

## LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY NEWS RELEASES

2001

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01-27	Oct 26	Solid confidence in Kakfwi leadership : Braden.
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01-30	Nov 05	Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight reports progress on plans and priorities.
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February 6, 2001

For Immediate Release

### All-Weather Road to Mines needed

**Mr. Leon Lafferty, MLA for North Slave, says now is the time to adapt to climate change and build an all-weather road connecting the Dogrib communities and the mines.**

Much of the infrastructure already exists to build an all-weather road connecting the Dogrib communities and the mines. A land road exists between Highway 3 and Wha Ti that could be easily upgraded to an all-weather road. It is also 100 km shorter than the current route using the Lupin ice road. As well, road infrastructure exists between the 3 hydro dams.

In the past few months, three snow cats have gone through the ice on the Lupin road and one has just gone through near Wha Ti. "We can no longer rely on our winter ice roads as a safe route for providing supplies to the outlying communities and the mines," says Mr. Lafferty. "Even the light loads sent up the Lupin road today have damaged the ice and there is no sign of when it will be thick enough for safe transportation."

Mr. Lafferty points out that there are over 7,000 loads waiting to be shipped up to the mines. He notes that everyday that there is a delay, trucking companies are losing money.

"The Government needs to take a coordinated approach with the aboriginal governments, the communities and industry to begin planning an all-weather road through the Slave Geological Corridor," says Mr. Lafferty.

"Studies have shown that a route through the Dogrib communities is the most cost-effective," states Mr. Lafferty. He adds that by developing this infrastructure, the North Slave communities would benefit and it would lengthen the winter road season into the mines.

Hydro lines could be placed beside the road supplying power at a lower rate to both the communities and the mines. A cleaner energy source, a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, more affordable groceries and home heating fuel, as well as an all-weather route to the mines are some of the advantages.

Long-term government plans must consider climate change, community benefits and the needs of industry. The \$250 million currently allocated by the Government for the Slave Geologic Province Transportation Corridor would be best spent on an all-weather road through the Dogrib communities and to the mines.

01-01



The community of Wha Ti is currently running out of fuel. The ice road is not open and the community is nearing a stage of crisis. The government needs to be proactive in ensuring that remote communities receive their basic supplies.

“Construction and building now would save millions in the future,” says Mr. Lafferty. He adds that it could also save lives, money to industry and lower the cost of living in the region.

For more information, please contact: **Leon Lafferty**  
**MLA North Slave**  
**Tel: (867) 669-2279**  
**Email: [leon\\_lafferty@gov.nt.ca](mailto:leon_lafferty@gov.nt.ca)**

February 16, 2001

For Immediate Release

### Standing Committees Respond to Budget

Standing Committee Members are supportive of the government's 2001-2002 budget, but will remain cautiously optimistic until they are able to review the significant initiatives in more detail.

Standing Committee Members are generally satisfied with the budget put forward and agree with many of the significant initiatives. They agree with the Minister of Finance that the future of the Northwest Territories is bright, and this is not the time to drastically cut spending. They do feel there is a need for northerners to be prepared for upcoming opportunities.

Members are however concerned about the amount of supplementary appropriations that have already been identified.

"It is unusual to have so many initiatives outlined in a budget that will require supplementary funding during the year," said Charles Dent, Chair of the Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight.

Members feel it is good to see the windfall in Corporate taxes being used for important initiatives but Committee members will be watching to see whether this one-time revenue is being spent in the right places. There is no guarantee that this Legislative Assembly will be seeing a similar situation again. Some Members are also concerned that the government is headed too quickly deeper and deeper into debt.

"Members of the Standing Committees are glad to see their past recommendations being implemented," says Floyd Roland, Deputy Chair of the Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight. "However, the majority of Members are disappointed that the recently announced government initiatives have bypassed the committee process, giving Regular Members no input on the initiatives."

The Standing Committee on Social Programs also has serious concerns with Health and Social Services. They see a disarray in structure, poor information, a weak relationship between the Department and the Health Boards and the initiation of yet another major review of the Department, sole-sourced to a southern contractor.

Contact: **Charles Dent**  
Chair, Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight  
Tel: (867) 669-2296  
Email: [charles\\_dent@gov.nt.ca](mailto:charles_dent@gov.nt.ca)

01-02



March 1, 2001

For Immediate Release

**Standing Committee on Governance and Economic Development releases Report on the Review of the proposed *Hotel Room Tax Act***

After a detailed review of Bill 13, *Hotel Room Tax Act*, the Standing Committee on Governance and Economic Development has concluded that it cannot support the implementation of the Hotel Room Tax.

The Committee presented its report on the review of the *Hotel Room Tax Act* this afternoon in the Legislative Assembly.

Bill 13 establishes a tax on the price of accommodation at hotels, motels, lodges and other such establishments. It sets out a procedure to register operators to collect the tax. The Bill also sets out enforcement provisions to ensure the tax is paid, collected and remitted in accordance with the Act and the regulations.

The Committee came to this decision through the review of what was read and heard during the public hearings that were held in early February, and through productive discussions with the Minister of Finance.

"We have heard loud and clear that the tourism industry is in dire need of additional funding," said Mr. Floyd Roland, Chair of the Standing Committee on Governance and Economic Development. "In light of this and our present fiscal position, we urge the Minister to work with all stakeholders to develop some of the creative suggestions we heard during our review. In particular, we recommend that the Minister make available to the NWTAT, *without qualification*, an additional \$375,000 from internal RWED reallocations."

The Committee is very encouraged that the public review process acted as a catalyst for raising the public's awareness of important issues surrounding the funding challenges facing the tourism industry. Members are hopeful that the Minister of Finance and RWED, and all stakeholders, will take this opportunity to rise to the challenge of building consensus so that all parties can be part of the solution.

The Standing Committee on Governance and Economic Development would like to thank all of the individuals and organizations who made their views known to the Committee at the public hearings or by written submissions.

Contact:

Floyd Roland  
Chair  
Standing Committee on Governance and Economic Development  
Phone: (867) 669-2265  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0784  
Email: [floyd\\_roland@gov.nt.ca](mailto:floyd_roland@gov.nt.ca)

Julia Heyland  
Public Affairs and Communications  
Advisor  
Phone: (867) 669-2230  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0784  
Email: [julia\\_heyland@gov.nt.ca](mailto:julia_heyland@gov.nt.ca)

March 8, 2001

For Immediate Release

**Terms of Reference approved for the Review of the Official Languages Act.**

The Members of the Legislative Assembly today approved the terms of reference that will guide the work of the Special Committee that will review the *Official Languages Act* of the Northwest Territories.

A clause in the *Official Languages Act of the Northwest Territories* requires the Legislative Assembly to review the Act after ten years of its operation. In his address in the Legislative Assembly, Steven Nitah, Chair of the Special Committee, stressed the need for public involvement in the review process and the importance of language and cultural diversity in northern society.

“We recognize that many northerners feel strongly about their language and the important role that it plays in defining who we are as distinct northern peoples,” said Mr. Nitah. “For this reason, we are proposing the review be done in a manner that involves extensive public participation.”

With the Terms of Reference for the Special Committee approved by the Legislative Assembly, members of the Committee can now proceed with the important work of hiring committee staff and commencing with the review.

The Special Committee feel it is important that the review be concluded well in advance of the end of the term of the 14<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly so that the preservation of language is further entrenched in a revised Official Languages Act.

Full text of the Terms of Reference is available on the Legislative Assembly website at <http://www.assembly.gov.nt.ca>

For further information, contact:

Steven Nitah  
Chair  
Special Committee on the Review of the  
Official Languages Act  
Tel: (867) 669-2287  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0879  
Email: [steven\\_nitah@gov.nt.ca](mailto:steven_nitah@gov.nt.ca)

Andrew Stewart  
Operations Assistant  
Tel: (867) 669-2343  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0784  
Email: [andrew\\_stewart@gov.nt.ca](mailto:andrew_stewart@gov.nt.ca)

01-04



March 8, 2001

For Immediate Release

### Special Committee receives approval on Terms of Reference

The Legislative Assembly has approved the Terms of Reference for the Special Committee on the Implementation of Self-Government and the Sunset Clause. The Committee has been set up to consider the impact self-government agreements will have on the people of the Northwest Territories. It will also be responsible for making a recommendation on the Sunset Clause.

The Committee is comprised of two co-chairs, Sandy Lee, MLA for Range Lake and the Hon. Jim Antoine, Minister Aboriginal Affairs. The committee also includes three other members, Bill Braden, Great Slave, Paul Delorey, Hay River North and Leon Lafferty, North Slave district.

The Terms of Reference of the Committee set out the mandate and core operating principles, as well as outlining the powers and obligations granted to it by the Assembly. "These Terms of Reference highlight the importance of creating a public forum, and an opportunity for the people of the Northwest Territories to have input and information about the important issues surrounding the Sunset Clause," said Ms. Lee. "As well, the public will be able to gain a better understanding of the impact self-government negotiations and implementations will have in our communities."

Mr. Antoine emphasized that the Committee will not be involved in the negotiations that are currently under way with Aboriginal Governments. It will concentrate on providing information to the public and considering the impact the implementation of the final agreements will have on the operation of the Legislative Assembly and the Government of the Northwest Territories.

"The Committee, in carrying out these Terms of Reference, will endeavor to ensure that the process is open and public," said Mr. Antoine. "The Committee is committed to providing stakeholder groups, elected bodies and the general public with the opportunity to receive information, and input their views on issues related to self-government and the Sunset Clause."

The Committee will initially concentrate its efforts on providing information to, and getting feedback on, the impact the Sunset Clause will have on the Legislative Assembly. The Special Committee hopes to present its recommendations for dealing with the Sunset Clause by the fall of next year. The term of the Special Committee ends at the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly.

