

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
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NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

**SESSIONAL PAPER NO. 19
(First Session, 1967)**

**PROGRESS REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION
OF CARROTHERS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS**

DISPOSITION

Tabled	To Committee	Accepted as Read	Accepted as Amended	Deferred (to Session)	Rejected	Noted not Considered

PROGRESS REPORT IN IMPLEMENTATION
OF CARROTHERS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Concurrent with the announcement by the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development on January 18, 1967, that Yellowknife would be the future seat of government for the Northwest Territories and that the Commissioner and his immediate staff would move there by the fall of 1967, a Task Force was created for the implementation of this decision and other decisions with respect to the Carrothers Report. Mr. A.B. Yates was named Chairman of the Task Force whose members comprise Mr. S.M. Hodgson, the Deputy Commissioner, representing the Territorial Government, and Messrs. W. Tuskey, R. Hodgkinson, and W.G. Cleghorn of the Department. The last three have been detached from their normal duties for full-time work with the Task Force.

The first phase of the work of the Task Force deals with the move of the Commissioner and his immediate staff to Yellowknife and the transfer of operational control over purely Territorial programs, such as game, liquor, municipal affairs, etc., to the Commissioner from the Administrator of the Mackenzie and Northern Administration Branch Headquarters. The Task Force is also engaged in the build-up of the Territorial Treasurer's office and the Personnel office in order to provide the infra-structure required for an expanded Territorial Civil Service.

Many and varied subjects have had to be dealt with in connection with this phase, including the provision of office and staff accommodation at Yellowknife, planning for the move of staff from Fort Smith and Ottawa to Yellowknife, measures to limit the impact of the capital decision on Fort Smith, developing personnel policies for the transfer of federal civil servants to territorial employment and assisting in the development of territorial personnel policies, handling financial arrangements for this phase, etc.

Arrangements have already been set in motion to provide up to 75 married and 20 single units of staff accommodation in Yellowknife, a substantial number of which will be completed by the fall, and to provide up to 20,000 sq. ft. of office space, part at least of which is also to be ready by the fall. Work on other aspects of the transfer is also proceeding.

While much is still left to be done in connection with this phase, most of the major problems have been recognized and work to deal with these in proper sequence has commenced. Where possible, the detailed work will be done by the Administration so as to leave the Task Force free to devote its attention to the development of later phases of transfer.

The next job that is to be tackled by the Task Force is the transfer to the Territorial Administration of operational control over larger programs, such as education, welfare, engineering, etc. Extensive transfers in this phase of operational control can be carried out without change in current legislation. The speed with which such transfers are accomplished will, as the Minister has stated, be governed only by the ability of the Territorial Administration to absorb the responsibilities in an orderly way. Work on this phase has commenced and will be carried forward quickly.