

# Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories



## ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016



# MESSAGE FROM THE SPEAKER

Over the past year, considerable change has seasoned the political landscape in the Northwest Territories. We moved from the 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly and into the 18<sup>th</sup> Assembly with the General Election on November 23, 2015, a date changed to accommodate the overlap of the 2015 federal election and the territorial election.

After the polls closed, ballots were counted and the Members-elect of the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories were returned, including the election of 11 new Members. All Members took their seats in the Chamber for the first Session of the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly, which convened on December 17, 2015.

As a Caucus, all Members of the 18<sup>th</sup> Assembly worked together to lay out an ambitious path forward for the next four years, with a range of priorities including those aimed at increasing transparency and accountability in the Assembly and in government, and those which will most benefit the people of the Northwest Territories. Members also initiated a process to strengthen their Conduct Guidelines. The Members forged ahead with the guidance passed along through the report of the Special Committee on Transition Matters from the 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly.

This period also saw the first investiture ceremony for inductees into the Order of the NWT, the highest honour of the Northwest Territories. At the ceremony held on October 7, 2015 in the Great Hall, the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, the Honourable George Tuccaro, recognized the first group of inductees:

- Bruce Green of Hay River
- Lucy Jackson of Fort Good Hope
- Sonny MacDonald of Fort Smith
- Gino Pin of Yellowknife
- Ruth Spence of Yellowknife
- John B. Zoe of Behchokò

These northerners have served our territory with great distinction and inspired all of us, as residents of the NWT, to be the best we can be and to give back to our communities and beyond. Their recognition is well deserved.

Much work went into the transition from an old to a new Assembly, which included orienting and preparing new MLAs and returning Members. The staff of the Legislative Assembly worked incredibly hard to address the challenges presented over the course of the last year, and they did so with pride and professionalism. For their valuable contribution - Masi.

It is my pleasure to make this report available to you in my role as the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

Honourable Jackson Lafferty, Speaker  
Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories



**The Honourable Jackson Lafferty, Speaker of the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.**

# CONTENTS

Executive Summary/Sommaire.....	3—4
Innovation in Consensus Government: More Accountability .....	5—6
The Order of the Northwest Territories .....	7— 8
The Year in Photos .....	9
Page Program/Youth Parliament.....	10
Kindergarten Christmas/Christmas Lights Across Canada .....	11
Visitors .....	12
Office of the Speaker/Office of the Clerk .....	13
Members of the Legislative Assembly/Ministers .....	14
Members of the 17th Legislative Assembly .....	15
Members of the 18th Legislative Assembly .....	16
Statutory Officers .....	17—18
Standing Committees	
Priorities and Planning .....	19—20
Rules and Procedures .....	20
Economic Development and Infrastructure.....	20—21
Government Operations .....	22—23
Social Programs .....	23—24
Board of Management .....	25
Visiting Dignitaries and Guests 2015-2016 .....	25
House Activity .....	26
Priorities of the 18th Assembly .....	27—28
Members’ Conduct Guidelines .....	29
Members Indemnities and Allowances—17th Assembly .....	30—39
Members Indemnities and Allowances—18th Assembly .....	40—49
2015-2016 Financial Summary of Operations .....	50
Our Team: Message from the Clerk/Organizational Chart .....	51— 52
Our Team: Photo and list of employees .....	53

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories is pleased to present its Annual Report for 2015-16. With our continuing commitment to

transparency and public accountability, the Annual Report includes:

- a description of Legislative Assembly operations and a financial summary of the Legislative Assembly's cost-of-operations;
- financial information regarding the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assemblies, with a focus on Members' accountability and details of Members' constituency expenses, Ministers' benefits, home travel expenses, and other allowances;
- reporting about the important work done by Standing Committees of the Legislative Assembly;
- highlights of the year's activities and events, including the inaugural ceremony of the Order of the Northwest Territories; and,
- A progress update on the workings of consensus government in the NWT.

As highlighted in the Message from the Speaker, the 2015-2016 fiscal year report encompasses the shifts in NWT's political landscape and some of the year's most significant milestones.

With the General Election on November 23, 2015, the transition between the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assemblies ushered in considerable change to the make-up of the Assembly and a new set of priorities for the territorial government over the next four years.

Innovation in the workings of consensus government started by the Members of the 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly is now being further advanced by the Members of the 18<sup>th</sup> Assembly. Accountability and transparency continue to be key goals as Members endeavour to make our unique system of government more open and responsive to the needs of the residents of the Northwest Territories.

In our consensus system of government, Standing Committees, made up of mostly Regular Members, play an integral role in governance by reviewing legislation at a more detailed level. During the reporting period, Standing Committees were busy reviewing numerous important bills, holding public meetings, monitoring the performance of government departments and providing reports. Committees looked at such key issues as hydraulic fracturing, the Inuvik-Tuk highway, updating the *Financial Administration Act* and the *Mental Health Act*, and providing future assemblies with advice and guidance through *The Report on Transition Matters*.

The Legislative Assembly building located in the capital city continues to be an important gathering place for residents and visitors. Over the past year, numerous events were hosted in the Great Hall, the Place of the People, none more important than the first ceremony recognizing the recipients of NWT's most prestigious honour, the Order of the Northwest Territories. Six northerners, who have served the territory with great distinction, were recognized on October 7, 2015.

Read more about the various legislative initiatives and building events, and then explore financial accountability in the Legislative Assembly's Annual Report. Updated information regarding Assembly activities and proceedings is available on the Assembly's website at [www.assembly.gov.nt.ca](http://www.assembly.gov.nt.ca).



L'Assemblée législative des Territoires du Nord-Ouest est heureuse de présenter son rapport annuel 2015-2016. Ce rapport s'inscrit dans un engagement continu en faveur de la transparence et de la responsabilisation à l'égard de la population. Il comprend:

# SOMMAIRE

- une description des activités de l'Assemblée législative ainsi qu'un résumé des coûts de fonctionnement engagés;
- des données financières concernant les 17<sup>e</sup> et 18<sup>e</sup> Assemblées législatives, plus particulièrement sur la responsabilisation des membres et leurs dépenses dans leur circonscription, les avantages des ministres, les frais de représentation et de déplacement, et des indemnités diverses;
- un compte rendu de l'important travail réalisé par les comités permanents de l'Assemblée législative;
- les points saillants des activités et événements de l'année, y compris la cérémonie inaugurale de l'Ordre des Territoires du Nord-Ouest;
- une mise à jour des progrès dans les dossiers sur lesquels travaille le gouvernement de consensus aux TNO.

Comme le président le souligne dans son message, le rapport de l'exercice 2015-2016 couvre les changements qui ont marqué le paysage politique et quelques-uns des plus importants jalons franchis.

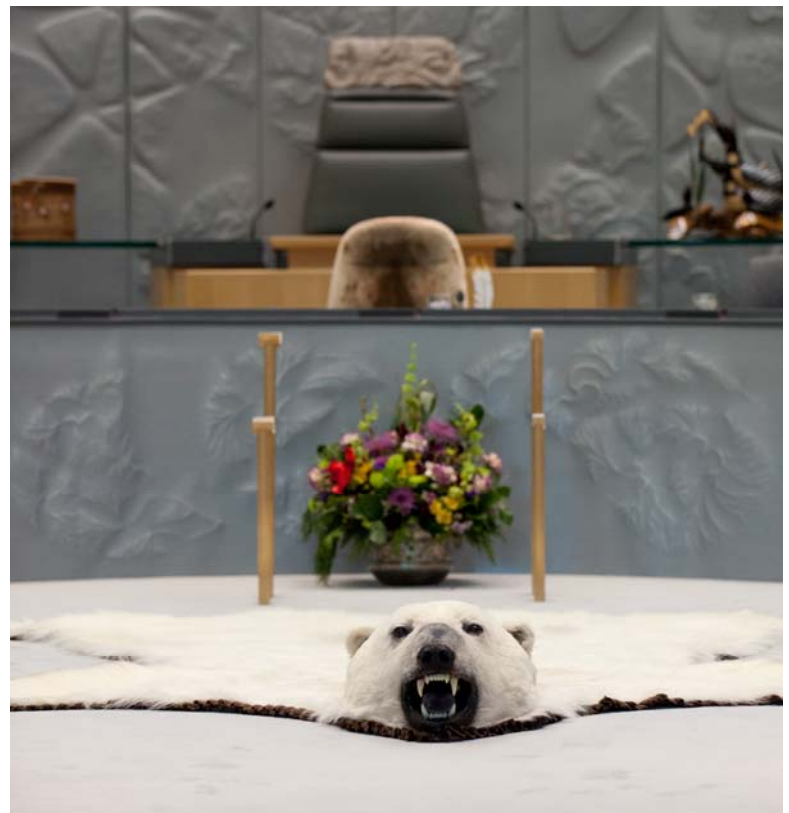
Au terme de l'élection générale du 23 novembre 2015, la transition de la 17<sup>e</sup> à la 18<sup>e</sup> Assemblée législative a ouvert une nouvelle ère dans la composition de celle-ci, très différente, en plus de créer une autre série de priorités pour le gouvernement territorial ces quatre prochaines années.

Les membres de la 18<sup>e</sup> Assemblée poursuivent sur la lancée de ceux de la 17<sup>e</sup>, qui avaient commencé à renouveler le traitement des dossiers par le gouvernement de consensus. La responsabilisation et la transparence restent des objectifs clés, alors que les membres s'activent à rendre notre régime politique unique plus ouvert et adapté aux besoins des résidents des Territoires du Nord-Ouest.

Dans notre système de gouvernement de consensus, les comités permanents, surtout composés de membres réguliers, jouent un rôle de premier plan dans la gouvernance par un examen plus approfondi des lois. Durant la période visée par le présent rapport, les comités permanents se sont livrés à l'analyse de nombreux projets de loi importants, ont tenu des réunions publiques, ont surveillé le rendement des ministères et ont produit des comptes rendus. Les comités se sont penchés sur des enjeux déterminants, notamment la fracturation hydraulique, la route Inuvik-Tuk et la mise à jour de la *Loi sur la gestion des finances publiques* et de la *Loi sur la santé mentale*, en plus de fournir aux futures assemblées des conseils et des directives par l'intermédiaire du *Rapport sur les questions de transition*.

L'édifice de l'Assemblée législative, dans la capitale, reste un grand lieu de rassemblement pour les résidents et les visiteurs. De nombreux événements tenus au cours de la dernière année se sont déroulés dans son grand hall, appelé la « place des nations », notamment – et non le moindre des événements – la première cérémonie de reconnaissance des récipiendaires de l'Ordre des Territoires du Nord-Ouest, l'honneur territorial le plus prestigieux. Six Téoïsi qui ont servi les TNO avec grande distinction ont été décorés le 7 octobre 2015.

La lecture du rapport annuel vous permettra de connaître les diverses initiatives de l'Assemblée législative et les événements tenus dans son édifice, ou d'en apprendre davantage en matière de responsabilisation financière. Le site Web de l'Assemblée législative, à [www.assembly.gov.nt.ca](http://www.assembly.gov.nt.ca), contient de l'information à jour sur les activités réalisées et les délibérations menées.





*“Accountability  
is crucial to  
effective,  
responsible  
and  
transparent  
government.”*

# INNOVATION IN CONSENSUS GOVERNMENT MORE ACCOUNTABILITY

Significant advances in consensus government were started by Members of the 17<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly and advanced by incoming Members of the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly, resulting in more public information and accountability.

A Special Committee on Transition Matters set up in the final year of the 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly recommended improvements to the transition process between assemblies, and potential priorities for the next Assembly. The Committee’s advice was published in *Passing the Mace: Recommendations to the 18<sup>th</sup> Assembly*, tabled in the House on October 7, 2015:

[www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/td\\_353-175.pdf](http://www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/td_353-175.pdf).

A key recommendation in *Passing the Mace* was a ‘process convention’ on priority-setting and reporting, which was also adopted by incoming Members of the 18<sup>th</sup> Assembly.

Agreement to this process set in motion a new way of priority setting for the four-year term of the 18<sup>th</sup> Assembly.

After their orientation and a review of current issues, Members held a roundtable summit with Aboriginal leaders. Members then spoke about their goals in a public Caucus meeting, setting out the *Priorities of the 18<sup>th</sup> Assembly*, tabled

on December 17, 2015: [www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/td\\_1-181.pdf](http://www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/td_1-181.pdf)

These priorities formed the basis for the new government’s proposed mandate, an in-depth mission statement for their term in office. The mandate was drafted by Cabinet, taking into account ongoing work by government departments and the budget forecast. The draft mandate went back and forth between Caucus and Cabinet until Members felt it was ready for public debate in the House.

Several amendments were made in Committee of the Whole before the mandate was approved by a unanimous vote in the House. The final *Mandate of the Government of the Northwest Territories, 2016—2019* was tabled on March 3, 2016: [www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/td\\_29-182.pdf](http://www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/td_29-182.pdf).

The detailed public Mandate is the first in the history of consensus government in the Northwest Territories. It provides clear direction for the government’s main activities during the term of the 18<sup>th</sup> Assembly. Ministers and Members may be held accountable for their respective duties in

delivering what is promised in the Mandate – making it a useful tool for measuring the government’s performance during the life of this assembly, and for voters in the 2019 General Election.

Further innovation occurred with changes to the method of electing a Premier from among the 19 elected Members. The first meeting of the Territorial Leadership Committee held on December 9, 2015 was dedicated to nominations for Premier and platform speeches by the candidates, a full week before voting by the Members took place. A transcript of this public session serves as a record of the candidates’ pledges: [www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/tlc151209\\_0.pdf](http://www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/tlc151209_0.pdf).

Candidates for Premier were publicly questioned by Members on December 16, prior to the secret ballot vote. During the same meeting of the Territorial Leadership Committee, nominations, candidate speeches, and voting for the Speaker position and Cabinet Ministers were held. The transcript of this proceeding is another effective tool in considering the performance of Cabinet Ministers and ensuring they are accountable to the Legislative Assembly and the residents of the Northwest Territories: [www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/tlc151216\\_0.pdf](http://www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/sites/default/files/tlc151216_0.pdf).