Full text of the Terms of Reference is available on the Legislative Assembly website at <http://www.assembly.gov.nt.ca>

**For further information, contact:**

Sandy Lee  
Co-chair  
Special Committee on Self-Government  
And The Sunset Clause  
Tel: (867) 669-2290  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0879  
Email: [sandy\\_lee@gov.nt.ca](mailto:sandy_lee@gov.nt.ca)

Jim Antoine  
Co-chair  
Special Committee on  
Self-Government and the Sunset Clause  
Tel: (867) 669-2388  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0879  
Email: [jim\\_antoine@gov.nt.ca](mailto:jim_antoine@gov.nt.ca)



March 12, 2001

For immediate release

### Legislative Assembly passes Motion on Protection of Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

The Legislative Assembly last week passed a motion in support of the Protection of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from oil and gas exploration.

Located in northeastern Alaska, the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is the most northern and one of the largest refuges in America's National Wildlife Refuge System. The Arctic Refuge's primary mandate is to protect the wildlife and habitats of the area for the benefit of people now and in the future.

Forty-one years ago the United States Congress had the foresight to protect this area. Now it is at risk from exploration because somewhere beneath the Refuge there is oil. Two bills recently introduced in Congress in the United States will allow oil and gas exploration and development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

The Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories have passed this motion to indicate they are willing to protect this area of abundant and diverse shared natural resources. These resources include the Porcupine Caribou herd.

Mr. David Krutko, MLA for the Mackenzie Delta, presented the motion in the House last week. He represents a large portion of the Gwich'in and Inuvialuit people who live in the Northwest Territories. The Gwich'in and Inuvialuit have lived in and around the Refuge for thousands of years. The Porcupine Caribou herd is central to their way of life, providing food, clothing and a link to their heritage.

"The people of the Northwest Territories are not opposed to the development of natural resources," said Mr. Krutko. "We are, however, opposed to development in ecologically sensitive areas, such as the calving grounds for the Porcupine Caribou Herd, in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge."

With the support of the Members of the Legislative Assembly and the people of the Northwest Territories, Mr. Krutko is now sending his message out to others. He has sent a letter to the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Canada, as well as northern political representatives, northern aboriginal organizations and the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs. The letter urges everyone to take a serious look at the ramifications of opening the Refuge up for development, and the detrimental effect this could have on future generations of Americans and Canadians.

For further information, contact:

David Krutko, MLA Mackenzie Delta  
Tel: (867) 669-2268  
Toll free: 1-800-661-0879  
Email: [david\\_krutko@gov.nt.ca](mailto:david_krutko@gov.nt.ca)



April 6, 2001

For immediate  
release

**Standing Committee demands reimbursement of fuel rebates to Income  
Support clients**

The Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight is disappointed in the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment's decision to assess the federal fuel rebate that Income Support recipients received as part of their income earlier this year.

In February, all Canadians eligible for a GST rebate received a non-taxable federal fuel tax rebate of \$250.00.

Income Support clients had the \$250.00 assessed as income. This meant that the amount of Income Support was reduced by the \$250.00 that was received.

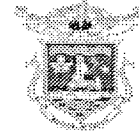
"All members of the Committee believe that this action was taken without adequate notice and explanation to the people on Income Support," said Mr. Charles Dent, Chair of the Committee. "This has caused undue hardship for income support recipients in many instances."

The Committee believes that the federal fuel rebate and the territorial fuel rebate should be excluded from income.

The Committee has asked Mr. Ootes to reverse his decision and reimburse all Income Support recipients who were affected. The Committee also encourages the Minister to quickly conclude the review he said was underway on the policy on clawing back Impact Benefit Agreements and other income.

For further information, please contact:

Charles Dent  
Chair  
Standing Committee on Accountability and  
Oversight  
Tel: 669-2298 Toll Free: 1-800-661-0879  
Email: [charles\\_dent@gov.nt.ca](mailto:charles_dent@gov.nt.ca)



April 26, 2001

For Immediate Release

### Capital Area Development Scheme Review

A local consulting firm has been chosen to head a team to review the Capital Area Development Scheme.

The Development Scheme, in place since 1996, was developed jointly by the City of Yellowknife and the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT). The Scheme outlines how the Capital Area around Frame Lake should be developed. This includes the areas around the Legislative Assembly Building, the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre and the Northern Frontier Visitors Centre. The intent of the Scheme is for the Capital Area to be an ongoing example of the concept of people living in harmony with nature.

The consulting team, led by Avens Associates Ltd. of Yellowknife, will be conducting the review. The intent of the team is to gain as much input as possible from the public and special interest groups.

Since the inception of the Scheme, the most notable project completed in the Capital Area is the Ceremonial Circle, which includes the flags of the 33 communities of the NWT along the causeway to the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre.

"There are many other positive aspects of the Capital Area," said Ms. Karen LeGresley Hamre, Provincial Landscape Architect. "The shoreline and wetlands of Frame Lake are important aesthetic and environmental components, and the Frame Lake trail is an important backbone to the Capital Area."

Through discussions with the public, the consulting team is looking forward to hearing suggestions on how to enhance the positive aspects of the area. Ann Peters, a local artist and architect will be included on the team. She will specifically be soliciting ideas from the arts community, following the Aurora Arts Society workshop in March, which focussed on cultural tourism.

The first public meeting on the review will be held in early June. The date and other information will be made available on the Legislative Assembly web site at <http://www.assembly.gov.nt.ca>, the GNWT web site at <http://www.gov.nt.ca> and the City of Yellowknife web site at <http://city.yellowknife.nt.ca>

Prior to the meeting, special interest groups will be contacted directly by the consultants. People wishing to contact the consultants directly may do so at the address below.

Karen LeGresley Hamre  
Avens Associates Ltd.  
Box 1724,  
Yellowknife, NWT  
Phone: 873-5412 Fax 873-9894 Email: [avens@ssimicro.com](mailto:avens@ssimicro.com)

May 8, 2001

For Immediate Release

Board of Management Considers Groenewegen's Conflict Application

At a public meeting held in Fort Smith today, the Board of Management of the Legislative Assembly considered an application by the Honourable Jane Groenewegen, in respect to the present conflict of interest investigation in which she is involved.

Ms. Groenewegen, through her legal counsel, requested that the Board recommend that the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, Ms. Carol Roberts, be temporarily suspended or found unable to act in the investigation of the complaint against Ms. Groenewegen on the basis of a reasonable apprehension of bias. The Board was also requested to direct that the investigation be temporarily held in abeyance or stayed pending the Board's consideration of this issue.

Ms. Groenewegen's counsel also alluded to a concern that Board Member Michael Miltenberger may have a conflict of interest in dealing with these matters as the present complaint filed by Jack Rowe of Hay River makes reference to and relies on a prior complaint filed by Mr. Miltenberger against Ms. Groenewegen.

This is the first time that the Board has had to deal with an application of this nature. The legislation governing members' conflicts of interest, and the complaint process have been amended to some extent since the conduct of the Morin Inquiry. In addition, court rulings made during the course of the Morin Inquiry and at the conclusion of it make it clear that there is a limited ability of the courts to make rulings in the process and procedures involved in governing the conduct of Members of the Legislative Assembly.

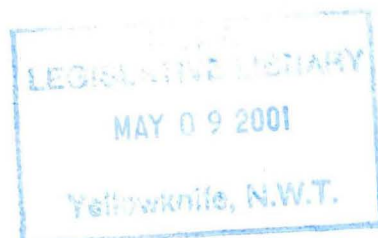
The Board was advised by its legal counsel that with respect to the conflict issue of Thebacha MLA Michael Miltenberger, while his prior complaint is referenced in the pending complaint, the two matters deal with separate and distinct facts and issues. The second complaint did not rely on the first for its foundation. Mr. Miltenberger expressed to the Board that he was of the view that he could approach the application before the Board with an open view and without preconceived notions of how the matter should be handled.

The Board indicated that it wished to hear from all parties on the issues before it, and that the Conflict of Interest Commissioner must also have an opportunity to make representations. In the interests of fairness, however, it agreed to request the Conflict of Interest Commissioner hold her investigation in abeyance on a short term basis until these complex matters could be more fully addressed by all concerned.

Legal counsel for the Board of Management was directed to work with counsel for both parties to establish a workable and timely framework for bringing these issues fully before the Board.

Contact: Katherine Peterson  
Law Clerk – Legislative Assembly  
Tel: (867) 669-8450

Julia Heyland  
Public Affairs and Communication  
Advisor  
Legislative Assembly  
Tel: (867) 669-2230  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 920-4735  
Email: [julia\\_heyland@gov.nt.ca](mailto:julia_heyland@gov.nt.ca)



June 5, 2001

For Immediate Release

### Cadet Recognition Week

June 4th to 8th is Cadet Recognition Week in the Northwest Territories. Cadets from across the Northwest Territories will be working as Pages in the Legislative Assembly to mark the week.

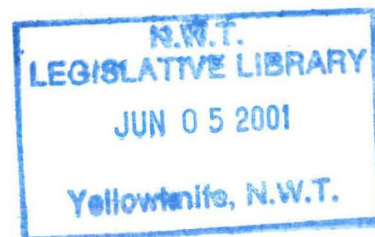
The public is invited to the official Cadet Recognition Day on Wednesday, June 6, 2001. The Cadets will be challenging the Members of the Legislative Assembly to a tug of war and in a target shooting competition. This is an annual event that promises to be entertaining.

"This is a great way to recognize Cadets and their importance across the Northwest Territories," Captain Paul McKee, Joint Projects Officer for the Northern Area Cadet Section said. "This gives the Cadets an opportunity to display their skills and show why being a Cadet is important to them."

There will be several displays inside and outside the Legislative Assembly, including displays on navigation, first aid and survival. After the competition there will be a reception for the Cadets and MLAs to mingle and enjoy a short break together.

