

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

8TH ASSEMBLY, 66TH SESSION

TABLED DOCUMENT NO. 17-66

TABLED ON Oct. 24, 1978

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION
CONCERNING BILLS TO BE INTRODUCED AT THE
66th Session of the Assembly

Mr. Speaker the Standing Committee on Legislation met on October 4 and 5 to review bills scheduled for introduction at this session and makes the following recommendations:

That Bill 1-66 the ELECTIONS ORDINANCE 1978 which would provide specific Territorial legislation dealing with the election of members to this legislature be referred to Committee of the Whole for consideration. The Committee was assisted in its deliberations by the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada Mr. Jean-Marc Hamel and his Chief of Special Projects, Miss Christine Jackson. The Committee was advised that this Bill was developed from the Canada Elections Act by means of adaptations and modifications designed to meet northern needs and conditions and to overcome difficulties encountered in previous elections. Wherever possible procedures and provisions set out in the Canada Elections Act have been simplified or streamlined. In the course of its review, the Committee agreed to a number of relatively minor amendments. It also agreed to draw the attention of the Committee of the Whole, the requirement in section 57 that the Chief Electoral Officer submit a report to the Commissioner following an election and enquire whether the report should instead be submitted to the Speaker.

That Bill 2-66 the MARRIAGE ORDINANCE which would ensure the validity of certain marriages which might otherwise be invalid be referred to Committee of the Whole for consideration. In examining this Bill, some Committee Members expressed concern about the degree of flexibility proposed by this amendment.

That Bill 3-66 the WILDLIFE ORDINANCE be referred to Committee of the Whole for consideration without being examined in detail because of the previously exhaustive reviews undertaken by this Committee and the detailed examination which can be expected in Committee of the Whole.

That Bill 4-66 the DISABLED PERSONS ALLOWANCE, OLD AGE ASSISTANCE AND BLIND PERSONS ALLOWANCE ORDINANCES which would repeal these ordinances be referred to Committee of the whole for consideration. The Committee was informed that these allowances are no longer in effect, were subject to certain abuses and that former recipients are now covered by the Canada Assistance Plan.

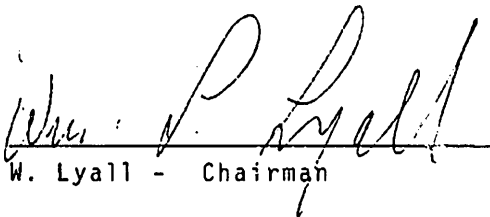
That Bill 5-66 the INCOME TAX ORDINANCE which would amend that ordinance as a consequence of recent amendments to the Income Tax Act of Canada, be referred to Committee of the Whole for consideration. The Committee was advised that the Federal-Territorial Collection Agreement requires that this ordinance be amended as required to retain consistency with the Federal Act.

That Bill 6-66 the DENTAL PROFESSION ORDINANCE which would enable persons who have graduated in dental hygiene at suitable institutions outside Canada and the U.S.A. and who are eligible to hold certificates of qualifications in other provinces to practice in the N.W.T. be referred to the Committee of the Whole for consideration. The Committee was advised that in the absence of a formally constituted Dental Association, one of the local practitioners had indicated his agreement to the amendment. The Administration agreed to obtain a statement from the informal association of dentists indicating their agreement to the amendment (this statement has been received).

That Bill 7-66 the MEDICAL PROFESSION ORDINANCE which would allow persons not registered as medical practitioners in other provinces but who are eligible to be so registered and who meet all other requisite qualifications to be registered in the Territories, be referred to Committee of the Whole for consideration. The Committee was informed that a statement had been received from the president of the Northwest Territories Medical Association indicating its approval of the amendment and

That Bill 8-66 the WORKERS' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE which would increase the Year's Maximum Assessable Remuneration (YMAR), be referred to the Committee of the Whole for consideration. The Committee received reports from Mr. MacLean, Chairman of the W.C.B., and Mr. Laing, the actuery, concerning the improved benefits which would be possible as a result of the proposed increase in the YMAR, the rate reductions achieved since the establishment of the N.W.T. fund and on operations generally.

The Committee did not examine the FINANCIAL AGREEMENT ORDINANCE because it falls within the responsibility of the Standing Committee on Finance. The Committee did not examine the LABOUR STANDARDS ORDINANCE as it anticipated detail discussion in Committee of the Whole.


W. Lyall - Chairman