Members of each Legislative Assembly have the opportunity to make suggestions and improvements to the workings of consensus government, and many have done so during its storied history. In this way, the experience of Members holding office has contributed to a unique, more responsive and open system of government in the Northwest Territories.



The Yellowknives Dene First Nation Drummers open the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the 17<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly.

Opening of the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly.



# THE ORDER OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

The inaugural investiture ceremony for the Order of the Northwest Territories was held on October 7, 2015 in the Great Hall of the Legislative Assembly building. The Commissioner of the NWT, the Honourable George Tuccaro, O.N.W.T., presided over the ceremony in his role as Chancellor of the Order.

The Order of the Northwest Territories, established by the *Territorial Emblems and Honours Act* in 2013, recognizes individuals who have served with the greatest distinction and excelled in any field of endeavour benefiting the people of the NWT, or elsewhere.

It is the highest honour of the NWT and a member of the Order is entitled to wear the insignia of the Order as a decoration and to use the initials "O.N.W.T." after his or her name. Membership is for life.

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## The 2015 inductees into the Order of the Northwest Territories

Front Row: (left to right) Ruth Spence and Sonny MacDonald.  
Back Row: (left to right) Commissioner George Tuccaro, Lucy Jackson, Gino Pin and Bruce Green (Missing: John B. Zoe).

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## THE FIRST INDUCTEES...

**Gino Pin**, a resident of Yellowknife, was nominated for his work in professions and other occupations. Well-known as an architect, Mr. Pin has lived, designed and built in Canada's North for over 35 years, and founded Pin/Taylor Architects in 1983. The firm's unique designs reflect life in the north and are highly distinctive, including the Legislative Assembly building located near downtown Yellowknife.

**Lucy Jackson**, a resident of Fort Good Hope, was nominated for her work in arts and culture, communications, community leadership, education, public service and volunteer services. She serves as a spiritual leader, traditional woman and North Slavey translator for local boards and organizations, and is a dedicated member of the local church society. She is known for the strength of her traditional knowledge, a belief in traditional lifestyles and dedication to community.

**Sonny MacDonald**, a resident of Fort Smith, was nominated for his work in arts and culture. Self-taught as an artist, he began carving at a young age. He is a former Salt River First Nation council member, an Aboriginal representative to the Mackenzie River Basin Board, past chair of the NWT Arts Council and past co-chair of the NWT Arts Strategy Advisory Panel. He is passionate about the development of young artists and dedicated to ensuring the growth and sustained health of a vibrant artistic community.

**Ruth Spence**, a Yellowknife resident nominated for community leadership, was known as a tireless champion for the rights of women and children, and someone who pioneered institutions and programs that continue to provide

services to northerners. She worked for 20 years as Executive Director of the YWCA, served multiple terms on Yellowknife City Council, was a member and chair of the Hospital Board, President of the Consumer's Association of Canada NWT Branch and President of the NWT and Western Arctic Liberal Association. She also volunteered with Girl Guides, the Yellowknife Figure Skating Club and was a founding member of the Yellowknife Ski Club.

**Bruce Green**, a resident of Hay River, was nominated for his work in arts and culture, community leadership, education, environment, science and technology, sports and recreation and volunteer services. He moved to Hay River in 1974 where he taught at Camsell St. Paul School. Later, he taught high school sciences at Diamond Jenness Secondary School, until his retirement. Post retirement, Mr. Green taught at the Chief Sunrise Adult Learning Centre on the K'at'l'odeeche Reserve. He is a recent inductee into NWT's Teacher's Hall of Fame. As an avid volunteer, he organizes events and gatherings including the Christmas Bird Count, beaver watching, owling, searching for fossils and other educational programs.

**John B. Zoe**, a resident of Behchokò, was nominated for his work in Self Government Northern Development. He was Chief Negotiator for the Dogrib in 1992 during negotiations for a Land Claim and Self Government Agreement with the Government of Canada and the NWT. He is now a senior advisor for the Tłı̨chǫ Government. Mr. Zoe holds an Honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Alberta, which recognizes his contribution to projects built upon a foundation of the Tłı̨chǫ language, culture and way of life. He has published articles on Dogrib ethno-archaeology and place names, Dogrib sacred sites, the history of settlement types and traditional architecture.





Ruth Spence



Bruce Green



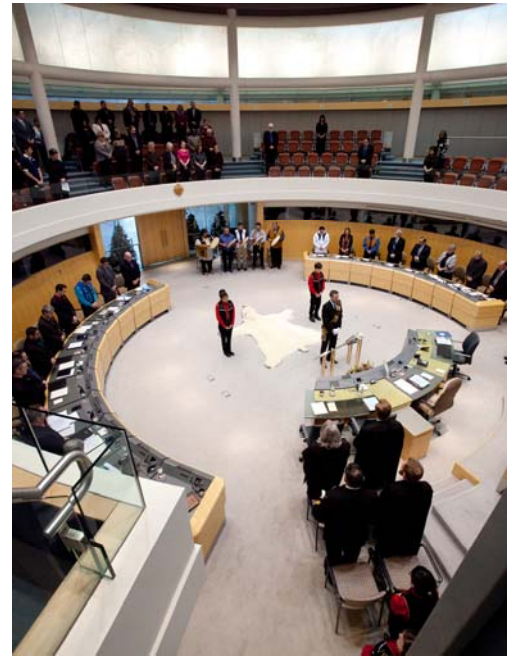
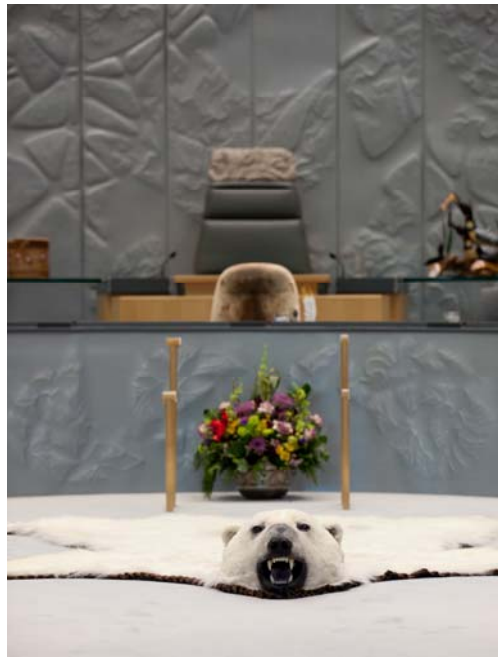
**T**he first recipients of the Order of the Northwest Territories embody the spirit and intention of the Legislative Assembly when it established the Order.

*They inspire all of us as northerners to be the best we can be and to give back to our communities, regions, territory and country.*

- Paul Delorey, Chair of the Honours Advisory Council of the Northwest Territories upon announcing the first recipients of the Order of the Northwest Territories.



Sonny MacDonald receives his Order of NWT medal from the Commissioner, the Honourable George Tuccaro, O.N.W.T.



# THE YEAR IN PHOTOS



# PAGE PROGRAM

The Legislative Assembly runs one of the more unique page programs in Canada. What makes the program special is the commitment and effort of the students, parents, schools, chaperones and Assembly staff towards making sure that all 19 constituencies are well represented when the Assembly is in Session.

Grades 8 and 9 students are eligible to serve as pages and are selected based on a combination of academics and level of interest in the workings of the Legislative Assembly. Students from the seven constituencies in Yellowknife and the 12 electoral districts located throughout the rest of NWT are selected on a rotational basis to meet the Assembly's needs over the approximately 50 sitting days per year, which span a total of 12 weeks.

Staff of the Legislative Assembly co-ordinate all aspects of the page program including travel, meals and accommodations, chaperone services, and required training for the student pages from constituencies outside of Yellowknife, who travel for one week periods while the Assembly is in Session.

**Students from the 2015-2016 Page Program pose with the Honourable Jackson Lafferty, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.**

# of Pages	Community	Constituency	Member
2	Inuvik	Inuvik Boot Lake	Alfred Moses
2	Hay River	Dehcho	Michael Nadli
2	Tsihgethchic	Mackenzie Delta	Frederick Blake
2	Hay River DJSS	Hay River South	Jane Groenewegen
2	Fort Simpson	Nahendeh	Kevin Menicoche
2	Fort Resolution	Tu Nedhe	Tom Beaulieu
2	Inuvik	Inuvik Twin	Robert C McLeod
2	Hay River DJSS	Hay River North	RJ Simpson
2	Ulukhaktok	Nunakput	Herb Nakimayak
2	Behchokq	Monfwi	Jackson Lafferty



# YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Nineteen grade 9 and 10 students from across the NWT participated in the Legislative Assembly's 13<sup>th</sup> Youth Parliament. One student from each constituency was chosen as a youth representative for the week-long event, held from May 4 - 8, 2015. During the week of activities, students assumed the roles of their respective Member of the Legislative Assembly, and participated in three days of meetings and briefings in preparation for the Youth Parliament Model Session, which took place on May 7, 2015.

Youth Parliament is one of several educational outreach programs offered by the Legislative Assembly through the Office of the Speaker. This program educates youth about consensus government and about how the Assembly operates as a government institution with a focus on its function, role and history. Youth Parliament is now held every two years in the NWT and the next session is scheduled for May 2017.





## KINDERGARTEN CHRISTMAS

During the pre-Christmas period from November 25 – December 2, 2015, the Great Hall of the Legislative

Assembly echoed with the sounds of excited kindergarten students and teachers from nearby schools in Yellowknife, Dettah and N'dilo. The students gathered to decorate numerous Christmas trees with their unique handmade creations, hear Christmas carols and listen to the reading of a Christmas classic.

The popular kindergarten Christmas program has opened its doors to youngsters since the program began in 1993, when the Legislative Assembly building first opened. Over 250 children from 11 different kindergarten classes attended activities at the Legislative Assembly in 2015.

## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS ACROSS CANADA

The decorating of Christmas trees in the Great Hall by

kindergarten students from nearby schools in Yellowknife, Dettah and N'dilo led up to the annual Christmas Lights Across Canada event on December 3, 2015 – an annual national event held on the first Thursday in December in various capital cities across Canada. On the same evening, legislatures across the country are lit up with the lights of Christmas.

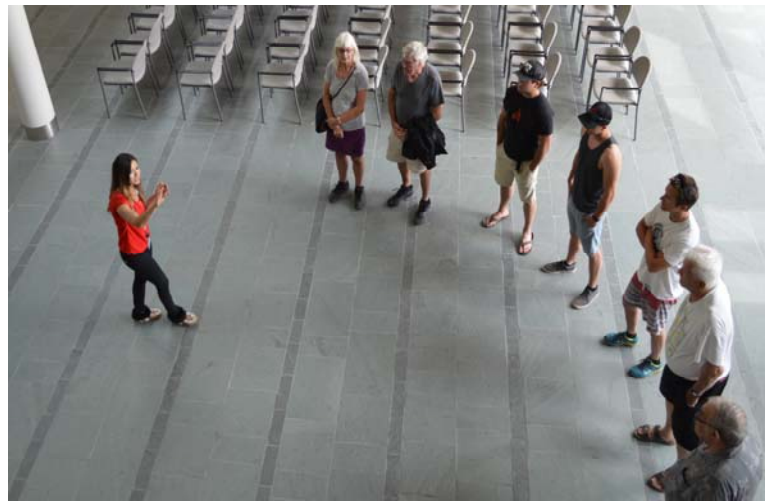
On this night in Yellowknife, over 150 people gathered in the Great Hall of the Legislative Assembly building to watch Premier Bob McLeod switch on the building's Christmas lights, hear the sounds of the N.J. Macpherson School Choir and École St Patrick High School Jazz Band and, of course, to visit with Santa.



# VISITORS

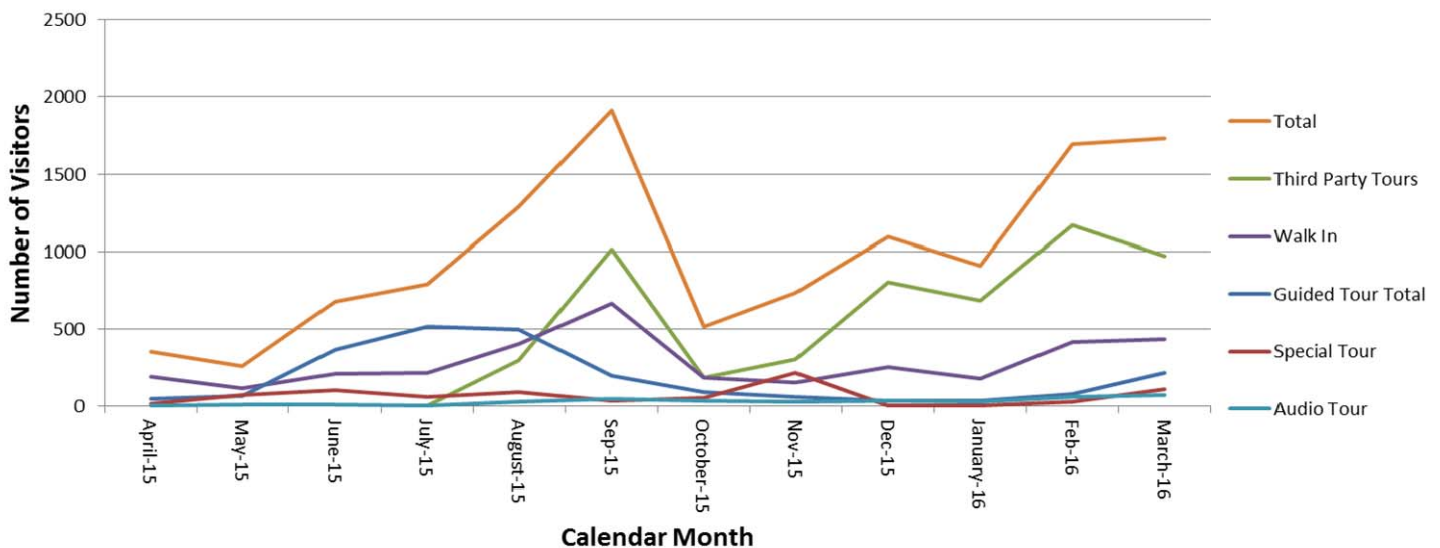
The Legislative Assembly continues to be one of the top tourist destinations in Yellowknife. During the last fiscal period, over 12,300 visitors from around the world toured the Legislative Assembly building either as part of a public guided tour, a group tour, a special tour or via an audio tour or simply as walk ins.