#### Contact:

Captain Paul McKee  
Joint Projects Officer  
Canadian Forces Northern Area  
(867) 873-0757



June 6, 2001

For Immediate Release

**Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight (AOC) releases Report on the Review of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy (ATIPP) Commissioner's Report 1999-2000**

The AOC met to review the *ATIPP Commissioner's Report* in early April and early May. The Committee presented its report on the review in the Legislative Assembly this afternoon.

The ATIPP Act was created to promote, uphold and protect access to the information that government creates and receives, and to protect the privacy rights of individuals.

The *ATIPP Act* is a relatively new piece of legislation for the Northwest Territories, having only been in effect for four years. In her annual report, the Commissioner made six recommendations that, in her opinion, would increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the Act. These recommendations were addressed during the review.

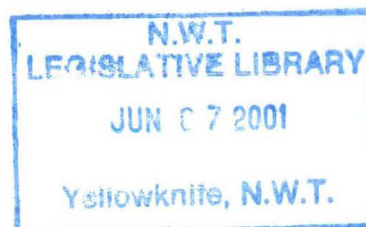
In addition, the committee performed an interjurisdictional survey to determine the practice of other Canadian jurisdictions with respect to ATIPP. At the conclusion of the review, the Committee supported some of the Commissioner's recommendations and offered support for some amendments to the *Act*.

"We were pleased to be able to meet with the Information and Privacy Commissioner, staff of the Financial Management Board and the Acting Deputy Minister of Justice," said Charles Dent, Chair of the AOC. "The Members of the Committee are looking forward to the Government of the Northwest Territories' response to the Committee's recommendations."

Contact:

Charles Dent  
Chair  
Special Committee on Accountability and Oversight  
Tel: (867) 669-2296  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0879  
Fax: (867) 873-0276  
Email: [charles\\_dent@gov.nt.ca](mailto:charles_dent@gov.nt.ca)

Julia Heyland  
Public Affairs and Communications  
Advisor  
Tel: (867) 669-2230  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 920-4735  
Email: [julia\\_heyland@gov.nt.ca](mailto:julia_heyland@gov.nt.ca)



June 12, 2001

For immediate release

### Legislative Assembly Appoints Special Committee on Conflict Process

The Special Committee on Conflict Process was formed in the Legislative Assembly this afternoon. The Committee has been mandated to consider all aspects of the Application to the Board of Management filed on May 7, 2001 by the Member for Hay River South, the Honourable Jane Groenewegen. In addition, the Legislative Assembly directed that the Conflict of Interest Commissioner suspend any further action including the filing of the report respecting the investigation of the complaint filed against Ms. Groenewegen.

The Application to the Board of Management requests that the Conflict of Interest Commissioner be suspended for cause or incapacity on the basis of an alleged apprehension of bias. In accordance with its statutory responsibilities in the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, the Board of Management was considering the matter. However, the *Act* prevents the Board of Management from dealing with any issues of suspension when the Legislative Assembly is in Session, as this authority ultimately rests with the House.

The directive for the Conflict of Interest Commissioner to hold her report was given in order to ensure that the Special Committee could consider the issues before it without prior knowledge of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner's findings.

The Special Committee on Conflict Process will consider all aspects of the Application by the Member of Hay River South, the Honourable Jane Groenewegen, including the allegation of bias in the conduct of the Conflict Commissioner's investigation.

The Committee is obligated to report its findings and make recommendations to the Legislative Assembly no later than July 23, 2001.

For further information, please contact:

David Hamilton  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly  
Phone: (867) 669-2230 Toll Free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 920-4735  
Email: [david\\_hamilton@gov.nt.ca](mailto:david_hamilton@gov.nt.ca)

## News Release

June 14, 2001

For Immediate Release

The Member for Mackenzie Delta, Mr. David Krutko, would publicly like to take this opportunity to apologize to his constituents for the confusion raised by members of the press over the past couple of weeks, questioning his residency.

“I have and will continue to reside in Fort McPherson as I have stated repeatedly”, said Mr. Krutko

The nature of the Member’s work as a representative of the Mackenzie Delta requires him to spend a great deal of time in Yellowknife and other jurisdictions representing his constituents.

“Since my election to office and to this very day, my constituents in the Mackenzie Delta remain my number one priority,” said Mr. Krutko. “I will continue to strive to learn the issues and concerns of the Communities of Aklavik, Tsiigehtchic and Fort McPherson.”

Mr. Krutko will continue to work to ensure that the needs of his constituents are addressed by the Legislative Assembly and the Government of the Northwest Territories.

It was confirmed by the Board of Management of the Legislative Assembly this morning that Mr. Krutko is in fact a resident of Fort McPherson.

Contact: David Krutko  
Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Mackenzie Delta  
Phone: (867) 669-2268  
Constituency Phone: (867) 952-2330  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 873-0726  
Email: [david\\_krutko@gov.nt.ca](mailto:david_krutko@gov.nt.ca)



**June 19, 2001**

## **News Release**

**For Immediate Release**

### **MLA for Great Slave looks for continuing improvement in Income Support**

Mr. Bill Braden, MLA for Great Slave, welcomed the increase of \$ 1.2 million in income assistance benefits announced yesterday by the Honourable Jake Ootes, Minister of Education, Culture and Employment. The increase comes following a departmental review of food costs and other benefits paid out under the Income Assistance program.

"The increases will make it easier for individuals requiring income support assistance to better meet their household needs and be more self reliant " said Mr. Braden.

Mr. Braden commented however, that the announcement did not address the issue of claw backs of particular onetime payments, as unearned income, or payments provided under First Nations' impact and benefit agreements. Mr. Braden feels that the Minister needs to clearly address this issue.

While the increase for disabled and aged clients is good progress, there needs to be greater clarity and streamlining for those who, through no fault of their own, require income support on a long term basis. In conjunction with this, better integration is required of services provided through income support and social program departments, so that there is co-ordinated support for clients in need.

Mr. Braden is encouraged that Mr. Ootes and the Department are building an ongoing and meaningful dialogue with front line workers from the Salvation Army, NWT Council for the Disabled, YWCA, and women's groups. "The government must continue to work with these groups to improve and ensure that the income support program is responsive to those who are most in need in our society," said Mr. Braden.

For more information, please contact:

Bill Braden - MLA Great Slave  
Phone: (867) 669-2276  
Fax: (867) 873-0276  
Email: [bill\\_braden@gov.nt.ca](mailto:bill_braden@gov.nt.ca)



June 26, 2001

News Release

For Immediate Release

### Cuff Report a Slap in the Face to Communities

The recommendations of the Cuff Report to centralize power and decision making in the hands of Yellowknife-based bureaucrats and the Minister of Health and Social Services anger Michael Miltenberger, MLA for Thebacha.

“The recommendations of the Cuff Report on board governance were clearly predetermined,” said Mr. Miltenberger. “They completely disregard the government’s previous emphasis on bringing decision-making closer to the communities.”

“There were rumours from day one that the mandate given to the contractor was to get rid of the Health and Social Services boards and re-centralize the power and authority back to Yellowknife and Headquarters,” said Mr. Miltenberger. “Despite the Minister of Health and Social Services reassurances, the rumours were apparently true.”

During the review process, the Minister publicly indicated that alternatives, like community service boards, would be considered. The consultant who prepared the report however, made it clear while speaking to MLAs yesterday that was never part of his mandate.

“The system is not perfect but there was no consideration of any other options besides getting rid of the boards,” said Mr. Miltenberger. “How do you foster ownership of the system when people cannot have a true say in how it operates?”

Mr. Miltenberger stated that the losers in this process are the communities. For twenty-five years, the North has been fighting to bring real decision-making to the community level and in one blow, he feels we are right back to where we were all those years ago.

Mr. Miltenberger states that under the proposed model, communities can provide advice, but those in power do not have to listen to that advice. It is also a model where service providers live in Yellowknife and travel as needed to provide services. This system has been employed before and usually the community the providers live in get most of their attention. He says it does not work.

Mr. Miltenberger also raised concerns again with the limited time for the public to comment. “Although the department has done many studies, this is the first time they have actually put a plan on the table,” said Mr. Miltenberger. “This plan has significant implications for the future role of communities and community governments. The public and the Regular MLAs should have a reasonable amount of time to review the report.”

Mr. Miltenberger stated that given that it is Assembly and holiday time, and that the department only did a limited run of copies of the report, people may have to wait to get a paper copy. Thirty-five days does not seem like a reasonable amount of time for review stated the Minister. Instead, he feels the Minister is clearly showing that she is not really interested in feedback.

Contact: J. Michael Miltenberger  
MLA Thebacha  
Phone: (867) 872-5511  
Fax: (867) 872-5642  
Email: [jmmiltenberger@hotmail.com](mailto:jmmiltenberger@hotmail.com) Web site: [www.mlathebacha.ca](http://www.mlathebacha.ca)



June 28, 2001

For Immediate Release

### Public Hearing Announced by Special Committee on Conflict Process

The Special Committee on Conflict Process will address the Application originally filed on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2001 with the Board of Management, on behalf of the Honourable Jane Groenewegen, during a Public Hearing on Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. The Hearing will take place at 3:00 p.m. in Committee Room A of the Legislative Assembly Building in Yellowknife.

Brendan Bell, Chair of the Special Committee, stressed the need to keep the public informed of the process that will be used to resolve the matter, which was referred to the Committee by the Legislative Assembly.

“We have got to do the right thing here, and we have got to make a fair and well informed recommendation,” said Mr. Bell, in explaining the decision to hold a public hearing into the matter. “Equally as important, the process must be seen to be fair and transparent. I do not think the public wants to see us do something behind closed doors.

Mr. Bell explained that the process of a Public Hearing will address this need and afford the parties the opportunity to be heard by the Committee.

