for the fall term.
5. Provision for sabbatical leave for professional refreshment is perhaps more important for personnel in the Northwest Territories than at any other place in Canada and it does not exist in federal regulations.

III. WE CONTEND:

1. That teachers willingly return to school for professional refreshment, to keep abreast of educational trends, for professional upgrading, and through further study to improve the quality of their teaching, and
2. That they should be encouraged to do so as frequently as possible by financial assistance..

IV. WE RECOMMEND:

1. That teachers be granted educational leave with continuing full pay while in attendance at summer school for an approved, accredited course in education at any recognized university during any summer that they wish to attend. This, in effect, would eliminate the "once in three year" provision and would take into consideration courses of more or less than six weeks.
2. That a provision be made for sabbatical leave for teachers after seven years of service in northern education at two-thirds pay. Such leave to be used in attendance at a recognized university, or for travel purposes, or for a research project in education.
3. That non-federally-employed teachers be granted the same privileges as above in 1. and 2. and that the School Boards concerned be reimbursed by the responsible legislative body for the cost of these provisions.
4. That those teachers entitled to Isolated Posts Allowances continue to receive these allowances while on educational leave.
5. The existing travelling time provision for annual leave be extended to include educational leave.

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