The Public Affairs Team is responsible for showcasing the Great Hall, Public Gallery, the Legislative Mace and the Caucus Room of the Legislative Assembly building. Most tours are led by the Public Affairs Intern and, in summer, by the Public Affairs Summer Student. Tours also highlight the unique consensus style of government in the Northwest Territories, the rich history of the Assembly, and the building's architecture and symbolism.



Marlisa Brown, the summer student with the Public Affairs and Communications Office, provides a public guided tour of the Legislative Assembly building for a group of visitors.

## Visitor Statistics April 2015 - March 2016



Month	Number of Visitors for Special Tours	Number of Visitors for Third Party Tours	Number of Visitors for Walk In Tours	Number of Visitors for 10:30 a.m. Guided Tour	Number of Visitors for 1:30 am Guided Tour	Number of Visitors for 3:30 pm Guided Tour	Total Number of Visitors for Guided Tours	Number of Visitors for Audio Tours	Number of Monthly Visitors
April 2015	19	99	189	48			48	2	357
May 2015	75		119	64			64	10	268
June 2015	101		211	129	162	76	367	10	689
July 2015	59	3	213	182	208	123	513	5	793
August 2015	94	294	404	169	234	96	499	29	1320
September 2015	35	1,016	663	200			200	46	1,960
October 2015	54	186	182	93			93	36	551
November 2015	214	305	156	58			58	29	762
December 2015	4	803	255	34			34	38	1134
January 2016	4	685	180	38			38	28	935
February 2016	32	1,170	418	76			76	59	1,755
March 2016	109	972	434	219			219	70	1,804
<b>Totals</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>5,533</b>	<b>3,424</b>	<b>1,310</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>2209</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>12,328</b>

# OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

The Speaker is elected by all Members and presides over the Legislative Assembly ensuring the fair and respectful treatment of Members. As the Assembly's chief spokesperson to authorities from outside of the legislature, the Speaker officially welcomes visitors and dignitaries to the Legislative Assembly building.

By having all Members of the Legislative Assembly follow a defined set of rules and practices when posing questions or providing responses, and during debates and votes, the Speaker maintains impartial control over debate in the Chamber. All questions and statements made during a formal sitting of the legislature are directed through the Speaker.

Due to the impartiality of the role, the Speaker does not actively participate in debate, ask or answer questions, or vote, except to present the budget of the Legislative Assembly or to break a tie. However, as an elected representative of a constituency, the Speaker has duties as a Member of the Legislative Assembly and addresses questions and concerns from constituents, and possibly even speaks to a Minister on a constituent's behalf, outside of House business.

In addition, responsibility for the smooth daily administration and operation of the Legislative Assembly Office also falls to the Speaker, who is supported in these duties by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.



The Honourable Jackson Lafferty, Speaker of the NWT Legislative Assembly (right) with the Honourable George Tuccaro (left), the Commissioner of the NWT.



Clerks-at-the-Table in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly while Session is in progress.

# OFFICE OF THE CLERK

The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly has the power, duties and functions of a Deputy Minister, managing and administering the Legislative Assembly as described in the *Public Service Act and the Financial Administration Act*.

As the chief advisor to the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, Committee Chairpersons and all Members regarding the privileges, rules, practices and procedures of the Assembly, the Clerk coordinates the provision of procedural services by other non-political officers of the Assembly who work in the Clerk's Office.

In the House, the Clerk sits at the Clerk's Table, located directly in front of the Speaker's chair, with the Deputy Clerk, Principal Clerks, and sometimes the Law Clerk, who assist the Clerk in keeping the official records of the Assembly - Votes and Proceedings, and Debates and Proceedings (Hansard) - and advising the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly on parliamentary and legal procedures.

# MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

There are 19 constituencies, or electoral districts, in the Northwest Territories with each one electing a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) to serve as a representative of the people living in that constituency.

Once elected, MLAs divide their time between working in their constituencies and working in the Legislative Assembly, but the specific duties of an MLA will vary depending on whether they are a member of Cabinet or a Regular Member, acting as part of the unofficial opposition.

The primary responsibilities of an MLA range from making and passing laws to committee work that involves reviewing draft laws or Bills. As a group, MLAs review, debate and approve the GNWT's annual budget with fiscal year spending in the range of \$1.8-billion, and then they monitor how public funds get spent ensuring that it's done according to policy and law.

Much of an MLA's work takes place outside of the House itself. Constituents encountering problems within their constituency, or having problems dealing with a specific government department or agency may contact their MLA for assistance. Therefore, much of an MLA's time is spent handling constituent issues, answering questions and concerns, and learning about prevailing opinions in their constituency.

Members also help explain and promote government programs and services to the people in their communities. As community leaders, MLAs often attend or speak at events in their constituencies.



Members of the 18<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly attended the Northern Leader's Roundtable soon after being sworn in.

The parliamentary system of government in the Northwest Territories has three branches:

- Executive - proposes laws
- Legislative - amends and approves laws
- Judicial - interprets laws in the courts

## MINISTERS

The executive branch consists of the Executive Council, also known as the Cabinet, and the public service. There is overlap between the executive and legislative branches in NWT's system as members of the Cabinet are also elected Members of the Assembly. Cabinet is the senior decision-making body for the Government of the Northwest Territories, and includes the Premier and six Ministers, all elected by Members of the Legislative Assembly through a Territorial Leadership Committee process that takes place in public.

The day-to-day administration of government is the responsibility of Cabinet, therefore Ministers work with the entire Caucus, individual Members, Standing Committees, other Ministers, and departmental deputy ministers. Throughout the course of a fiscal year, they work together discussing policy, considering new laws, and preparing business plans and budget estimates.

Ministers are also heads of government departments, responsible for ensuring that laws, policies, and programs are administered fairly and efficiently in their respective departments. They are tasked with introducing legislation related to their departmental responsibilities, responding to questions in the legislature about departmental activities and budgets.

Ministers are accountable to all Members of the Assembly, who hold the power to introduce motions of non-confidence or censure. Although this rarely occurs, these measures are critical for ensuring a high level of accountability within our consensus system of governance.

# MEMBERS OF THE 17<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



**Back row** (left to right): Daryl Dolynny (MLA Range Lake); Bob McLeod (MLA Yellowknife South); Tom Beaulieu (MLA Tu Nedhe); Glen Abernethy (MLA Great Slave), Norman Yakeleya (MLA Sahtu), Bob Bromley (MLA Weledeh), Robert Bouchard (MLA Hay River North), Robert C. McLeod (MLA Inuvik Twin Lakes), Jackie Jacobson (MLA Nunakput), Wendy Bisaro (MLA Frame Lake) and David Ramsay (MLA Kam Lake).

**Front row** (left to right): Michael Nadli (MLA Deh Cho), Alfred Moses (MLA Inuvik Boot Lake), Jackson Lafferty (MLA Monfwi) Michael Miltenberger (MLA Thebacha), Jane Groenewegen (MLA Hay River South), Kevin Menicoche (MLA Nahendeh), Frederick Blake Jr (MLA Mackenzie Delta) and Robert Hawkins (MLA Yellowknife Centre).

# EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE 17<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



**Back row** (left to right): Hon. Tom Beaulieu, Hon. Glen Abernethy, Hon. Dave Ramsay and Hon. Robert C. McLeod.

**Front row** (left to right): Hon. Michael Miltenberger, Hon. Bob McLeod and Hon. Jackson Lafferty.



# MEMBERS OF THE 18<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



**Back Row** (left to right): RJ Simpson (MLA Hay River North), Kieron Testart (MLA Kam Lake), Bob McLeod (MLA Yellowknife South), Shane Thompson (MLA Nahendeh), Julie Green (MLA Yellowknife Centre), Glen Abernethy (MLA Great Slave), Robert C. McLeod (MLA Inuvik Twin Lakes), Alfred Moses (MLA Inuvik Boot Lake), Tom Beaulieu (MLA Tu Nedhé– Wiilideh), Cory Vanthuyne (MLA Yellowknife North), Wally Schumann (MLA Hay River South) and Louis Sebert (MLA Thebacha).

**Front Row** (left to right): Herbert Nakimayak (MLA Nunakput), Frederick Blake Jr. (M Mackenzie Delta), Kevin O'Reilly (MLA Frame Lake), Jackson Lafferty (MLA Monfwi), Michael Nadli (MLA Deh Cho), Daniel McNeely (MLA Sahtu) and Caroline Cochrane (MLA Range Lake).



## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE 18<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**Left to right:** Hon. Alfred Moses, Hon. Louis Sebert, Hon. Glen Abernethy, Hon. Bob McLeod, Hon. Robert C. McLeod, Hon. Caroline Cochrane and Hon. Wally Schumann.

Statutory officers serve important roles associated with the Legislative Assembly that benefit the people of the Northwest Territories by holding the government accountable.

# STATUTORY OFFICERS



## Auditor-General of Canada

The Auditor-General is the official auditor of the Government of the Northwest Territories and its major agencies, as prescribed in Canada’s *Northwest Territories Act* and NWT’s *Financial Administration Act*. The Auditor-General and their staff audit the annual Consolidated Financial Statements and conduct departmental and program performance audits. The resulting recommendations to departments, Ministers, and Standing Committees ensure the quality, effectiveness, efficiency, and progressive improvement of government operations and programs.

The findings of the Auditor-General are made public and are subject to public hearings by the Standing Committee on Government Operations. The Committee then reports publicly to the Assembly on its review of the Auditor-General’s findings and the subject department or

agency’s response, typically with additional recommendations.

Michael Ferguson was appointed Auditor-General of Canada in November 2011.

## NWT Human Rights Offices

The Northwest Territories *Human Rights Act* establishes three independent entities:

- The NWT Human Rights Commission works to prevent discrimination.
- The Office of the Director of Human Rights processes complaints that allege discrimination.
- The NWT Human Rights Adjudication Panel holds hearings into complaints that allege discrimination.

MEMBERS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION	HUMAN RIGHTS ADJUDICATION PANEL
YACUB ADAM	COLIN BAILE
MARION BERLS	KERRY PENNEY
CHARLES DENT (CHAIR)	SHELDON TONER (CHAIR)
GERRI SHARPE	ADRIAN WRIGHT

Deborah McLeod is the current Director of the Human Rights Commission.



## Information and Privacy Commissioner

The Information and Privacy Commissioner is an independent Officer of the Legislative Assembly who fulfills a number of roles as defined by the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. The Commissioner reviews government decisions on access to information and records, and provides comment on how proposed laws and government programs might affect the privacy of citizens.

Elaine Keenan Bengts is the Information and Privacy Commissioner (May 29, 2015—May 29, 2020).

## NWT Languages Commissioner

The Languages Commissioner serves a four-year term upon appointment by the Legislative Assembly and acts to ensure the protection of the rights, status, and privileges of each of the eleven official languages within government institutions in the Northwest Territories. The Commissioner has a duty to investigate complaints that the government may not be meeting its obligations to provide services in the official languages, and can recommend improvements to language services.

Under the *Official Languages Act*, the Northwest Territories recognizes 11 official languages: Chipewyan, Cree, English, French, Gwich'in, Inuinnaqtun, Inuktitut, Inuvialuktun, North Slavey, South Slavey, and Tłı̄chǫ.

Shannon Gullberg is the Languages Commissioner (October 8, 2015—October 8, 2019).



## NWT Equal Pay Commissioner

The Equal Pay Commissioner is appointed under section 40.2 of the *Public Service Act* and is responsible for responding to complaints under the *Act*. The Equal Pay Commissioner receives and investigates pay equity complaints and helps resolve disputes, and promotes awareness and understanding of the right to equal pay for work of equal value.

Nitya Iyer is the Equal Pay Commissioner (June 30, 2016—June 30, 2020).

## Conflict of Interest Commissioner

The Conflict of Interest Commissioner advises Members of the Legislative Assembly on the rules designed to ensure that they act in the public interest, not their own or that of their families. The *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* sets out the rules for both Members and Ministers.

Allegations of conflict of interest against any MLA are investigated by the Conflict of Interest Commissioner. For example, a complaint could be filed if a member of the public believes an MLA stands to gain financially from a decision that the MLA is involved in making. If a complaint is made, the Conflict of Interest Commissioner investigates and reports the findings to the Speaker, and a report is then tabled in the Assembly.

David Phillip Jones is the Conflict of Interest Commissioner (December 1, 2013—November 30, 2017).

## Elections NWT

The Chief Electoral Officer is responsible for administering territorial elections, by-elections, and plebiscites in accordance with the *Elections and Plebiscites Act*.

Nicole Latour is the Chief Electoral Officer (November 1, 2014—November 1, 2018).



# STANDING COMMITTEES

## Overview

In NWT's consensus system of government, Standing Committees carry out much of the Legislative Assembly's work when they meet between or during Session to conduct important business, such as holding public meetings on bills, attending departmental briefings, and engaging in discussions on internal matters. The committee structure makes the Legislative Assembly more effective with Members meeting in smaller groups for a detailed exploration of issues, and having important opportunities to voice their opinions on specific issues.

Committee travel allows the Members to engage with NWT residents living outside of the capital city of Yellowknife.

List of legislative committees for the fiscal period:

- Standing Committee on Priorities and Planning
- Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures
- Standing Committee on Economic Development and Infrastructure
- Standing Committee on Government Operations
- Standing Committee on Social Programs



NWT residents attend a public meeting held by one of the Standing Committees of the 17<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly.

## Standing Committee on Priorities and Planning

**CHAIR:** WENDY BISARO

**DEPUTY CHAIR:** DARYL DOLYNNY

**MEMBERS:** FREDERICK BLAKE JR., ROBERT BOUCHARD, BOB BROMLEY, JANE GROENEWEGEN, ROBERT HAWKINS, KEVIN MENICOCHÉ, ALFRED MOSES, MICHAEL M. NADLI AND NORMAN YAKELEYA

**CLERK:** DOUG SCHAUERTE

**COMMITTEE ADVISOR:** LEE SELLECK

Open and respectful communication between all Members forms the basis of consensus government in the NWT. The eleven Regular Members provide input and oversight on major issues facing the government through the Standing Committee on Priorities and Planning. This Committee reviews the annual Infrastructure Acquisition Plan, proposed Capital Estimates, and supplementary appropriations, providing feedback to Cabinet as necessary.