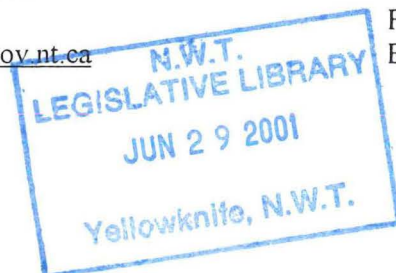
The Application before the Committee alleges that a reasonable apprehension of bias has arisen with respect to the investigation into the Conflict of Interest Complaint filed against Ms. Groenewegen, by Mr. Jack Rowe. The Application seeks a recommendation that the Conflict of Interest Commissioner be removed or suspended from dealing with the complaint filed against Ms. Groenewegen and requests the appointment of a Special Conflict of Interest Commissioner to undertake the investigation. The Application is contested and opposed by the Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

All Submissions received by the Special Committee will be made available to the public beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup> and at the Hearing.

For further information, please contact:

Brendan Bell  
Chair – Special Committee on Conflict Process  
Phone: (867) 669-2294  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 873-0276  
Email: [brendan\\_bell@gov.nt.ca](mailto:brendan_bell@gov.nt.ca)

David Hamilton  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly  
Phone: (867) 669-2299  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 873-0432  
Email: [clerks@gov.nt.ca](mailto:clerks@gov.nt.ca)



July 19, 2001

For Immediate Release

**Special Committee on Conflict Process to hold second public meeting**

The Special Committee on Conflict Process will conduct a public meeting on Sunday, July 22, 2001. The meeting will allow Committee members to address issues that have arisen regarding the availability of witnesses and legal counsel with respect to the continuation of the hearing process.

In explaining the need for a meeting on Sunday, Brendan Bell, Chair of the Special Committee stressed that scheduling pressures have left Committee members with no option but to meet the day before session starts.

“We’ve been given a mandate to report back to the House on July 23 and to provide recommendations from the findings of our review,” said Mr. Bell. “Unfortunately, a variety of things have prevented us from completing our work. We need to consider our options in light of the difficulties we’re having with securing witnesses and with the fact that legal counsel for the Conflict of Interest Commissioner will not be available to attend the hearings that we tentatively scheduled on the July 24, 25 and 26.”

The motion, which established the Special Committee on June 12, 2001, requires that the Special Committee report its findings and recommendations no later than July 23, 2001. The hearings have been scheduled for July 24 - 26 in anticipation of a request being made of the Legislative Assembly on July 23, 2001 to extend the mandate of the Committee.

The Special Committee was established on June 12, 2001, to deal with an Application filed on behalf of the Honourable Jane Groenewegen. The Application alleges that a reasonable apprehension of bias has arisen with respect to the investigation into the Conflict of Interest Complaint filed against Ms. Groenewegen, by Mr. Jack Rowe. The Application seeks a recommendation that the Conflict Commissioner be removed or suspended from dealing with the complaint filed against Ms. Groenewegen and requests the appointment of a Special Conflict Commissioner to undertake the investigation. The Application is contested and opposed by the Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

The public meeting will begin at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, in Committee Room A of the Legislative Assembly Building in Yellowknife.

For more information contact:

Brendan Bell  
Chair Special Committee on Conflict Process  
Tel: (867) 669-2294  
Toll free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 873-0276  
Email: [brendan\\_bell@gov.nt.ca](mailto:brendan_bell@gov.nt.ca)

David Hamilton  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly  
Tel: (867) 669-2299  
Toll free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 873-0432  
Email: [david\\_hamilton@gov.nt.ca](mailto:david_hamilton@gov.nt.ca)



July 20, 2001

For Immediate Release

### **Groenewegen Counsel requests to withdraw her Application**

A new item has been added to the Agenda of the Public meeting of the Special Committee on Conflict Process, scheduled for Sunday July 22, 2001. In a letter dated July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2001, counsel for Minister Jane Groenewegen formally requested to withdraw the Application currently before the Special Committee.

The Special Committee on Conflict Process was specifically established, by motion of the House, to deal with the Application and is mandated to present its report and recommendations on July 23, 2001. In a statement this morning, Mr. Bell, Chair of the Special Committee, acknowledged the serious implications of this recent turn of events.

“This request raises a whole host of questions as to how this Committee should proceed,” said Mr. Bell. “Ultimately, final authority rests with the House as to how to deal with the issue but we have been mandated with the responsibility to look into this matter, give due consideration to all of the facts, and report back to the House on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.”

The original Application requests that the Conflict of Interest Commissioner be prevented from dealing with the complaint filed against Ms. Groenewegen, based on an allegation that a reasonable apprehension of bias has arisen with respect to the investigation. The Conflict of Interest Commissioner contests the Application but has suspended further action on this matter, pending direction from the Legislative Assembly.

“We are going to press on and continue to work toward resolving this matter,” said Mr. Bell. “Obviously we will need to consider this information, hear from both sides on the issues, and make a careful and informed recommendation in our report to the House.”

Copies of the request to withdraw and the response from the Conflict of Interest Commissioner can be obtained by contacting the Clerks Office.

For more information contact:

Brendan Bell  
Chair Special Committee on Conflict Process  
Tel: (867) 669-2294  
Toll free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 873-0276  
Email: [brendan\\_bell@gov.nt.ca](mailto:brendan_bell@gov.nt.ca)

David Hamilton  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly  
Tel: (867) 669-2299  
Toll free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 873-0432  
Email: [david\\_hamilton@gov.nt.ca](mailto:david_hamilton@gov.nt.ca)

August 16, 2001

For Immediate Release

### Standing Committee on Social Programs responds to Cuff Report

The Standing Committee on Social Programs has reviewed "It's Time to Act" – A Report on the Health and Social Services System of the Northwest Territories, and it feels that the Report does not address the real problems facing the system.

The Standing Committee met on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2001 to discuss the Report, otherwise known as the "Cuff Report". Committee members are concerned about the way the report was written from an "Alberta perspective" and that it tends to only reflect initiatives that have already been undertaken in Alberta.

The Committee also feels that the Report does not properly address the problems of delivery and governance of Health and Social Services in the Northwest Territories, especially during the ever changing landscape of land claim and self-government agreements.

Committee members are extremely concerned about what form consultation will take from this point on. They are also concerned about how many, if any, aboriginal governments were consulted during the writing of the report.

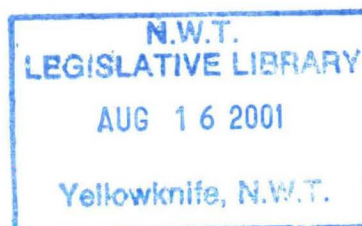
"While it provides some useful information, the "Cuff Report" is fundamentally flawed," said Mr. Miltenberger, MLA for Thebacha and Chair of the Standing Committee. "There are far reaching consequences for all government departments if this Report is implemented, not to mention the negative impact on First Nations and land claim and self-government negotiations."

Implementing all of the recommendations in the "Cuff Report" will mean a 180-degree policy shift by the Government of the Northwest Territories. This would damage the relationships with aboriginal governments for years to come.

Given the many shortcomings of the "Cuff Report", the Standing Committee on Social Programs urges the Minister to consult properly, salvage what she can from the Report, and consider other alternatives.

For more information contact:

J. Michael Miltenberger  
Chair, Standing Committee on Social Programs  
Tel: (867) 669-2270  
Toll free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 873-0276  
Email: [michael\\_miltenberger@gov.nt.ca](mailto:michael_miltenberger@gov.nt.ca)



PRESS RELEASE

Aug 16, 2001

(Yellowknife)

Steven Nitah, MLA for Tu Nedhe, announced today that he has received the report of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner with respect to the complaint laid against him by the Board of Management of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories and that this report clears him of any wrongdoing. On June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2001, the Board of Management asked the Conflict Commissioner to investigate the issue of whether there had been a breach of the conflict of interest provisions of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*. The Board did not feel that Mr. Nitah had adequately satisfied them that he was a resident of Lutsel K'e, not Yellowknife, for the purposes of receiving living allowances under the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*.

Mr. Nitah maintained before the Board of Management and later, the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, that he resides in Lutsel K'e and that his stays in Yellowknife were for the purposes of carrying out his duties as the Member for Tu Nedhe. He has always asserted that since being elected to public office in 1999, he has been a resident of Lutsel K'e. He provided the Board and the Commissioner with material to support his statement of residency.

Carol Roberts, the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, found that there were no reasonable grounds to support the Board's complaint. "With the greatest of respect to the Board, I am unable to conclude that the grounds of its complaint constitute reasonable grounds to believe there has been a contravention of Part 3 of the *Act*."

With specific reference to Mr. Nitah's being reimbursed for his Yellowknife expenses, she stated "there are no grounds before me to support a finding that Mr. Nitah's acceptance of these expenses was improper".

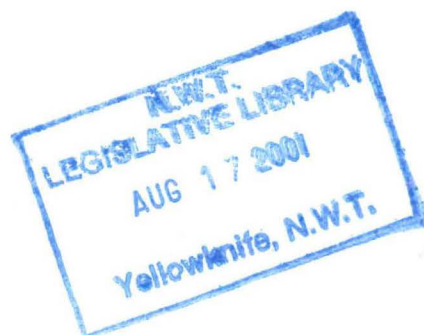
In addition to holding that there were no reasonable grounds for the Board's complaint, the Commissioner found that there was no evidence to support that a contravention of the *Act* had occurred and dismissed the complaint.

Mr. Nitah, in his first public comment on the matter, indicated that he was happy with the results and with the fact that the Conflict Commissioner had dealt with this matter so quickly. Mr. Nitah stated "Out of respect for this process, I did not think it was appropriate to speak publicly about this complaint while the matter was still before the Conflict Commissioner. Now that she had concluded her investigation, I am relieved, as are my constituents, that the Conflict Commissioner has so convincingly found no evidence of wrongdoing on my part.

This has been a difficult time for me and my constituents and we are glad it is over. It is time now to carry on with business of representing my constituents in the legislature."

