

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
8TH ASSEMBLY, 59TH SESSION

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RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL 1-59
ADOPTION OF H.M.C.S. MACKENZIE
BY THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Background

The Administration has received a proposal by the Commanding Officer of H.M.C.S. "Mackenzie", a Canadian Armed Forces "River" class destroyer escort, that the Government and people of the Northwest Territories formally adopt this ship. Of 2,900 tons displacement, the "Mackenzie", commissioned in 1962, carries a peacetime crew of 210 and a training complement of an additional 53.

ADOPTION OF A SHIP

It is a custom of cities and municipalities to adopt naval ships, especially during war time. The adoptor or sponsor, usually provides certain comforts for the ships crew, such as musical instruments, books, special treats and, of course, maintains a certain level of communication and contact with the ship and its crew. During the war years especially, residents of the area which adopted a particular ship developed a real sense of community pride in the feats and accomplishments of "their" ship and deep feelings for the well being of those who sailed in her. This of course resulted in a significant and valuable morale boost for the crew.

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IMPLICATIONS

Should Council agree to the adoption of the H.M.C.S. "Mackenzie", minimal expenditures would be involved. The Commissioner on behalf of the people and Council of the Northwest Territories, would make various good will gestures and exchanges of greetings. Articles of decoration for the ship such as a suitable N.W.T. Coat-of-Arms, flags, and other similar items would be provided. Some comfort items could be provided for the crew although this is of less importance in peacetime. This proposal should be looked upon as a good will gesture and a public relations exercise. A sister-ship HMCS "Yukon" has been adopted by the Yukon Territory. Should Council endorse the proposed action, an official ceremony would be held at the time of adoption which would be attended by representatives of the Territories.

RECOMMENDATION

The Administration therefore recommends to Council that HMCS "Mackenzie" be adopted by the Northwest Territories.

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(\$/year)