The Committee meets daily when the House is sitting to examine matters being considered by the Assembly, its committees, and individual Members. During the 2015-16 reporting period, the Committee held 59 meetings.



The Priorities and Planning Committee of the 18<sup>th</sup> Assembly attend a public briefing at the Legislative Assembly building.

# STANDING COMMITTEES

## Standing Committee on Priorities and Planning (continued)

Large-scale infrastructure projects such as the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk Highway, the Mackenzie Valley Fibre Link Project, and the Stanton Territorial Hospital Renewal Project were key files reviewed by the Committee over the past year. Other issues under examination included the high cost of living, green energy investments, and the implementation of junior kindergarten.

As well, the Committee and its Members continued to uphold their responsibility to review and monitor the leadership and direction of Cabinet and hold it accountable. In meetings with the Premier and his colleagues, Regular Members were able to raise concerns but also offer support to Cabinet with an emphasis on promoting the overall priorities of the 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly.

## Standing Committee on Rules And Procedures

**CHAIR:** BOB BROMLEY

**DEPUTY CHAIR:** HON. GLEN ABERNATHY

**MEMBERS:** JANE GROENEWEGEN, ROBERT HAWKINS, KEVIN MENICOCHÉ

**ALTERNATES:** ALFRED MOSES, DARYL DOLYNNY, HON. ROBERT C. MCLEOD

**CLERK:** GAIL BENNETT/DOUG SCHAUERTE

**COMMITTEE ADVISOR:** LEE SELLECK

The Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures examines matters referred by the Legislative Assembly, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, or the Board of Management. The Committee also reviews the reports of the Chief Electoral Officer and the Conflict of Interest Commissioner and reviews and makes recommendations on the impacts that self-government agreements may have on the operations of the Legislative Assembly.

The Committee met twice during 2015-2016 fiscal year.

## Standing Committee on Economic Development and Infrastructure

**CHAIR:** ROBERT HAWKINS

**DEPUTY CHAIR:** FREDERICK BLAKE JR

**MEMBERS:** BOB BROMLEY, ROBERT BOUCHARD, KEVIN MENICOCHÉ AND MICHAEL M NADLI

**ALTERNATES:** WENDY BISARO, JANE GROENEWEGEN AND NORMAN YAKELEYA

**CLERK:** MICHAEL BALL

**ADVISOR:** MEGAN WELSH

### BILLS & REGULATIONS REVIEWED BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

BILL 45 – AN ACT TO AMEND THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT

BILL 49 – AN ACT TO AMEND THE DEH CHO BRIDGE ACT

BILL 54 – AN ACT TO AMEND THE FOREST MANAGEMENT ACT

BILL 60 – AN ACT TO AMEND THE MOTOR VEHICLES ACT, NO. 2

BILL 61 – AN ACT TO AMEND THE PUBLIC AIRPORTS ACT

BILL 65 – AN ACT TO AMEND THE SAFETY ACT

Standing Committee on Economic Development and Infrastructure (continued on next page)

# STANDING COMMITTEES

## Standing Committee on Economic Development and Infrastructure (continued)

This Committee reviews the performance of these government departments and agencies:

- Environment and Natural Resources
- Industry, Tourism, and Investment
- Municipal and Community Affairs
- Public Works and Services
- Transportation
- Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut
- NWT Power Corporation
- NWT Business Development and Investment Corporation
- Public Utilities Board

During the fiscal year, the Committee explored hydraulic fracturing in the NWT and tabled its review of draft regulations – *Tabled Document 277-17(5) – Research Summary: Draft Hydraulic Fracturing Filing Regulations.*

The Committee also looked into horizontal hydraulic fracturing and issued Committee Report 29-17(5) – Report on Horizontal Hydraulic Fracturing, which includes eight key recommendations related to human resources; monitoring; impacts on the natural environment; reporting and disclosure; waste management; and the construction, suspension and abandonment of oil wells.

Other work completed by the Standing Committee:

- Convened 13 times, considering topics such as distracted driving, horizontal hydraulic fracturing, the morel mushroom harvest, and territorial 911 services.
- Held three public meetings:
  - Regarding the Public Utilities Board
  - travelled to tour construction of the Inuvik-Tuktoyaktuk highway and meet with local workers.
  - issued *Committee Report 26-17(5) – Report on Transition Matters.*



**The Standing Committee on Economic Development and Infrastructure from the 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly hosts a public hearing at the Legislative Assembly building.**

# STANDING COMMITTEES

## Standing Committee on Government Operations

**CHAIR:** DARYL DOLYNNY

**DEPUTY CHAIR:** WENDY BISARO

**MEMBERS:** MICHAEL M. NADLI, ALFRED MOSES AND NORMAN YAKELEYA

**ALTERNATES:** FREDERICK BLAKE JR, ROBERT BOUCHARD AND ROBERT HAWKINS

**CLERK:** GAIL BENNETT

**ADVISOR:** APRIL TAYLOR

This Committee reviews the performance of these government departments:

- Executive
- Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations
- Finance
- Human Resources

The Committee also reviews the reports of the Auditor-General of Canada and the following statutory officers of the Legislative Assembly:

- Languages Commissioner
- Information and Privacy Commissioner
- Equal Pay Commissioner
- Human Rights Commission

The review of the *Official Languages Act* and the public accounts of the Government of the Northwest Territories are additional committee responsibilities.

During the fiscal year, the Committee reviewed *Bill 37 – Financial Administration Act*, a statute setting out the legislative framework for the efficient use and management of government financial resources to ensure accountability and transparency, which was last reviewed and updated in 1987.

The new *Financial Administration Act* was designed to institute the modern and effective business practices, and improve upon existing management practices and reporting requirements. The Committee retained independent external expertise to assist in its review and its findings were documented in *Committee Report 15-17(5) – Report on the Review of Bill 37: Financial Administration Act*. As a result of the Committee's work, the Minister of Finance agreed to 16 motions to amend the Bill, resulting in a number of improvements to the Bill, which came into force on April 1, 2016.

### REPORTS ISSUED BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS DURING THE FISCAL YEAR

COMMITTEE REPORT 14-17(5) – REPORT ON THE 2014 REVIEW OF THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGES ACT

COMMITTEE REPORT 16-17(5) – REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE 2013-2014 PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

COMMITTEE REPORT 19-17(5) – REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE 2015 REPORT OF THE AUDITOR- GENERAL OF CANADA ON CORRECTIONS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

COMMITTEE REPORT 22-17(5) – REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE OFFICE OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES LANGUAGES COMMISSIONER ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2011-2012, 2012-2013 AND 2013-2014

COMMITTEE REPORT 23-17(5) – REPORT ON TRANSITION MATTERS

# STANDING COMMITTEES

## Standing Committee on Government Operations (continued)

Other work completed by the Committee in 2015-2016 includes:

- Met 12 times, including at the following three public meetings on:
  - The Report of the Auditor-General of Canada on Corrections in the Northwest Territories
  - The review of the 2013-2014 Annual Report of the NWT Human Rights Commission.

## Standing Committee on Social Programs

**CHAIR:** ALFRED MOSES

**DEPUTY CHAIR:** DARYL DOLYNNY

**MEMBERS:** WENDY BISARO , JANE GROENEWEGEN AND NORMAN YAKELEYA

**ALTERNATES:** BOB BROMLEY, KEVIN MENICOCHÉ AND MICHAEL M. NADLI

**CLERK:** DOUG SCHAUERTE AND DANIELLE MAGER (TRAINEE)

**ADVISOR:** PATRICIA LANGLOIS

The Standing Committee on Social Programs reviews the performance of the following government departments and reviews programs and issues related to the Status of Women, Seniors, Youth and Persons with Disabilities

- Health and Social Services
- Education, Culture and Employment
- Justice
- NWT Housing Corporation

**Two key bills were reviewed by the Committee during the fiscal year:**

**Bill 47 – *An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act*** which enhances the Child and Family Services Act by expanding services offered to youth; requiring Aboriginal organizations to be notified in advance of child-apprehension or youth protection hearings; requiring the Director of Child and Family Services to advise clients of their right to legal counsel; providing for mediation processes; requiring an application for an apprehension order to include a statement of alternatives that were considered; requiring a review of the Act every five years; including involvement in prostitution as grounds for a child or youth needing protection; and adjusting time limits for temporary custody depending on the child's age.



The Standing Committee on Social Programs from the 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly at a public hearing.



Public hearing held in September 2015 by the Standing Committee on Social Programs from the 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly.



# STANDING COMMITTEES

## Standing Committee on Social Programs (continued)

Public hearings regarding Bill 47 were held in Yellowknife, Ndilo, Hay River, Fort Simpson and Fort Liard, Délı̄nę, Inuvik, Aklavik and Tuktoyaktuk. Through the Committee's review process, and with the Minister's agreement, five motions to amend the Bill were passed at the clause-by-clause review.

This review is described in *Committee Report 18-17(5) – Report on the Review of Bill 47: An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act*.

**Bill 55 – Mental Health Act** was designed to replace the existing **Mental Health Act**, which was considered out of step with national and international standards. The new Act authorizes the use of community-based psychiatric treatment and provides better protection for patient rights by establishing a review board for hearing complaints. During its review, the Committee heard from over 100 residents and stakeholders. Public meetings were held in Yellowknife, Inuvik, Norman Wells, Tulita, Fort Smith, Fort Resolution, Hay River, Kakisa and Fort Providence. As a result of the Committee's review, and with the Minister's agreement, 27 motions to amend Bill 55 were passed at the clause-by-clause review. The review is detailed here: *Committee Report 25-17(5) – Report on the Review of Bill 55: Mental Health Act*.

In 2015-2016, the Committee also completed the following work:

- Met 39 times, considering a range of topics, such as inclusive schooling, Aboriginal languages revitalization, specialized courts, school funding, student financial services, affordable daycare, income security programs; medical travel; child poverty, and affordable housing.
- Reviewed the following Bills:
  - Bill 56 – *Miscellaneous Statute Law Amendment Act*
  - Bill 59 – *Estate Administration Law Amendment Act*
  - Bill 62 – *An Act to Amend the Coroners Act*
  - Bill 63 – *An Act to Amend the Victims of Crime Act*
  - Bill 64 – *An Act to Amend the Co-operative Associations Act*
- Held 20 public meetings, including public hearings on Bills 56, 59, 62, 63 and 65 in Yellowknife, and community consultations on Bill 47 (Yellowknife, Ndilo, Hay River, Fort Simpson and Fort Liard, Délı̄nę, Inuvik, Aklavik and Tuktoyaktuk).
- Issued these committee reports:
  - Committee Report 18-17(5) – Report on the Review of Bill 47: *An Act to Amend the Child and Family Services Act*
  - Committee Report 27-17(5) – Standing Committee on Social Programs: Report on Transition Matters
  - Bill 61 – *An Act to Amend the Public Airports Act*
  - Bill 65 – *An Act to Amend the Safety Act*



From left to right: Kevin Menicoche, Daryl Dolynny, Alfred Moses and Wendy Bisaro.

# BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board of Management was established under the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*. Its

existence reflects the right and privilege of the House to govern its internal affairs and confirms the independence of the Assembly from the executive branch of government. Board composition includes the Speaker, two Members of the Executive Council, and two Regular Members, other than the Speaker and Deputy Speaker.

The Board is responsible for the overall management and administration of the Legislative Assembly, including providing services to Members and establishing policies regarding the conduct of Members. Key responsibilities include: preparing budget estimates for the Assembly; administering the indemnities, allowances, reimbursements, and benefits to which Members are entitled; establishing regulations and policies for all services provided to Members; management and administration of the Members' pension plans in accordance with the *Legislative Assembly Retiring Allowances Act* and the *Supplementary Retiring Allowances Act*; ensuring that the cultures and traditions of the NWT are reflected in the Legislative Assembly; and providing for any other financial or administrative matter that the Board considers necessary to run the Legislative Assembly.

## 2015-2016 BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

**CHAIR:** HON. JACKIE JACOBSON

**MEMBERS:** FREDERICK BLAKE JR, ROBERT BOUCHARD, HON. JACKSON LAFFERTY AND HON. DAVID RAMSAY

**ALTERNATES:** HON. GLEN ABERNETHY, HON. TOM BEAULIEU, WENDY BISARO AND DARYL DOLYNNY

**SECRETARY:** TIM MERCER

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY:** HAYLEE CARLSON

# VISITING DIGNITARIES & GUESTS 2015—2016



## **Clerks-at-the-Table Professional Development Seminar hosted by the Legislative Assembly**

The Northwest Territories Table was delighted to host the Association of Clerks-at-the-Table Professional Development Seminar in Yellowknife from July 27-31, 2015. Fifty-six delegates and accompanying persons attended the event with international delegates travelling from the United Kingdom, Australia, Isle of Man and the United States.

Delegates participated in eight very informative business sessions and conducted the Association's Annual General Meeting. There were also many opportunities provided to enjoy the beautiful northern landscape from land, water and air.

**September 13-16, 2015**— Luo Zhaohui, the Chinese Ambassador to Canada, paid an official visit to NWT.

**November 12, 2015**— The girls' "Power Up" group visited the Assembly building with former MLA Wendy Bisaro.

**November 19, 2015**— Fifty senior officers from around the world accompanied Captain J.L. MacDonald, Operations Officer, Joint Task Force (North), Area Support Unit (North) on a visit to the Assembly building.