Contact:

Sheila M. MacPherson  
Barristers & Solicitors  
Gullberg, Wiest, MacPherson & Kay  
P.O. Box 818  
Yellowknife, NT  
(867) 669-5522  
sheilam@lexborealis.nt.ca



**REPORT TO THE  
SPEAKER OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**

**IN THE MATTER OF ALLEGATIONS AGAINST  
THE MEMBER FOR TU NEDHE**

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST COMMISSIONER  
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES**

**August 13, 2001**



**COMPLAINT UNDER SECTION 100(1) OF THE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ACT  
AGAINST THE MEMBER FOR HAY RIVER SOUTH**

**I. COMPLAINT**

On June 4, 2001, I received a letter from Anthony (Tony) Whitford, Chairperson of the Board of Management (the "Board"), setting out a complaint pursuant to section 100(1) of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* ("the Act") against the Member for Tu Nedhe, Steven Nitah.

Mr. Whitford's letter stated, in part, as follows:

The Board of Management has recently been considering the issue of residency of one of the Members, Mr. Nitah. It came to the attention of the Board at approximately the end of March 2001 that there may be a question as to the ordinary place of residence of this individual and corresponding issues with respect to the payment to him of the Capital Accommodation Allowance under the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*.

Accordingly, the Board made certain inquiries of Mr. Nitah with respect to his usual place of residence. A response was received from the Member. Upon reviewing the responses received, the Board was of the view that the material did not determinatively answer the question. It has therefore decided to refer the matter to you for investigation as a complaint pursuant to section 100 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*.

The Board is of the view that it has reasonable grounds to believe that a breach of section 75(a) or (b) may have occurred with respect to this Member's statutory declaration of residence, which is the basis for the payment of certain allowances and benefits under the *Act* and the *Regulations*.

Mr. Whitford's letter continues:

The Board is mindful that the question of residency can be a complex one and that this question requires a thorough investigation. While the Board has the overall responsibility to duly administer the various allowances and indemnities prescribed under the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, it

prefers not to adopt an investigative role when other alternatives respecting such inquiries are available.

Attached to the complaint were several documents, including a Record of Decision of the Board, copies of the Board's correspondence to Mr. Nitah and Mr. Nitah's replies to that correspondence, with enclosures.

The Board's complaint was sent to Mr. Nitah on June 8, 2001. Although the Board's complaint made reference to Mr. Nitah's statutory declarations, they were not included with the complaint. Those were obtained from the Clerk's office in June, and provided to Mr. Nitah's counsel, Sheila McPherson, on June 25.

## II. PRELIMINARY MATTER

A statutory declaration by Liza Enzo was included with one of Mr. Nitah's letters to the Board. Ms. Enzo is a Lutsel K'e elder and an extended relative of Mr. Nitah. She had sworn her statutory declaration before Chief Felix Lockhart, who identified himself as a Commissioner for Oaths.

On June 26, Mr. Whitford provided me with a copy of a letter Chief Lockhart sent to Mr. Nitah on June 19, 2001, and which had been copied to Mr. Whitford. In that letter, Chief Lockhart indicated that he had been advised he was not a Commissioner for Oaths. Chief Lockhart wrote:

Based on this information I strongly recommend you withdraw the document which bears my signature and seek the signature of a bonafide (sic) Commissioner for Oaths in the Northwest Territories for your declaration of residency document.

A statutory declaration is a statement of facts, made in writing and confirmed by the oath or affirmation of the person making it, before someone who has the authority to administer an oath or affirmation.

A Commissioner for Oaths has certain duties in addition to administering the oath or affirmation. Where a person whose first language is not that used in the material, who cannot read, or who is mentally disable or frail on account of advanced age, the Commissioner must ensure that the person understands the meaning and significance of the affirmation. Chief Lockhart apparently believed that, at the time he took Ms. Enzo's declaration, he had the authority to administer the oath or affirmation.

Provided that Chief Lockhart explained the meaning and significance of the affirmation to Ms. Enzo, the fact that he did not have the power to administer it does not, in my view, go to the truth of her declaration. Ms. Enzo swore before Chief Lockhart that the information in the declaration was true, and Chief

Lockhart's incapacity would not affect her state of mind. The technical violation by Chief Lockhart would not diminish the solemnity of the event for Ms. Enzo.

Nevertheless, to avoid any issues being raised about the weight I should place on the declaration, I asked Ms. McPherson whether Mr. Nitah intended to have Ms. Enzo's statutory declaration re-sworn. Ms. Enzo's re-sworn statutory declaration was received on July 24, 2001.

### III. RESPONSE TO COMPLAINT

Mr. Nitah contends that the complaint is flawed, and contends that I should dismiss the complaint. He says that the Board sets forth no grounds on which a reasonable belief is based, either in the Record of Decision or in the correspondence provided by the Board, and that setting out a reasonable belief is a precondition to the filing of a complaint under s.100. He says that the Board, after having made its own inquiries into the issue of his residency, has "ducked" its responsibility of making a determination as to whether he is a resident of Yellowknife or Lutsel K'e and sent this matter to me for my determination.

Mr. Nitah contends that, for me to perform the Board's duties in this matter would expand my role "to that of an investigator of administrative practices rather than... as a decision maker of complaints filed by individuals who have honestly held beliefs that a member is in a position of conflict of interest."

Mr. Nitah also takes the position that the Chairperson of the Board of Management has failed to provide me with clear grounds setting forth the basis of the complaint. Mr. Nitah says that while one may infer from the material that the substance of the complaint is that the Board believes that he has improperly obtained housing benefits by fraudulently declaring his residence to be Lutsel K'e, however, that is not made clear in the letter. He submits that, although it is possible for me to infer that the Board has made the complaint because it holds a belief that a contravention has occurred, and further, that it is possible to extract the supposed grounds for that belief from the material, it is not proper for me to draw these inferences and thereby build a foundation for the complaint.

Further, Mr. Nitah says that he provided the Board with material it requested, and that the Board has not given him the required particulars with respect to what material it rejected, or given him reasons for its rejection of it.

Finally, Mr. Nitah contends that, while the spirit of the legislation is to allow some latitude to be given to members of the public, who cannot be expected to draft a complaint with the precision expected of lawyers, the Board is a sophisticated complainant, and should be expected to set forth the nature of its complaint more precisely given the serious consequences to him once the complaint process has been invoked.

#### IV. STATUTORY SCHEME

Members' indemnities, allowances and reimbursement of Expenses are governed by sections 24 to 29 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*.

Where a member does not live within commuting distance of Yellowknife, s. 24 provides that the member shall be reimbursed for either the actual rent for rental accommodation or the actual cost of hotel accommodation, and other authorized expenses, while in Yellowknife on business as a member. This includes attending session, committee meetings, or other Assembly business. Members who do not live within commuting distance of Yellowknife are also entitled to be paid an allowance for meal and incidental expenses (s. 26), and transportation costs for business or legislative assembly sessions (s. 27 and 28).

Section 29 of the *Act* provides as follows:

Subject to the regulations and on production of receipts or other documentation satisfactory to the Board of Management, a member shall be reimbursed for the expenses necessarily incurred by the member to carry out his or her constituency work.

Pursuant to s. 29, the *Indemnities, Allowances and Expense Regulations* was enacted, which governs the types and amounts of expenses that are payable to a member. Section 14 provides that

- (1) No reimbursement may be made to a member under subsection 24(1) of the *Act* until the member has provided to the Clerk a statutory declaration setting out the full address, including the name of the community, of the place at which the member lives.
- (2) A member who moves from the address set out in his or her statutory declaration shall, without delay after the move, provide to the Clerk a new statutory declaration setting out the new address.

The statutory declaration of residence is provided to members specifically for the purpose of section 14 of the *Indemnities, Allowances and Expense Regulations*. It indicates that it "is used to determine payments to the Member under the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*" and includes the following paragraph:

A Member is considered to live in the community in which he or she regularly or customarily lives in the normal routine of life. In determining your place of residence the following factors should be taken into consideration."

A number of factors are then set out as indicators of residency. They include usual residence of spouse and/or dependent children, community where spouse is employed, location of owned residence or residence rented for one or more years, location of personal possessions (clothing, furniture, pets), amount of time spent in the community, location of active business ties, personal mailing address, personal telephone listing, and address on income tax return; registration of vehicle, boat or snowmobile, driver's licence, health care registration.

## **V. DISCUSSION**

### **A. Facts**

Mr. Nitah has completed three statutory declarations of residence, one sworn on what appears to be January 19, 2000, one on February 17, 2000, and one on June 1, 2001. In all three declarations, Mr. Nitah solemnly declared that the full address of the place at which he lived was Lutsel K'e, N.W.T. Two of the declarations specified a Box number as well as the community. One of those declarations also specified the Lot number of his residence.

On April 10, 2001, the Board asked Mr. Nitah to respond to a series of questions relating to his place of residence, and asked him to provide documentation, where appropriate. Those questions related to such factors as the nature of his accommodation in Lutsel K'e, his phone listings, mailing address, and the address indicated on his income tax return.

Mr. Nitah provided his response to the Board on May 25, 2001. Mr. Nitah advised the Board that, between 1996 and 1999, he worked for Diavik and lived in Yellowknife. When he decided to run for election in 1999, he moved from Yellowknife to Lutsel K'e. Mr. Nitah moved his family back to Lutsel K'e in January 2000, after winning the election. Mr. Nitah provided the Board with his 2000 Income Tax return showing a deduction for the expenses incurred in moving his family from Yellowknife to Lutsel K'e.

Mr. Nitah also indicated in his reply that he maintained a residence in Lutsel K'e, and, although he does not pay rent or a mortgage on the home, he assisted with the maintenance costs of the home, and attached Ms. Enzo's declaration. In that declaration, Ms. Enzo swears that, in Lutsel K'e, there is a home known as the Nitah family home where Mr. Nitah stays when he is Lutsel K'e. I have inferred that this home is located at the lot number referred to in Mr. Nitah's statutory declaration.