**February 17, 2016**— Lee Wed, the Consul General of South Korea, paid an official visit to NWT.

**February 22-26, 2016**— Ontario Parliamentary Interns visited the Assembly to learn about consensus government.

**March 2, 2016**— Northern Governance Conference attendees visited the Legislative Assembly building.

**March 3, 2016**— The Rotary Club of Lloydminster and exchange students from around the world toured the building.

**March 29, 2016**—The Toronto Children's Choir toured the Assembly building and sang in the Great Hall and Caucus Room.

# HOUSE ACTIVITY

<b>Activity</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> Assembly 5<sup>th</sup> Session May 27, 2015 - October 8, 2015</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> Assembly 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Session December 17, 2015 - March 3, 2016</b>	<b>2015-2016 Fiscal Year Total</b>	<b>Previous Fiscal Year Total</b>
<b>Sitting Days</b>	15	11	26	47
<b>Hansard Pages</b>	675	290	965	1769
<b>Sessional Hours</b>	60	26	86	170
<b>Ministers' Statements</b>	57	27	84	127
<b>Members' Statements</b>	170	122	292	489
<b>Oral Questions</b>	145	120	265	520
<b>Written Questions</b>	0	4	4	13
<b>Petitions</b>	2	0	2	1
<b>Committee Reports</b>	15	0	15	9
<b>Tabled Documents</b>	134	31	165	157
<b>Recorded Votes</b>	5	10	15	16
<b>Bills introduced</b>	18	4	22	29
<b>Bills Receiving Royal Assent</b>	23	4	27	25
<b>Government Bills</b>	16	3	19	25
<b>Private Bills</b>	2	1	3	4
<b>Appropriation Bills</b>	6	3	9	9

## **Governance: Improving accountability, transparency, and collaboration**

The 18th Legislative Assembly will change the way it does business by:

1. Collaborating and fostering government-to-government relationships with Aboriginal governments;
2. Advancing, finalizing, and implementing land, resources, and self-government agreements, including ongoing post-devolution initiatives;
3. Increasing transparency and accountability, and strengthening consensus government;
4. Building stronger relationships with community governments and stakeholders;
5. Support initiatives designed to increase the number of women running for elected office in the NWT.

## **Cost-of-living**

The 18th Legislative Assembly will lower the cost-of-living by:

1. Increasing the availability of safe, affordable housing and creating solutions for addressing homelessness;
2. Improving food security by encouraging local food production, traditional harvesting, and effective co-management of caribou herds and other wildlife;
3. Supporting the use of energy-efficient technologies in residential, commercial, and public sectors;
4. Increasing the production and transmission of renewable and alternative energy;
5. Working collaboratively to promote federal investment in reducing the cost-of-living for northerners;
6. Implementing universal and affordable childcare.

## **Education, training, and youth development**

The 18th Legislative Assembly will foster lifelong learning, skills development, training, and employability by:

1. Supporting quality early childhood development in collaboration with existing organizations;
2. Increasing K-12 support systems to improve educational outcomes;
3. Expanding opportunities for post-secondary education, trades-oriented learning, and northern educational institutions;
4. Increasing cultural programming in education and revitalizing Aboriginal languages;
5. Enhancing capacity-building programs for our youth.

## **Community wellness and safety**

The 18th Legislative Assembly will foster wellbeing and safety by:

1. Focusing on mental health and addictions by ensuring that services are delivered locally with culturally-appropriate methods;
2. Taking action so that seniors can age in place;
3. Fostering healthy families by focusing on wellness, prevention, and improved nutrition;  
Taking action on the crisis of family and community violence;  
Creating opportunities for healthy lifestyles and community leadership for our youth.

## **Economy, Environment, and Climate Change**

The 18th Legislative Assembly will lead economic diversification and environmental stewardship in the NWT by:

1. Making strategic investments in transportation infrastructure and workforce development and utilizing partnerships with northern and Aboriginal businesses;
2. Investing in renewable resources, agriculture, arts, fisheries, forestry, manufacturing, tourism, and traditional harvesting;
3. Improving coordination and effectiveness in resource management systems, recognizing traditional knowledge, land claims agreements, and devolution;
4. Implementing a strategy to mitigate and adapt to climate change in collaboration with other governments and organizations.



# PRIORITIES OF THE 18<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY



## Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories Members' Conduct Guidelines

*As a Member elected to the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories, I acknowledge that I have accepted a responsibility to serve the people of the Northwest Territories. I seek wisdom, strength, courage, honesty, and caring from the people of the North, both from those who have built our past and from those who are shaping our future. As a legislator elected to govern the Northwest Territories, I will serve to do my utmost to:*

*Hear the voices of all our people;*

*Preserve our traditions and bridge them with new ways to build our future;*

*Provide legislation, policies, and services for the good of the people as individuals, families, and communities;*

*Promote the equality of all our people;*

*Distribute resources fairly and justly; and*

*Respect and honour our land and all its inhabitants.*

*As a legislator, I will do my best to fulfill my duties to the legislature, the public, my constituents, and my colleagues with integrity and honour.*

*To the legislature, I owe respect as well as dedication to my role in ensuring the integrity of our government and in earning, through my actions, the confidence of the people.*

*To the public, I owe a responsibility to work for the well-being of all residents of the Northwest Territories.*

*To my constituents, I owe my best efforts at effective representation as well as accountability, honesty, fairness, and courtesy.*

*To my colleagues, I owe fairness and respect for our differences and the duty to work together with goodwill for the common good.*

*I acknowledge human vulnerabilities and will strive to bring honour to my role as a representative of our people.*

*I will perform the duties of my office with integrity, objectivity and impartiality and I will arrange my private matters so as to maintain the trust and confidence of the public.*

*I will respect and abide by the laws of Canada and the Northwest Territories and I will not act in ways which violate these laws.*

*I will not act, nor condone others to act in ways which are dishonest, or which exploit, slander, or discriminate against others.*

*As a legislator, I acknowledge a vision and a responsibility to improve the life of our people and I will strive to act in creative ways to overcome the hardships which destroy life and hope, and the human frailties which fall upon us.*

*So long as I am a Member of the Legislative Assembly, I will be true to these obligations, and will work to preserve the greatness of our land and our people.*



**MEMBERS' INDEMNITIES AND  
ALLOWANCES FOR THE  
FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2016**

**17<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY**

**APRIL 1, 2015 TO NOVEMBER 22, 2015**

**Indemnities under section 17(1) & 18(1) and allowances under sections 19 & 20 reimbursed to or incurred by Members of the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal period ended March 31, 2016**

**17<sup>th</sup> Assembly—April 1, 2015 to November 22, 2015**

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Constituency	MLA Indemnity (1)	Ministerial Indemnity (2)	Speaker Indemnity (3)	Extra Duties (4)	Allowance for expenses (5)	Northern Allowance (6)
NADLI, Michael	Deh Cho	56,323	-	-	199	8,047	4,238
BISARO, Wendy	Frame Lake	67,108	-	-	5,436	4,225	2,229
ABERNETHY, Glen	Great Slave	67,108	39,763	-	-	4,225	2,229
BOUCHARD, Robert	Hay River North	67,108	-	-	2,498	8,450	3,834
GROENEWEGEN, Jane	Hay River South	67,108	-	-	4,163	8,450	3,834
MOSES, Alfred	Inuvik Boot Lake	67,108	-	-	3,689	8,450	9,254
MCLEOD, Robert C	Inuvik Twin Lakes	67,108	39,763	-	-	8,450	9,254
RAMSAY, David	Kam Lake	67,108	39,763	-	-	4,225	2,229
BLAKE JR, Frederick	Mackenzie Delta	67,108	-	-	-	8,450	13,390
LAFFERTY, Jackson	Monfwi	67,108	39,763	-	-	4,225	2,229
MENICOCHÉ, Kevin	Nahendeh	67,108	-	-	-	8,450	6,536
JACOBSON, Jackie	Nunakput	67,108	-	32,338	-	8,450	13,822
DOLYNNY, Daryl	Range Lake	67,108	-	-	5,165	4,225	2,229
YAKELEYA, Norman	Sahtu	67,108	-	-	3,896	8,450	10,563
MILTENBERGER, Michael	Thebacha	67,108	39,763	-	-	8,450	4,007
BEAULIEU, Tom	Tu Nedhé	67,108	39,763	-	-	4,225	2,229
BROMLEY, Bob	Wiilideh	67,108	-	-	1,844	4,225	2,229
HAWKINS, Robert	Yellowknife North	67,108	-	-	3,689	4,225	2,229
MCLEOD, Bob	Yellowknife South	67,108	56,506	-	-	4,225	2,229

(1) MLA ANNUAL INDEMNITY: annual figure of \$103,851 for all Members. (2) MINISTERIAL AND PREMIER INDEMNITY: annual figure of \$55,583 for Ministers and \$78,986 for Premier. (3) SPEAKER: annual figure of \$45,203 for Speaker. (4) SPECIAL ANNUAL INDEMNITIES FOR EXTRA DUTIES: Deputy Speaker: \$7,313; Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole: \$4,389; Chair of Standing Committee (Social Programs, EDI, Government Operations) = \$6,480, Priorities & Planning = \$9,549, Rules & Procedures = \$3,240; Chair of Special Committee: \$3,240; Chair of Caucus: \$3,240. Note: amounts cover period April 1 to October 25, 2015 (dissolution). (5) ALLOWANCE FOR EXPENSES: Basic Allowance: annual figure of \$7,484 for all Members. Additional Allowance: annual figure of \$7,484 for all Members who do not live within commuting distance of the capital. Note: amounts cover period April 1 to October 25, 2015 (dissolution). (6) NORTHERN ALLOWANCE: Annual amount paid in respect of the community in which Members live. Same as provided under the Collective Agreement.



**Indemnities, allowances and expenses reimbursed to or incurred by Members of the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal period ended March 31, 2016**

**17<sup>th</sup> Assembly – April 1, 2015 to November 22, 2015**

<b>Member of the Legislative Assembly</b>	<b>Constituency</b>	<b>Constituency Work Expense Budget (Section 29)</b>	<b>Constituency Work Expense Actuals (Section 29)</b>	<b>Capital Accommodation Maximum \$20,667 (Section 24)</b>
NADLI, Michael	Deh Cho	50,727	44,391	16,736
BISARO, Wendy	Frame Lake	46,397	22,241	-
ABERNETHY, Glen	Great Slave	46,397	23,861	-
BOUCHARD, Robert	Hay River North	48,871	38,227	20,667
GROENEWEGEN, Jane	Hay River South	48,871	43,662	20,370
MOSES, Alfred	Inuvik Boot Lake	50,727	42,659	15,080
MCLEOD, Robert C	Inuvik Twin Lakes	50,727	38,726	17,830
RAMSAY, David	Kam Lake	46,397	30,960	-
BLAKE JR, Frederick	Mackenzie Delta	53,202	53,202	17,800
LAFFERTY, Jackson	Monfwi	50,727	50,096	-
MENICOCHÉ, Kevin	Nahendeh	52,583	35,468	20,360
JACOBSON, Jackie	Nunakput	55,057	54,325	19,200
DOLYNNY, Daryl	Range Lake	46,397	32,505	-
YAKELEYA, Norman	Sahtu	54,439	50,331	19,500
MILTENBERGER, Michael	Thebacha	49,491	45,328	17,200
BEAULIEU, Tom	Tu Nedhé	50,727	49,014	-
BROMLEY, Bob	Wiilideh	46,397	42,980	-
HAWKINS, Robert	Yellowknife North	46,397	46,397	-
MCLEOD, Bob	Yellowknife South	46,397	35,258	-

**Expenses related to constituency work (under Section 29) reimbursed or incurred by Members of the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016**

**17<sup>th</sup> Assembly- April 1, 2015 to October 25, 2015**

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Constituency	Travel & Transportation	Materials & Supplies	Purchased Services	Contract Services	Fees & Payments	Computer Hardware/ Software	Constituency Assistant	Total Expenditures related to Constituency work	Total Budget
NADLI, Michael	Deh Cho	2,189	235	5,737			1,120	35,110	44,391	50,727
BISARO, Wendy	Frame Lake		1,374	3,897			390	16,580	22,241	46,397
ABERNETHY, Glen	Great Slave		1,691	5,747			315	16,108	23,861	46,397
BOUCHARD, Robert	Hay River North	520	1,634	3,893				32,180	38,227	48,871
GROENEWEGEN, Jane	Hay River South	1,859	2,472	2,060			1,120	36,151	43,662	48,871
MOSES, Alfred	Inuvik Boot Lake	2,563	884	7,867			1,120	30,225	42,659	50,727
MCLEOD, Robert C	Inuvik Twin Lakes		40	2,438			1,190	35,058	38,726	50,727
RAMSAY, David	Kam Lake		6,438	4,631			814	19,077	30,960	46,397
BLAKE JR, Frederick	Mackenzie Delta	3,250		15,382			770	33,800	53,202	53,202
LAFFERTY, Jackson	Monfwi	5,190		9,174			770	34,962	50,096	50,727
MENICOCHÉ, Kevin	Nahendeh	4,427	3,066	8,701			1,190	18,084	35,468	52,583
JACOBSON, Jackie	Nunakput	15,588	3,278	4,661			1,120	29,678	54,325	55,057
DOLYNNY, Daryl	Range Lake	829	3,147	6,528				22,001	32,505	46,397
YAKELEYA, Norman	Sahtu	6,447	2,628	7,757			1,090	32,409	50,331	54,439
MILTENBERGER, Michael	Thebacha		220	1,908			1,200	42,000	45,328	49,491
BEAULIEU, Tom	Tu Nedhé	2,382		8,762				37,870	49,014	50,727
BROMLEY, Bob	Willideh		1,582	3,088				38,310	42,980	46,397
HAWKINS, Robert	Yellowknife North	360	7,927	9,066		595	671	27,778	46,397	46,397
MCLEOD, Bob	Yellowknife South		1,241	6,792			134	27,091	35,258	46,397

EXPENSES: represent funds reimbursed to Members or paid on their behalf for constituency expenses incurred upon submission of original invoices.

**Constituency Travel Expenses under section 29 reimbursed to or incurred by Members of the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal period ended March 31, 2016**

**17<sup>th</sup> Assembly—April, 2015 to October 25, 2015**

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Constituency	Location	# of Trips	Airfare	Carbon offset	Changes/Cancellation fees	Air Charter	Ground Transport	Accommodation	Meals & Incidentals	Total Constituency Travel Expenses Total
NADLI, Michael	Deh Cho	Within NWT	2					536	873	780	2,189
		Outside									0
BOUCHARD, Robert	Hay River North	Within NWT	2	520							520
		Outside									0
GROENEWEGEN, Jane	Hay River South	Within NWT	4	1,859							1,859
		Outside									0
MOSES, Alfred	Inuvik Boot Lake	Within NWT	2	1,424					636	503	2,563
		Outside									0
BLAKE JR, Frederick	Mackenzie Delta	Within NWT	5	949		223		1,338		740	3,250
		Outside									0
LAFFERTY, Jackson	Monfwi	Within NWT	7					3,203			3,203
		Outside	1					804	579	604	1,987
MENICOCHÉ, Kevin	Nahendeh	Within NWT	2	1,172			3,184			71	4,427
		Outside									0
JACOBSON, Jackie	Nunakput	Within NWT	4	2,373			11,529		500	608	15,010
		Outside	1	578							578
DOLYNNY, Daryl	Range Lake	Within NWT	1					575		254	829
		Outside									0
YAKELEYA, Norman	Sahtu	Within NWT	4	4,793					250	1,404	6,447
		Outside									0
BEAULIEU, Tom	Tu Nedhé	Within NWT	4	857				150	709	666	2,382
		Outside									0
HAWKINS, Robert	Yellowknife Centre	Within NWT	1				360				360
		Outside									0

**Capital accommodation expenses under Section 24 reimbursed to or incurred by Members of the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016**

**17<sup>th</sup> Assembly – April 1, 2015 to November 22, 2015**

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Constituency	Rent	Cable/Internet	Telephone	Utilities	Furniture	Total Capital Accommodation expenses
NADLI, Michael	Deh Cho	14,350	1,592		794		16,736
BOUCHARD, Robert	Hay River North	18,800				1,867	20,667
GROENEWEGEN, Jane	Hay River South	20,370					20,370
MOSES, Alfred	Inuvik Boot Lake	15,080					15,080
MCLEOD, Robert C	Inuvik Twin Lakes	16,416	1,251	163			17,830
BLAKE JR, Frederick	Mackenzie Delta	17,800					17,800
MENICOCHÉ, Kevin	Nahendeh	20,360					20,360
JACOBSON, Jackie	Nunakput	19,200					19,200
YAKELEYA, Norman	Sahtu	19,500					19,500
MILTENBERGER, Michael	Thebacha	17,200					17,200

**Purchased Services detail under Section 29 reimbursed to or incurred by Members of the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal period ended March 31, 2016**

**17<sup>th</sup> Assembly – April 1, 2015 to October 25, 2015**

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Constituency	Contributions to Community Feasts	Other Purchased Services	Total Purchased Services
NADLI, Michael	Deh Cho	1,146	4,591	5,737
BISARO, Wendy	Frame Lake	214	3,683	3,897
ABERNETHY, Glen	Great Slave	214	5,533	5,747
BOUCHARD, Robert	Hay River North	-	3,893	3,893
GROENEWEGEN, Jane	Hay River South	-	2,060	2,060
MOSES, Alfred	Inuvik Boot lake	2,500	5,367	7,867
MCLEOD, Robert C	Inuvik Twin Lakes	-	2,438	2,438
RAMSAY, David	Kam Lake	214	4,417	4,631
BLAKE JR, Frederick	Mackenzie Delta	3,548	11,834	15,382
LAFFERTY, Jackson	Monfwi	4,612	4,562	9,174
MENICOCHÉ, Kevin	Nahendeh	1,400	7,301	8,701
JACOBSON, Jackie	Nunakput	484	4,177	4,661
DOLYNNY, Daryl	Range Lake	714	5,814	6,528
YAKELEYA, Norman	Sahtu	-	7,757	7,757
MILTENBERGER, Michael	Thebacha	590	1,318	1,908
BEAULIEU, Tom	Tu Nedhé	2,791	5,971	8,762
BROMLEY, Bob	Wiilideh	214	2,874	3,088
HAWKINS, Robert	Yellowknife North	1,714	7,352	9,066
MCLEOD, Bob	Yellowknife South	214	6,578	6,792

**Materials and Supplies detail under Section 29 reimbursed or incurred by Members of the Legislative Assembly for fiscal period ended March 31, 2016**

**17<sup>th</sup> Assembly—April 1, 2015 to October 25, 2015**

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Constituency	Promotional Items	Special Occasion Items	Presentation Items	Other Materials & Supplies	Total material and Supplies expenditures
NADLI, Michael	Deh Cho	-	235	-	-	235
BISARO, Wendy	Frame Lake	-	89	-	1,285	1,374
ABERNETHY, Glen	Great Slave	-	-	-	1,691	1,691
BOUCHARD, Robert	Hay River North	-	92	-	1,542	1,634
GROENEWEGEN, Jane	Hay River South	-	92	-	2,380	2,472
MOSES, Alfred	Inuvik Boot Lake	-	407	-	477	884
MCLEOD, Robert C	Inuvik Twin Lakes	-	-	-	40	40
RAMSAY, David	Kam Lake	-	-	-	6,438	6,438
BLAKE JR, Frederick	Mackenzie Delta	-	-	-	-	-
LAFFERTY, Jackson	Monfwi	-	-	-	-	-
MENICOCHÉ, Kevin	Nahendeh	-	1,065	-	2,001	3,066
JACOBSON, Jackie	Nunakput	-	594	-	2,684	3,278
DOLYNNY, Daryl	Range Lake	-	-	-	3,147	3,147
YAKELEYA, Norman	Sahtu	-	1,519	-	1,109	2,628
MILTENBERGER, Michael	Thebacha	-	-	-	220	220
BEAULIEU, Tom	Tu Nedhé	-	-	-	-	-
BROMLEY, Bob	Wiilideh	-	-	-	1,582	1,582
HAWKINS, Robert	Yellowknife North	-	-	590	7,337	7,927
MCLEOD, Bob	Yellowknife South	-	-	-	1,241	1,241

**Speaker and Executive Council Benefits and Expenses for the fiscal year Ending March 31, 2016**  
**17<sup>th</sup> Assembly – April 1, 2015 to December 16, 2015**

**Blind Trust** - Section 12.4 of the *Indemnities, Allowances and Expense Regulations* provides that:

*“...where the Conflict of Interest Commissioner advises the Speaker or a Minister to establish a trust during his or her term in office, as referred to in section 82 of the Act, the Speaker or Minister shall be reimbursed for the expenses set out in subsection (2).”*

There were no payments made under this Regulation to the Speaker or Executive Council of the 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016.

**Dental, Health, Medical travel and Life Insurance Benefits** - Section 12.5 of the *Indemnities, Allowances and Expense Regulations* provides that the Speaker and Ministers:

*“...are each entitled to receive the same dental, health, medical travel and life insurance benefits provided to senior manager in the public service.”*

**(a) Medical Travel** - During the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016, the following medical travel benefits were provided to the Speaker and Executive Council of the 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly:

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Medical Travel Total
Hon. Glen Abernethy	\$2,259.33

**(b) Employer’s share of Public Service Health Care Plan, Long-Term Disability and Public Service Management Insurance Plan** – During the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016, the following benefits were provided to the Speaker and Executive Council of the 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly:

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Total Premiums Paid by the GNWT
Hon. Glen Abernethy	\$2,834.86
Hon. Tom Beaulieu	\$2,834.86
Hon. Jackson Lafferty	\$2,834.86
Hon. Robert C McLeod	\$2,834.86
Hon. Robert R McLeod	\$3,125.64
Hon. Michael Miltenberger	\$2,834.86
Hon. David Ramsay	\$2,834.86
Hon. Jackie Jacobson	871.04

**Entertainment Allowance – Section 12.6** of the *Indemnities, Allowances and Expense Regulations* provides that the Speaker and Ministers:

*“...may each receive, to a yearly maximum of \$1,500, an entertainment allowance for duty related entertainment expenses.”*

The following benefits were provided under this Regulation to the Speaker and Executive Council of the 17<sup>th</sup> Assembly for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016:

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Total benefits paid
Hon. Glen Abernethy	\$1,064.52
Hon. Tom Beaulieu	\$1,064.52
Hon. Jackson Lafferty	\$1,064.52
Hon. Robert C McLeod	\$1,064.52
Hon. Robert R McLeod	\$1,064.52
Hon. Michael Miltenberger	\$1,064.52
Hon. David Ramsay	\$1,064.52
Hon. Jackie Jacobson	\$1,064.52



**MEMBERS' INDEMNITIES AND  
ALLOWANCES FOR THE  
FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2016**

**18<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY  
NOVEMBER 23, 2015 TO MARCH 31, 2016**

**Indemnities under section 17(1) & 18(1), allowances under sections 19 & 20 reimbursed to or incurred by Members of the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal period ended March 31, 2016**

**18<sup>th</sup> Assembly—November 23, 2015 to March 31, 2016**

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Constituency	MLA Indemnity (1)	Ministerial Indemnity (2)	Speaker Indemnity (3)	Extra Duties (4)	Allowance for expenses (5)	Northern Allowance (6)
NADLI, Michael	Deh Cho	37,548	–	–	–	5,322	2,826
O'REILLY, Kevin	Frame Lake	37,548	–	–	–	2,661	1,247
ABERNETHY, Glen	Great Slave	37,548	16,247	–	–	2,661	1,247
SIMPSON, RJ	Hay River North	37,548	–	–	816	5,322	1,247
SCHUMANN, Wally	Hay River South	37,548	16,247	–	–	5,322	1,247
MOSES, Alfred	Inuvik Boot Lake	37,548	16,247	–	–	5,322	3,129
MCLEOD, Robert C	Inuvik Twin Lakes	37,548	16,247	–	–	5,322	5,178
TESTART, Kieron	Kam Lake	37,548	–	–	723	2,661	1,247
BLAKE JR, Frederick	Mackenzie Delta	37,548	–	–	490	5,322	7,492
LAFFERTY, Jackson	Monfwi	37,548	–	13,213	–	2,661	1,247
THOMPSON, Shane	Nahendeh	37,548	–	–	723	5,322	1,247
NAKIMAYAK, Herbert	Nunakput	37,548	–	–	723	5,322	1,247
COCHRANE, Caroline	Range Lake	37,548	16,247	–	–	2,661	1,247
MCNEELY, Daniel	Sahtu	37,548	–	–	490	5,322	1,247
SEBERT, Louis	Thebacha	37,548	16,247	–	–	5,322	1,247
BEAULIEU, Tom	Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	37,548	–	–	2,167	2,661	1,247
GREEN, Julie	Yellowknife Centre	37,548	–	–	947	2,661	1,247
VANTHUYNE, Cory	Yellowknife North	37,548	–	–	–	2,661	1,247
MCLEOD, Bob	Yellowknife	37,548	23,088	–	–	2,661	1,247

(1) MLA ANNUAL INDEMNITY: annual figure of \$103,851 for all Members. (2) MINISTERIAL AND PREMIER INDEMNITY: annual figure of \$55,583 for Ministers and \$78,986 for Premier. (3) SPEAKER: annual figure of \$45,203 for Speaker. (4) SPECIAL ANNUAL INDEMNITIES FOR EXTRA DUTIES: Deputy Speaker: \$7,313; Deputy Chair, Committee of the Whole: \$4,389; Chair of Standing Committee (Social Programs, EDI, Government Operations = \$6,480, Priorities & Planning = \$9,549, Rules & Procedures = \$3,240); Chair of Special Committee: \$3,240; Chair of Caucus: \$3,240. (5) ALLOWANCE FOR EXPENSES: Basic Allowance: annual figure of \$7,484 for all Members. Additional Allowance: annual figure of \$7,484 for all Members who do not live within commuting distance of the capital. (6) NORTHERN ALLOWANCE: Annual amount paid in respect of the community in which Members live. Same as provided under the Collective Agreement.

**Indemnities, allowances and expenses reimbursed to or incurred by Members of the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal period ended March 31, 2016**

**18<sup>th</sup> Assembly – November 23, 2015 to March 31, 2016**

<b>Member of the Legislative Assembly</b>	<b>Constituency</b>	<b>Constituency Work Expense Budget (Section 29)</b>	<b>Constituency Work Expense Actuals (Section 29)</b>	<b>Capital Accommodation Maximum \$10,333 (Section 24)</b>
<b>NADLI, Michael</b>	Deh Cho	31,858	26,250	9,419
<b>O'REILLY, Kevin</b>	Frame Lake	29,138	19,017	-
<b>ABERNETHY, Glen</b>	Great Slave	29,138	22,181	-
<b>SIMPSON, RJ</b>	Hay River North	30,692	21,250	10,333
<b>SCHUMANN, Wally</b>	Hay River South	30,692	20,776	10,333
<b>MOSES, Alfred</b>	Inuvik Boot Lake	31,858	21,608	7,540
<b>MCLEOD, Robert C</b>	Inuvik Twin Lakes	31,858	15,763	8,365
<b>TESTART, Kieron</b>	Kam Lake	29,138	24,472	-
<b>BLAKE JR, Frederick</b>	Mackenzie Delta	33,412	30,363	8,900
<b>LAFFERTY, Jackson</b>	Monfwi	31,858	24,417	-
<b>THOMPSON, Shane</b>	Nahendeh	33,023	31,256	10,333
<b>NAKIMAYAK, Herbert</b>	Nunakput	34,577	25,249	10,333
<b>COCHRANE, Caroline</b>	Range Lake	29,138	24,595	-
<b>MCNEELY, Daniel</b>	Sahtu	34,189	33,132	10,333
<b>SEBERT, Louis</b>	Thebacha	31,081	3,512	10,333
<b>BEAULIEU, Tom</b>	Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	31,858	31,392	-
<b>GREEN, Julie</b>	Yellowknife Centre	29,138	20,403	-
<b>VANTHUYNE, Cory</b>	Yellowknife North	29,138	13,256	-
<b>MCLEOD, Bob</b>	Yellowknife South	29,138	27,547	-

**Expenses related to constituency work (under Section 29) reimbursed or incurred by Members of the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016**

**18<sup>th</sup> Assembly- November 23, 2015 to March 31, 2016**

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Constituency	Travel & Transportation	Materials & Supplies	Purchased Services	Contract Services	Fees & Payments	Computer Hardware/ Software	Constituency Assistant	Total Expenditures	Total Budget
NADLI, Michael	Deh Cho	1,865	11,078	4,188			1,761	7,358	26,250	31,858
O'REILLY, Kevin	Frame Lake		4830	1,787			2,620	9,780	19,017	29,138
ABERNETHY, Glen	Great Slave		2735	4,425			547	14,474	22,181	29,138
SIMPSON, RJ	Hay River North		11,212	1,077		75	1,120	7,766	21,250	30,692
SCHUMANN, Wally	Hay River South		4562	831		75	1,629	13,679	20,776	30,692
MOSES, Alfred	Inuvik Boot Lake	121	224	1,535			543	19,185	21,608	31,858
MCLEOD, Robert C	Inuvik Twin Lakes		3218	1,058			477	11,010	15,763	31,858
TESTART, Kieron	Kam Lake		1061	2,837		200	850	19,524	24,472	29,138
BLAKE JR, Frederick	Mackenzie Delta	2,584	5196	4,046			925	17,612	30,363	33,412
LAFFERTY, Jackson	Monfwi	2,634	5030	1,392			326	15,035	24,417	31,858
THOMPSON, Shane	Nahendeh		5706	1,679				23,871	31,256	33,023
NAKIMAYAK, Herbert	Nunakput	6,726	840	3,727			575	13,381	25,249	34,577
COCHRANE, Caroline	Range Lake		5338	1,383		250	1,695	15,929	24,595	29,138
MCNEELY, Daniel	Sahtu	11,058	443	2,676				18,955	33,132	34,189
SEBERT, Louis	Thebacha			438				3,074	3,512	31,081
BEAULIEU, Tom	Tu Nedhé- Wiilideh	1,318	388	5,018	1,470		1,120	22,078	31,392	31,858
GREEN, Julie	Yellowknife Centre		5125	3,198			2,300	9,780	20,403	29,138
VANTHUYNE, Cory	Yellowknife North		339	2,856			1,120	8,941	13,256	29,138
MCLEOD, Bob	Yellowknife South		3876	6,184		210	1,767	15,510	27,547	29,138

EXPENSES: represent funds reimbursed to Members or paid on their behalf for constituency expenses incurred upon submission of original invoices.