Mr. Nitah further indicated that his family maintained a telephone at that home, and that he did not maintain one in Yellowknife. Mr. Nitah informed the Board that he maintained a post office box in his own name Lutsel K'e, and that he was

a member of the Lutsel K'e band. Mr. Nitah further indicated that he maintained a snowmobile in Lutsel K'e.

Mr. Nitah's driver's licence, which appears to have been issued in October 1998, shows a Yellowknife address. Mr. Nitah's vehicle registration shows a Lutsel K'e address.

In his closing paragraph to the Board, Mr. Nitah asks whether the information he has provided is sufficient, and to advise him whether it required further information or wished him to appear to answer questions in relation to those responses.

## **B. Analysis**

Sections 75(a) and (b) provide as follows:

- 75.** Each member shall
- (a) perform his or her duties of office and arrange his or her private affairs in such a manner as to maintain public confidence and trust in the integrity, objectivity and impartiality of the member;
  - (b) refrain from accepting any remuneration, gift or benefit the acceptance of which might erode public confidence and trust in the integrity, objectivity or impartiality of the member, and in all other respects act in a manner that will bear the closest public scrutiny;

Section 100 provides that a member or other person who believes on reasonable grounds that a member has contravened Part 3 of the Act may file a complaint setting out those reasonable grounds with the Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

The Board's complaint states that it is of the view that it has reasonable grounds to believe that a breach of either of sections 75(a) or (b) "may have occurred with respect to this Member's statutory declaration of residence".

As I have said in the context of another complaint, suspicion or conjecture are insufficient to form the basis of a reasonable belief that there has been a breach of the conflict of interest provisions.

As the Board itself notes, the responsibility for administering the *Regulations* rests with the Board. Further, section 29 of the *Act* provides that a member shall be reimbursed for expenses subject to the *Regulations* and on production of receipts or other documentation satisfactory to the Board of Management. If the Board is not satisfied with the documentation, it has the ability to further

investigate, and, if still not satisfied, to refuse to reimburse the member. I have inferred from the Board's complaint that, even though it did apparently reimburse Mr. Nitah for those claimed expenses, it is not now satisfied with the documentation he has provided. I do not propose to determine why the Board is of this view. I have confined myself to examining this matter as a complaint to me as Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

With the greatest respect to the Board, I am unable to conclude that the grounds of its complaint constitute reasonable grounds to believe there has been a contravention of Part 3 of the *Act*.

In order to find a breach of s. 75(a), I must find that Mr. Nitah has failed to perform his duties of office, or arrange his personal affairs in a manner as to as to maintain public confidence and trust in his integrity, objectivity and impartiality.

The Board does not appear to allege that Mr. Nitah has failed to perform his duties of office. In any event, there is no information that this is the case.

Mr. Nitah has provided the Board with three statutory declarations, in which he swears that his residence is Lutsel K'e. There is nothing in the material that is inconsistent with those declarations or that indicates they are false. Indeed, as Mr. Nitah has pointed out, his claim for moving expenses has not been disallowed by Revenue Canada. There are no grounds to support a finding of a contravention of this section.

In order to determine whether there has been a breach of s. 75 (b), I must find that Mr. Nitah has accepted remuneration, gift or benefit, the acceptance of which might erode public confidence and trust in his integrity, objectivity or impartiality.

There is no allegation, or information, that Mr. Nitah has accepted a gift.

Mr. Nitah has claimed and received an indemnification for expenses under the *Act*. The *Regulations* set out the conditions that a member must fulfill to receive that indemnification. As already noted, Mr. Nitah provided statutory declarations attesting to his residency in Lutsel K'e, and there is no information inconsistent with those declarations or indicating they are false. Even if the payment of those expenses to a member could be considered either as benefits or remuneration for the purposes of this section, there are no grounds before me to support a finding that Mr. Nitah's acceptance of these expenses was improper.

## **VI. CONCLUSION**

Section 102(1) of the *Act* states

After conducting an investigation into the complaint, the Conflict of Interest Commissioner shall submit to the Speaker, the member complained of and the complainant, an report, with reasons, advising that the Conflict of Interest commissioner

(a) is dismissing the complaint, where the Conflict of Interest Commissioner has determined that

- (i) the complaint is frivolous or vexatious or was not made in good faith,
- (ii) there are insufficient grounds to warrant an inquiry,
- (iii) the complaint does not disclose a contravention of this Part,
- (iv) a contravention of this part was minor or was committed through inadvertence or by reason of an error in judgment made in good faith, or
- (v) the member took all reasonable measures to prevent an contravention of this part; or

(b) is directing that an inquiry be held before a Sole Adjudicator.

I find that the Board's complaint does not disclose reasonable grounds to believe Mr. Nitah has contravened Part 3 of the *Act*. Alternatively, I find that the complaint does not disclose a contravention of Part 3 of the *Act*, and dismiss it under section 102(1)(a)(iii).

This report is provided to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly pursuant to section 102(1) of the *Act*.



---

Carol L. Roberts  
Conflict of Interest Commissioner



September 5, 2001

For Immediate Release

### Commission Makes Final Request for Submissions

The Independent Commission on Members Compensation has extended its deadline of August 31, for receiving submissions from the general public on appropriate pay and benefits for members of the Legislative Assembly. The deadline has been extended to Friday September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2001.

In a statement this morning, Robert Clark, Chair of the Commission acknowledged the decision to extend the deadline and outlined the rationale behind the decision. "We need to make every effort to ensure that the general public are both aware of the process we've undertaken and given a reasonable opportunity to provide input in the review, said Mr. Clark. "By extending our deadline, I think we've accommodated that without jeopardizing our ability to complete the report within the timeline given to us by the Assembly."

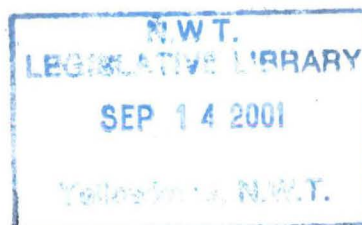
The Commission was established by motion of the House on June 14, 2001 to assess and review the indemnities, allowances, expenses and benefits provided to Members and to determine the appropriateness of the amounts they receive.

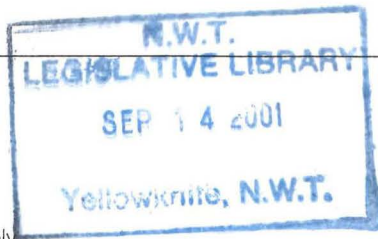
The Independent Commission is made up of three individuals and also includes Red Pedersen and Fred Carmichael. The Commission has a deadline of October 1, 2001 to present its report to the Speaker with observations and recommendations.

#### Contact:

Andrew Stewart  
Commission Secretary  
Legislative Assembly of the NWT  
PO Box 1320  
Yellowknife NT X1A 2L9  
Tel: 669-2343 or toll free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax 873-0432 or toll free: 1-800-661-0879  
Email: [andrew\\_stewart@gov.nt.ca](mailto:andrew_stewart@gov.nt.ca)

01-21





September 13, 2001

For Immediate Release

### Public Hearing Announced by Special Committee on Conflict Process

The Special Committee on Conflict Process will conduct Public Hearings on September 18, 19 and 20, 2001 commencing at 9:30 AM on each day, in Committee Room 'A' at the Legislative Assembly Building in Yellowknife. The hearings will address the application originally filed on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2001 by counsel for Jane Groenewegen, alleging an apprehension of bias in relation to the investigation conducted by the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, Carol Roberts as well as matters relating to the extended mandate of the Special Committee.

In a statement this morning, Mr. Brendan Bell, Chair of the Special Committee, outlined the purpose of the Hearings and stressed the commitment to conclude the hearings within the three-day period, despite a mounting list of witnesses. "Committee members recognize that we are going to need to take the time necessary to hear from a number of witnesses on these issues, but we are determined to finish this process and have our report completed well in advance of our deadline of October 23<sup>rd</sup>," said Mr. Bell. "In order to move forward and put this matter behind us, we need to clear the air on what has happened in a public and transparent way so that we may protect the integrity of the Legislative Assembly and the Office of the Conflict of Interest Commissioner."

The following individuals have been called to give evidence before the Committee; Mr. Jack Rowe, Ms. Groenewegen, Ms. Wendy Morgan, Ms. Carol Roberts, Mr. John Bayly, Mr. Lee Selleck, Ms. April Taylor and Ms. Lynda Sorensen. In addition, the Honourable Stephen Kakfwi, Premier of the Northwest Territories, has been notified that he may be asked to appear as a witness before the Committee.

The original Application placed before the Committee by Ms. Groenewegen was formally withdrawn with approval of the Legislative Assembly. The Legislative Assembly subsequently authorized and extended the mandate of the Special Committee to continue to consider the allegation of bias and any related matters which have arisen or may arise during the normal course of proceedings.

Unofficial Transcripts of the proceedings from each day of the Hearings will be made available to the public on the Legislative Assembly website at [www.gov.nt.ca](http://www.gov.nt.ca) or by contacting the Clerk's Office through the contact information below.

For further information, contact:

Brendan Bell  
Chair – Special Committee on Conflict Process  
Phone: (867) 669-2294  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 873-0276  
Email: [brendan\\_bell@gov.nt.ca](mailto:brendan_bell@gov.nt.ca)

David Hamilton  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly  
Phone: (867) 669-2299  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 920-4735  
Email: [david\\_hamilton@gov.nt.ca](mailto:david_hamilton@gov.nt.ca)

September 24, 2001

For Immediate Release

### Special Committee on Conflict Process Concludes Hearing

The Special Committee of Conflict Process concluded five days of hearings on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Brendan Bell, Chair for the Special Committee on Conflict Process concluded the hearings on Saturday September 22<sup>nd</sup>. "I would like to express my appreciation on behalf of the Committee to the witnesses that did appear before us to provide evidence on these important matters," said Mr. Bell.