**Purchased Services detail under Section 29 reimbursed to or incurred by Members of the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal period ended March 31, 2016**

**18<sup>th</sup> Assembly – November 23, 2015 to March 31, 2016**

<b>Member of the Legislative Assembly</b>	<b>Constituency</b>	<b>Contributions to Community Feasts</b>	<b>Other Purchased Services</b>	<b>Total Purchased Services</b>
NADLI, Michael	Deh Cho	2,495	1,693	4,188
O'REILLY, Kevin	Frame Lake	250	1,537	1,787
ABERNETHY, Glen	Great Slave	250	4,175	4,425
SIMPSON, RJ	Hay River North	310	767	1,077
SCHUMANN, Wally	Hay River South	166	665	831
MOSES, Alfred	Inuvik Boot Lake	500	1,035	1,535
MCLEOD, Robert C	Inuvik Twin Lakes	-	1,058	1,058
TESTART, Kieron	Kam Lake	250	2,587	2,837
BLAKE JR, Frederick	Mackenzie Delta	915	3,131	4,046
LAFFERTY, Jackson	Monfwi	555	837	1,392
THOMPSON, Shane	Nahendeh	500	1,179	1,679
NAKIMAYAK, Herbert	Nunakput	249	3,478	3,727
COCHRANE, Caroline	Range Lake	250	1,133	1,383
MCNEELY, Daniel	Sahtu	1,340	1,336	2,676
SEBERT, Louis	Thebacha	-	438	438
BEAULIEU, Tom	Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	1,429	3,589	5,018
GREEN, Julie	Yellowknife Centre	250	2,948	3,198
VANTHUYNE, Cory	Yellowknife North	250	2,606	2,856
MCLEOD, Bob	Yellowknife South	250	5,934	6,184

**Capital accommodation expenses under Section 24 reimbursed to or incurred by Members of the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016**

**18<sup>th</sup> Assembly – November 23, 2015 to March 31, 2016**

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Constituency	Rent	Cable/ Internet	Telephone	Utilities	Furniture	Total Capital Accommodation Expenses
NADLI, Michael	Deh Cho	9,419					9,419
SIMPSON, RJ	Hay River North	9,483				850	10,333
SCHUMANN, Wally	Hay River South	8,583				1,750	10,333
MOSES, Alfred	Inuvik Boot Lake	7,540					7,540
MCLEOD, Robert C	Inuvik Twin Lakes	8,208	157				8,365
BLAKE JR, Frederick	Mackenzie Delta	8,900					8,900
THOMPSON, Shane	Nahendah	8,583	298		128	1,324	10,333
NAKIMAYAK, Herbert	Nunakput	9,333				1,000	10,333
MCNEELY, Daniel	Sahtu	9,368				965	10,333
SEBERT, Louis	Thebacha	8,398				1,935	10,333

**Constituency Travel Expenses under section 29 reimbursed to or incurred by Members of the Legislative Assembly for the fiscal period ended March 31, 2016**

**18<sup>th</sup> Assembly—November 23, 2015 to March 31, 2016**

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Constituency	Location	# of Trips	Airfare	Carbon offset	Changes/Cancellation fees	Air Charter	Ground Transport	Accommodation	Meals & Incidentals	Total Constituency Travel Expenses
NADLI, Michael	Deh Cho	Within NWT	5					1,260	230	375	1,865
		Outside NWT									0
MOSES, Alfred	Inuvik Boot Lake	Within NWT	1							121	121
		Outside NWT									0
BLAKE JR, Frederick	Mackenzie Delta	Within NWT	11					1,777		807	2,584
		Outside NWT									0
LAFFERTY, Jackson	Monfwi	Within NWT	12					2,634			2,634
		Outside NWT									0
NAKIMAYAK, Herbert	Nunakput	Within NWT	4	1,017				1,600	2,659	1,450	6,726
		Outside NWT									0
MCNEELY, Daniel	Sahtu	Within NWT	8	3,849			1,526	1,955	900	2,828	11,058
		Outside NWT									0
BEAULIEU, Tom	Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	Within NWT	1					733	300	285	1,318
		Outside NWT									0

**Materials and Supplies detail under Section 29 reimbursed or incurred by Members of the Legislative Assembly for fiscal period ended March 31, 2016**

**18<sup>th</sup> Assembly—November 23, 2015 to March 31, 2016**

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Constituency	Promotional Items	Special Occasion Items	Presentation Items	Other Materials & Supplies	Total Materials & Supplies expenditures
NADLI, Michael	Deh Cho	4,700	110	-	6,268	11,078
O'REILLY, Kevin	Frame Lake	3,685	-	-	1,145	4,830
ABERNETHY, Glen	Great Slave	963	-	-	1,772	2,735
SIMPSON, RJ	Hay River North	-	30	-	11,182	11,212
SCHUMANN, Wally	Hay River South	-	-	-	4,562	4,562
MOSES, Alfred	Inuvik Boot Lake	-	-	-	224	224
MCLEOD, Robert C	Inuvik Twin Lakes	2,438	-	-	780	3,218
TESTART, Kieron	Kam Lake	-	-	-	1,061	1,061
BLAKE JR, Frederick	Mackenzie Delta	4,635	-	-	561	5,196
LAFFERTY, Jackson	Monfwi	4,600	-	-	430	5,030
THOMPSON, Shane	Nahendeh	4,180	68	-	1,458	5,706
NAKIMAYAK, Herbert	Nunakput	-	-	-	840	840
COCHRANE, Caroline	Range Lake	3,263	100	-	1,975	5,338
MCNEELY, Daniel	Sahtu	-	143	-	300	443
SEBERT, Louis	Thebacha	-	-	-	-	-
BEAULIEU, Tom	Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh	-	-	-	388	388
GREEN, Julie	Yellowknife Centre	3,685	-	-	1,440	5,125
VANTHUYNE, Cory	Yellowknife North	-	-	-	339	339
MCLEOD, Bob	Yellowknife South	3,760	-	-	116	3,876



**Blind Trust - Section 12.4** of the *Indemnities, Allowances and Expense Regulations* provides that:

*“...where the Conflict of Interest Commissioner advises the Speaker or a Minister to establish a trust during his or her term in office, as referred to in section 82 of the Act, the Speaker or Minister shall be reimbursed for the expenses set out in subsection (2).”*

No payments were made under this Regulation to the Speaker or Executive Council of the 18<sup>th</sup> Assembly for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016.

**Dental, Health, Medical travel and Life Insurance Benefits - Section 12.5** of the *Indemnities, Allowances and Expense Regulations* provides that the Speaker and Ministers:

*“...are each entitled to receive the same dental, health, medical travel and life insurance benefits provided to senior manager in the public service.”*

**(a) Medical Travel**—During the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016, no payments were made under this Regulation to the Speaker or Executive Council of the 18<sup>th</sup> Assembly for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016.

**(b) Employer’s share of Public Service Health Care Plan, Long-Term Disability and Public Service Management Insurance Plan**

During the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016, the following benefits were provided to the Speaker and Executive Council of the 18<sup>th</sup> Assembly:

Member of the Legislative Assembly	Medical Travel Total
Hon. Glen Abernethy	(\$1,579.59)
Hon. Caroline Cochrane	\$588.18
Hon. Robert C McLeod	(\$1,579.59)
Hon. Robert R McLeod	(\$1,639.04)
Hon. Alfred Moses	\$554.79
Hon. Wally Schumann	\$607.26
Hon. Louis Sebert	\$745.59
Hon. Jackson Lafferty	(\$1,579.59)

**Speaker and Executive Council Benefits and Expenses for the fiscal year Ending March 31, 2016**  
**18<sup>th</sup> Assembly – December 17, 2015 to March 31, 2016**

**Entertainment Allowance – Section 12.6** of the *Indemnities, Allowances and Expense Regulations* provides that the Speaker and Ministers:

*“...may each receive, to a yearly maximum of \$1,500, an entertainment allowance for duty related entertainment expenses.”*

The following benefits were provided under this Regulation to the Speaker and Executive Council of the 18<sup>th</sup> Assembly for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016:

<b>Member of the Legislative Assembly</b>	<b>Total benefits paid</b>
Hon. Glen Abernethy	\$435.48
Hon. Caroline Cochrane	\$435.48
Hon. Robert C McLeod	\$435.48
Hon. Robert R McLeod	\$435.48
Hon. Alfred Moses	\$435.48
Hon. Wally Schumann	\$435.48
Hon. Louis Sebert	\$435.48
Hon. Jackson Lafferty	\$435.48

# 2015—2016 Financial Summary of Operations

(in thousands of dollars)

By Activity	2015-2016 Actuals	2015-2016 Revised Estimates	2015—2016 Main Estimates
Compensation & Benefits	4,120	4,030	4,030
Amortization	804	805	805
Other Expenses	3,177	3,574	3,574
<b>Office of the Clerk</b>	<b>8,101</b>	<b>8,409</b>	<b>8,409</b>
Compensation & Benefits	148	148	148
Contributions	0	0	0
Other Expenses	168	208	208
<b>Office of the Speaker</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>356</b>
Compensation & Benefits	7,081	7,214	7,206
Other Expenses	1,522	1,793	1,793
<b>Expenditures on behalf of Members</b>	<b>8,603</b>	<b>9,007</b>	<b>8,999</b>
Compensation & Benefits	956	1,065	1,065
Other Expenses	561	585	585
<b>Office of the Chief Electoral Officer</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>1,650</b>	<b>1,650</b>
Compensation & Benefits	890	882	882
Grants and Contributions	221	250	250
Other Expenses	712	629	629
<b>Statutory Officers</b>	<b>1,823</b>	<b>1,761</b>	<b>1,761</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>20,360</b>	<b>21,183</b>	<b>21,175</b>

(in thousands of dollars)

# OUR TEAM: MESSAGE FROM THE CLERK

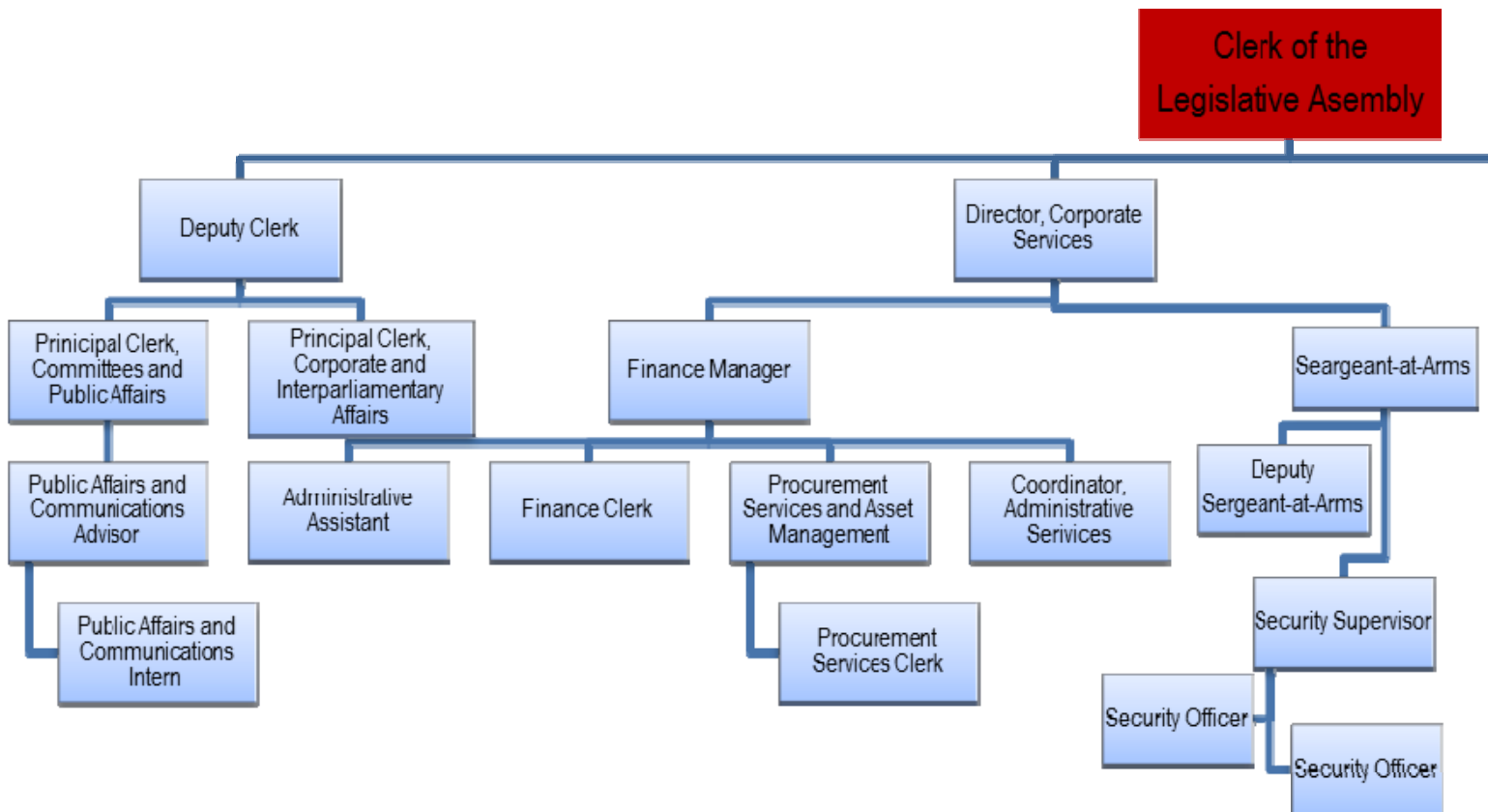
The Clerk's Office has responsibility to ensure that Legislative Assembly matters are conducted according to the existing rules and procedures, and that Members and their constituency assistants, have the information, guidance and resources they need to fulfill their roles and effectively represent their constituents.

A number of activities and events stand out from the past fiscal year, with none more important than providing guidance to out-going Members of the 17th Assembly and then offering orientation and assistance to Members of the 18th Assembly. The role of the Clerk's Office is to make government transitions as smooth and seamless as possible, which is sometimes a difficult task, but a challenge that staff embrace with enthusiasm and impartiality.

However, our role also extends more broadly to promoting and upholding the best aspects of the unique consensus style of government in the NWT as we educate the public through tours, lectures, public outreach and other programs.



Tim Mercer

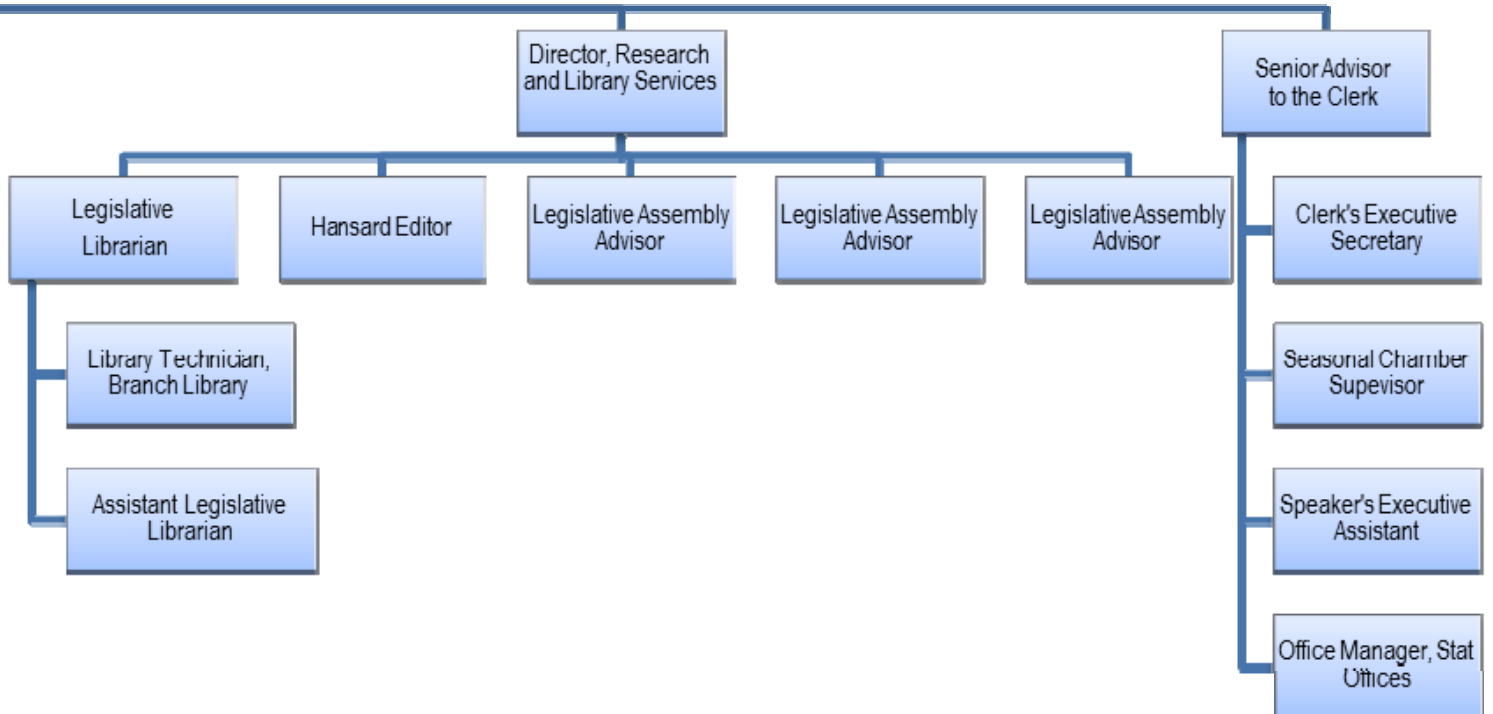


In the years ahead for the 18th Assembly, the Clerk’s Office looks forward to assisting Members as they respond to the public’s demand for more accountability, openness and transparency in government, and leading change that will ultimately strengthen consensus government in the NWT. The commitment from the Clerk’s Office is to work hard to ensure that our system of government is as accessible and as accountable as possible.

This Annual Report is a key part of achieving our transparency goal. Included is the financial information regarding Legislative Assembly operations required by legislation and beyond. The report also provides a great opportunity for us to highlight some of the many Legislative Assembly activities and achievements from 2015-2016.

I want to thank the staff of the Legislative Assembly for their commitment and professionalism over the past year. As well, I want to thank our many contractors who provide us with dedicated service in a range of areas including: Pido Productions and their audio-video technicians; the custodial staff at Thin Hyuin; Lawson Lundell law clerks and legal counsel; Secure Check and their relief security staff; Epic Grill, our former caterer, and Javaroma, which now caters to the needs of the Assembly and operates their business out of the cafeteria.

**- Tim Mercer, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories**



# OUR TEAM



## OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Clerk, Legislative Assembly, **Tim Mercer**  
Senior Advisor to the Clerk, **Haylee Carlson**  
Executive Secretary, **Cynthia James**  
Chamber Supervisor, **Tanis Stirling**  
Deputy Clerk, **Doug Schauerte**  
Committee Clerk, **Cayley Thomas**  
Principal Clerk, Committees and Public Affairs, **Michael Ball**  
Public Affairs and Communications Advisor, **Barbara Abramchuk**  
Public Affairs and Communications Intern, **Jennifer Franki-Smith**

## CORPORATE SERVICES

Director, Corporate Services, **Darrin Ouellette**  
Administrative Assistant, **Brendalynn Trennert**  
Manager, Finance and Procurement Services, **Cheryl Menard**  
Procurement and Finance Officer, **Donna Friesen**  
Procurement Services Clerk, **Kim McDonald**  
Administrative and Finance Coordinator, **Phoebe Esau**  
Administrative and Finance Coordinator, **Shawn Abel**  
Sergeant-at-Arms, **Brian Thagard**

Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms, **Derek Edjericon**  
Supervisor, Security Services, **Satish Garikaparthi**  
Security Officer, **Michael Butt**  
Security Officer, **Robert Braine**

## RESEARCH, LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

Director, Research, Library and Information Services, **Lee Selleck**  
Legislative Assembly Advisor, **Megan Welsh**  
Legislative Assembly Advisor, **April Taylor**  
Legislative Assembly Advisor, **Alicia Tumchewics**  
Hansard Editor, **Kate Covello**  
Legislative Librarian, **Vera Raschke**  
Assistant Legislative Librarian, **Lisc Daley**  
Legislative Library Technician, **Sharon Smith**

## SPEAKER'S OFFICE

Speaker's Executive Assistant/Members' Secretary, **Sue Tkachuk**

If you would like this information in another official language, call us.

English

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Si vous voulez ces informations en français, contactez-nous.

French

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**KĪspĭn kĭ nĭtawĭhtĭn ē nĭhĭyawĭhk ōma ācimōwin, tipwāsinān.**

Cree

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**ᑕĭspĭn qatĭ k'ēē. dĭ wegodi newo dē, gots'o gonede.**

Tłıchq

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**ᑭerihł'ís dēne sūliné yati t'a huts'elkēr  
xa beyáyati theᑭa ᑭat'e, nuwe ts'ēn yólti.**

Chipewyan

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**EDI GONDI DEHGÁH GOT'İE ZHATIÉ K'ÉÉ  
EDATŁ'ÉH ENAHDDHĘ NIDE.**

South Slavey

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**K'ÁHSHÓ GOT'İNE XƏDÓ K'É HEDERI  
ᑭedihł'É yeriniwę nídÉ dúle.**

North Slavey

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**Jii gwandak izhii ginjik vat'atr'ijahch'uu zhit  
yinothtan ji', diits'at ginohkhi.**

Gwich'in

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**UVANITTUAQ ILITCHURISUKUPKU INUVIALUKTUN, QUQUAQLUTA.**

Inuvialuktun

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**ᑕᑲᑲ ᑎᑎᑲᑲᑲ ᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲ ᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲ ᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲ ᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲ  
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Inuktitut

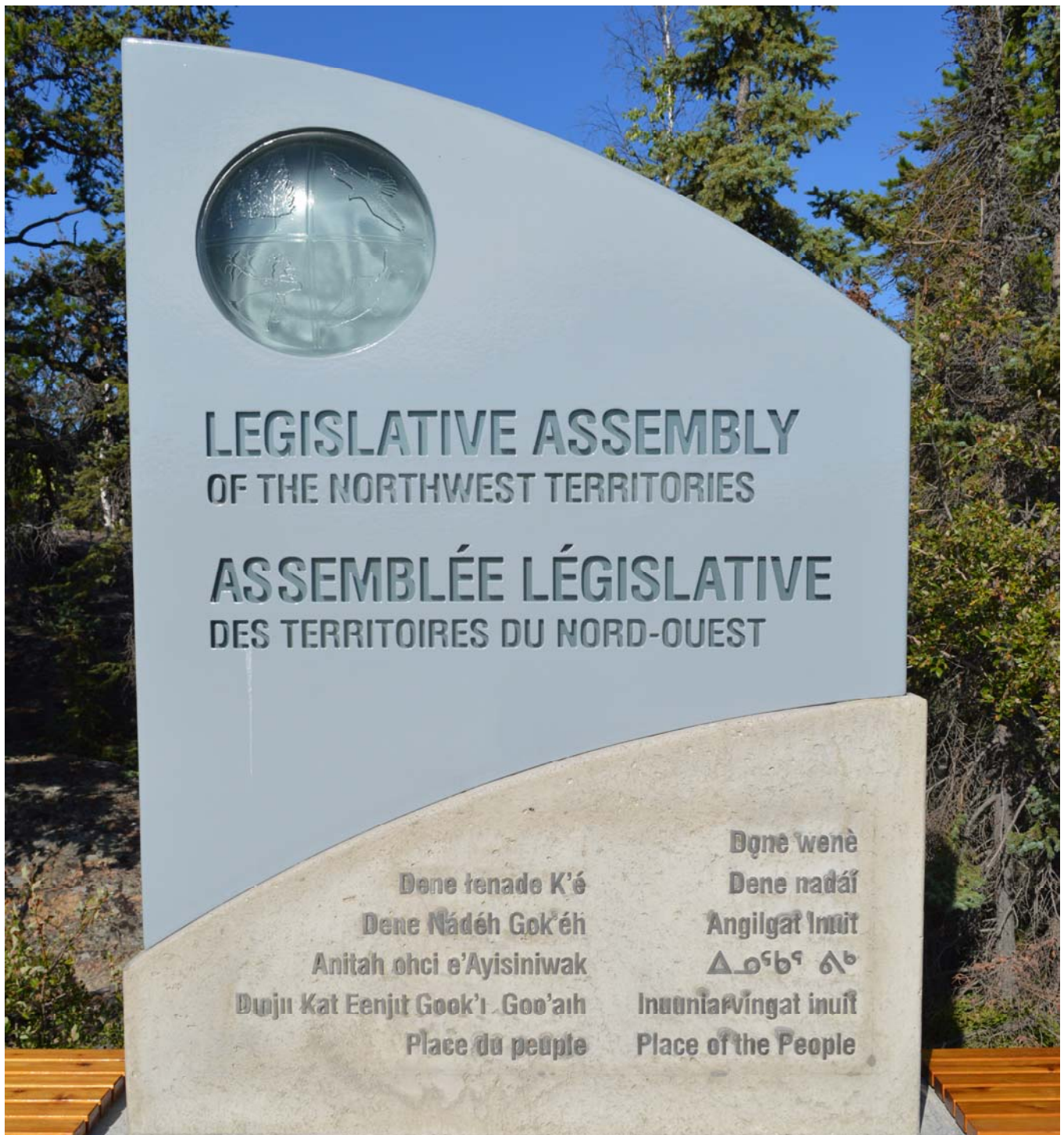
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**Hapkua titiqqat pijumagupkit Inuinnaqtun, uvaptinnut hivajarlutit.**

Inuinnaqtun

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For more information,  
please contact Doug Schauerte, Languages Coordinator, at (867) 767-9130 ext. 12014.



If you would like copies of the 2015-2016 Annual Report, please contact:  
Public Affairs and Communications  
Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories  
Box 1320 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9  
867-767-9130 ext. 12017/1-800-661-0784



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