After more than 70 hours of testimony, the Committee now awaits counsel's final written submissions due by September 28<sup>th</sup>. Exchange responses are due by October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Committee will then consider the evidence presented, final submissions of counsel, and prepare a report rendering its recommendations to the Legislative Assembly when it reconvenes on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

"The mandate entrusted to this committee is unprecedented in the history of the Northwest Territories' Legislative Assembly. This has not been an easy task for Committee Members although I must admit it has been an interesting experience. I would like to express my appreciation to my colleagues for the diligence that they have shown in the work of this Committee," concluded Mr. Bell.

Final submissions will be available to the public after October 1<sup>st</sup> through the Clerks office.

For more information, contact:

David Hamilton  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly  
Phone: (867) 669-2299  
Toll Free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 873-0432  
Email: [david\\_hamilton@gov.nt.ca](mailto:david_hamilton@gov.nt.ca)

October 1, 2001

For Immediate Release

### Territorial Languages Assembly to be held October 22<sup>nd</sup> in Yellowknife

The Special Committee on the Review of the *Official Languages Act* announced today that the first Territorial Languages Assembly will be held on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Explorer Hotel in Yellowknife.

The Assembly will include delegates representing each of the NWT's language communities, as well as members of the Languages Commissioner Advisory Board. Delegates will provide direction and advice to the Special Committee on its public consultation process.

"This First Assembly marks the start of our review of the *Official Languages Act*, and will provide us with an invaluable opportunity to hear input from all language communities, no matter how large or small," explained Mr. Steven Nitah, Chair of the Special Committee.

The Special Committee was established by the Legislative Assembly to undertake the mandatory 10-year review of the *Official Languages Act*, and to provide recommendations based on wide ranging public input. The review will look at the Act's effectiveness in enabling residents of the NWT to access government and Court services in their official language of choice. The review will address all provisions in the *Act*, and their implementation in the 10-years since the *Act* became law.

The Special Committee includes the following Members:

Mr. Steven Nitah, MLA for Tu Nedhe – Chair  
Mr. David Krutko, MLA for Mackenzie Delta – Deputy Chair  
Hon. Roger Allen, MLA for Inuvik Twin Lakes  
Mr. Brendan Bell, MLA for Yellowknife South  
Mr. Michael McLeod, MLA for Deh Cho

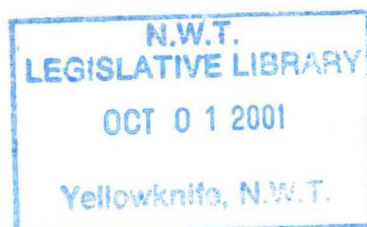
The Assembly will have limited seating available for the general public to observe the proceedings. Interpretation services will be available for all delegates in each of the official languages of the Northwest Territories.

The Official Languages of the NWT are, Chipewyan, Cree, Dogrib, English, French, Gwich'in, Inuktitut, Inuvialuktun, Inuinnaqtun, North Slavey, and South Slavey.

For more information on the upcoming Assembly or the important work of the Special Committee, please contact:

Steven Nitah  
Chair  
(867) 669-2287  
[steven\\_nitah@gov.nt.ca](mailto:steven_nitah@gov.nt.ca)

Benoît Boutin  
Committee Coordinator  
1 (877) 920-7265  
(867) 920-8014  
[benoit\\_boutin@gov.nt.ca](mailto:benoit_boutin@gov.nt.ca)



**For Immediate Release**

### **Committee Rejects Highway Toll Bills**

The Committee tasked with conducting the public review of the proposal Highway Toll legislation has recommended that the Legislative Assembly not proceed with further consideration of the two Bills. “Northerners have spoken loud and clear and our Committee has listened”, said Committee Chair, Floyd Roland. “This particular scheme, although well-intentioned, is not the solution for our deteriorating highway system. Other options must be considered and a number of practical alternatives will be detailed in our Report.”

Bill 9: *Commercial Vehicle Trip Permit Act* and Bill 10: *Public Highway Improvement Fund Act* received Second Reading on June 14, 2001 and were referred to the Standing Committee on Governance and Economic Development. The Committee held public hearings in six different communities beginning in late August. Committee Members heard from a wide cross-section of northerners that reside in communities on the highway system and from northerners that live off-road.

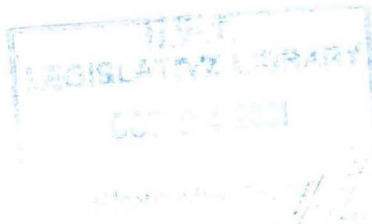
“The opposition to this proposal was nearly unanimous. It was overwhelming. Everyone agrees we need to improve our highways. Most northerners agree that the Trip Permit Fee is not the route to take,” added Deputy Chair, Sandy Lee.

“The majority of our Committee membership cannot, in good conscience, support the enactment of this legislation”, concluded Mr. Roland. “We are hopeful that Cabinet and the other Members have been listening to their constituents”.

For further information, contact:

Floyd K. Roland  
MLA, Inuvik Boot Lake  
Chairperson, Standing Committee on  
Governance and Economic Development  
Tel: (867) 669-2265  
Toll-Free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 873-0276  
Email: [floyd\\_roland@gov.nt.ca](mailto:floyd_roland@gov.nt.ca)

Doug Schauerte  
Deputy Clerk  
Tel: (867) 669-2277  
Toll-Free: 1-800-661-0784  
Fax: (867) 873-0432  
Email: [doug\\_schauerte@gov.nt.ca](mailto:doug_schauerte@gov.nt.ca)



October 25, 2001

For Immediate Release

**Territorial Leadership Committee to be held October 31, 2001**

The Caucus of the 14<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly has agreed to convene a meeting of the Territorial Leadership Committee to fill the vacancy on the Executive Council created by the resignation of Jane Groenewegen. It has also been confirmed by Caucus that the “two-two-two” regional balance will be maintained. Members eligible for the vacant Cabinet post therefore, are Members representing the constituencies of Deh Cho, Hay River North, Hay River South, Thebacha, and Tu Nedhe.

Subsequent to the debate in the Legislature surrounding the report of the Special Committee on Conflict Process, Caucus has also agreed that a question be put to the Territorial Leadership Committee at its October 31<sup>st</sup> meeting. The question will be: “*Does the Territorial Leadership Committee have confidence in the Premier?*”  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ “

The Premier will be permitted to make a speech of not more than thirty minutes. Once the Premier has concluded, all Members will vote on the question by secret ballot.

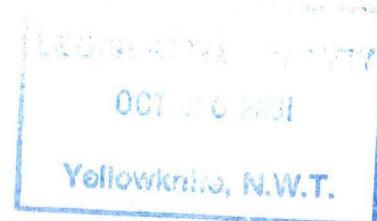
The meeting of the Territorial Leadership Committee will convene at 9:00am on Wednesday, October 31, 2001 in the Chamber of the Legislative Building in Yellowknife.

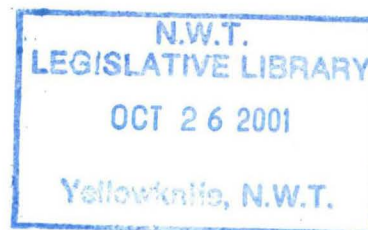
The Territorial Leadership Committee is a Committee of all nineteen Members of the 14<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly and is the process that the Assembly has adopted to publicly elect its Speaker, Premier and Ministers.

For more information, please contact:

Bill Braden  
Caucus Chair  
(867) 669-2276

Steve Nitah  
Caucus Deputy Chair  
(867) 669-2287





**MEDIA RELEASE**

**SOLID CONFIDENCE IN KAKFWI LEADERSHIP:**  
**BRADEN**

**Yellowknife, NT -- (Oct 26, 2001)** Great Slave MLA Bill Braden has declared his confidence and support for Premier Stephen Kakfwi to stay on the job and continue the progressive agenda he has been leading for the past two years.

"Stephen Kakfwi has had my support since the beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly," said Mr. Braden. "I want to make it absolutely clear that I want him to stay. I believe he has the support he needs among the broad NWT community, and among MLAs. I expect he, and the Assembly, will come out of this confidence issue with a clear mandate to press ahead."

In the October 24 Legislative Assembly debate on the Special Committee of Conflict Process, Mr. Braden supported the Premier.

He stressed that the many investor and government agendas now underway -- including self government agreements, devolution, pipeline and diamond development -- would be seriously jeopardized by a change in leadership at this critical time.

**CONTACT:**

Bill Braden,  
MLA Great Slave  
669 2276 work  
873 6906 home  
[bill\\_braden@gov.nt.ca](mailto:bill_braden@gov.nt.ca)

01-27



October 30, 2001

For Immediate Release

### Territorial Leadership Committee Revises Agenda

The Caucus of the 14<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly has agreed to remove the secret ballot question of confidence in the Premier from its agenda on Wednesday, October 31, 2001.

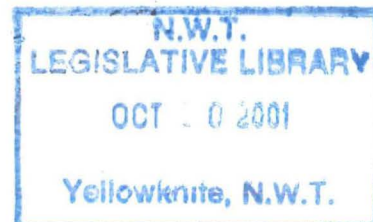
Caucus has confirmed that the only item on the agenda of the Territorial Leadership Committee will be the election of a Cabinet Minister to fill the present vacancy.

The agenda and the Territorial Leadership Committee procedures for Cabinet selection are attached for information purposes.

For more information, please contact:

Bill Braden  
Caucus Chair  
(867) 669-2276

Steve Nitah  
Caucus Deputy Chair  
(867) 669-2287





# **TERRITORIAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE**

*Wednesday, October 31, 2001*

*Convening at 9:00 AM*

Chamber, Legislative Assembly Building  
Yellowknife, N.W.T.

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1. Call to Order
2. Prayer
3. Review and Adoption of Agenda
4. Chair's Opening Remarks
5. Election of Cabinet Minister
  - a) Nominations
  - b) Candidates' Speeches
  - c) Voting
  - d) Results
6. Adjournment

## TERRITORIAL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

### CABINET SELECTION

---

- This election takes place in the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly.
- It is a secret ballot election for one (1) Member to the Cabinet.
- A “two-two-two” regional balance in Cabinet governs all aspects of this selection process (i.e., two cabinet Ministers from the northern constituencies, two Cabinet Ministers from the Yellowknife constituencies and two Cabinet Ministers from the southern constituencies).

#### The northern constituencies include:

- Inuvik Boot Lake
- Inuvik Twin Lakes
- Mackenzie Delta
- North Slave
- Nunakput, and
- Sahtu.

#### The Yellowknife constituencies include:

- Frame Lake
- Great Slave
- Kam Lake
- Range Lake
- Weledeh
- Yellowknife Centre, and
- Yellowknife South.

#### The southern constituencies include:

- Deh Cho
  - Hay River North
  - Hay River South
  - Nahendeh
  - Thebacha, and
  - Tu Nedhe.
- 
- The Speaker presides over this election process.

- The Speaker asks for nominations from the floor and the nominee either immediately accepts or declines the nomination.
  - Members are not permitted to nominate themselves.
  - If only one person is nominated than that Member is acclaimed as a Cabinet Minister.
  - The names are listed in alphabetical order on the ballot.
  - In alphabetical order, each candidate is permitted to make a ten-minute speech.
  - A question and answer period does not occur.
  - Once all candidates have made their speeches, the Speaker will call on Members to commence voting.
  - A ballot box is placed in front of the Clerk's Table and two voting booths are placed on either side of the Speaker's Chair.
  - Members are permitted to cast their ballots by proxy.
  - To do so, a Member must provide a letter to the Speaker no later than one (1) hour prior to the casting of the first ballot, in which the Member's proxy is named.
  - Members receive ballots from the Clerk's Table.
  - Members proceed to vote. Members shall vote for one candidate. The Speaker is permitted to vote after all Members have voted.
  - Once all Members have voted, the ballot box is taken to the Clerk's Office where the votes are counted. The Speaker is not involved in the counting of the ballots.
  - Vote totals are not announced.
  - The bells are rung for five minutes to bring Members back in once the results are determined. The names are listed in alphabetical order.
  - If one candidate does not receive the required number of votes (10), the name of the candidate receiving the fewest number of votes is dropped from that ballot's list of nominees and further voting takes place as required.
-

- If two or more candidates on the ballot receive the smallest number of votes all names remain on for the next ballot.
  - The Speaker announces the list of candidates who will remain on the ballot.
  - Candidates may withdraw their names after the first ballot but must do so before the commencement of the second or subsequent ballots.
  - Voting for the Cabinet position continues until one candidate has the required number of votes.
  - The Speaker announces who the Members have elected as their new Cabinet Member.
  - The results of this election are formally ratified by a motion in the House.
-

**October 31, 2001**

**For Immediate Release**

**Territorial Leadership Committee Selects a Cabinet Minister**

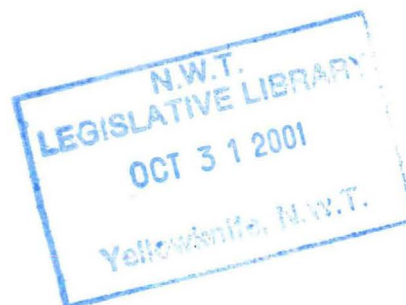
Today the Territorial Leadership Committee held an election to determine who will fill the vacancy in Cabinet.

There were four candidates, Paul Delorey, Member for Hay River North, Jane Groenewegen, Member for Hay River South, Michael Miltenberger, Member for Thebacha, and Steven Nitah, Member for Tu Nedhe. In three ballots the Member for Thebacha, Mr. Michael Miltenberger was elected to the Executive Council.

The Commissioner of the Northwest Territories will swear in Mr. Miltenberger as a Member of the Executive Council at the adjournment of the House today.

For more information, please contact:

Pamela Colquhoun  
Public Affairs and Communications Advisor  
Phone: (867) 669-2230  
Toll Free: 1 (800) 661-0784  
[pamela\\_colquhoun@gov.nt.ca](mailto:pamela_colquhoun@gov.nt.ca)



**For Immediate Release**

**Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight Reports Progress on Plans and Priorities**

(Yellowknife November 5, 2001) – The Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight met in September to review its work and to plan for the remainder of the 14<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly. As evidence of their commitment, the Members today reported the results of that planning session to the Legislative Assembly.

The Report reaffirmed the Members' commitment to continue to take purposeful action to support, question or oppose Government initiatives and to hold Government accountable. The Committee also confirmed that when it is in the public interest they will take a proactive approach to recommend the Government take appropriate action. "In keeping with our commitment to making a positive contribution to the 14<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly and continuing efforts towards making government more open and transparent, the Committee felt that it was important to share these plans with the public," said Mr. Dent, Chair of the Committee.

The Committee urges the government to seek guidance for priority areas through consultation and collaboration. The Members of the Committee will continue to advocate on behalf of the public, and will continue to make a sincere and determined effort to work with the government to succeed in achieving a better tomorrow.

The Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight is responsible for reviewing all issues with a government-wide impact and for overseeing the public accounts.

For more information please contact:

**Contact:**

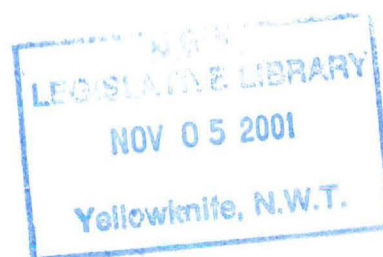
Charles Dent

Chair, Standing Committee on Accountability and Oversight

Phone: (867) 669-2296

Toll Free: 1(800) 661-0784

e-mail: Charles\_Dent@gov.nt.ca



For Immediate Release

### **Special Committee Focusing its work on the Sunset Clause**

(Yellowknife, November 5, 2001) The Special Committee on the Implementation of Self-government and the Sunset Clause tabled its first report to the Legislative Assembly, in the House this afternoon. The report provided an update on the activities of the Committee to date and outlined the strategy for addressing the first task facing the Committee, the Sunset Clause.

Ms. Sandy Lee, Co-chair, highlighted the Special Committees' desire to receive public input for dealing with the Sunset Clause. The Special Committee is offering to attend community meetings in order to explain options for addressing the Clause, and to hear feedback from northern residents.

"We recognize the need to hear from all interested residents on this important matter. We are committed to putting the word out, through newspaper ads, brochures and even community travel so that every resident is aware of what we are doing and has an opportunity to make their views known," said Ms. Lee.

The Special Committee has been tasked with considering the impacts of implementing self-government agreements in the north and dealing with the Sunset Clause found under section 2 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*. After consulting with the public and determining its recommendations for addressing the Sunset Clause, The Committee will place a renewed focus on issues relating to the implementation of self-government in the north.

The Special Committee is not involved in self-government negotiations. For the benefit of the people of the Northwest Territories, it is looking at how negotiated agreements may change government structures, programs, services, and financing arrangements in our territory.

For more information on the work of the Committee, please contact:

Sandy Lee  
Co-Chair  
Phone: (867)669-2290  
Toll Free: 1(800)661-0784  
e-mail: [Sandy\\_Lee@gov.nt.ca](mailto:Sandy_Lee@gov.nt.ca)

Jim Antoine  
Co-chair  
Phone: (867)669-2388  
Toll Free: 1(800)661-0784  
e-mail: [Jim\\_Antoine@gov.nt.ca](mailto:Jim_Antoine@gov.nt.ca)



November 15, 2001

For Immediate Release

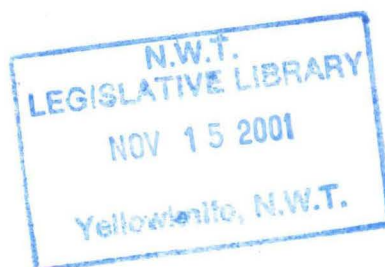
**Ted Hughes Recommended as Acting Conflict of Interest Commissioner**

Today the Board of Management of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories agreed to recommend to the Commissioner of the NWT, that Mr. Ted Hughes be appointed as Acting Conflict of Interest Commissioner and that he be recommended for appointment as the Conflict of Interest Commissioner during the next Session.

Mr. Hughes is a retired judge, a specialist in constitutional and administrative law, and former Deputy Attorney General of British Columbia. His past experience includes responsibilities as Chair of several Commissions of Inquiry in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories. He has also distinguished himself as the Commissioner of Conflict of Interest in both British Columbia and the Yukon.

For more information please contact:

David Hamilton  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of the NWT  
Toll Free: 1(800)661-0784  
Phone: (867) 669-2299  
e-mail: [clerks@gov.nt.ca](mailto:clerks@gov.nt.ca)





November 16, 2001

For Immediate Release

**Special Committee on the Review of the *Official Languages Act* begins community consultations**

Yellowknife – The Special Committee on the Review of the *Official Languages Act* is beginning its community consultations November 19<sup>th</sup> in Fort Smith. The community consultations were announced during the First Territorial Languages Assembly, held October 22<sup>nd</sup> in Yellowknife.

The schedule for the first round of community consultations is attached. Additional communities will be visited by the Committee in February, 2002.

“We want to find out what the people in the Northwest Territories think about the *Official Languages Act*. Through this review of the *Act* we want to know how the *Act* is being used, and how it might be strengthened in support of our official languages,” explained Mr. Steven Nitah, Chair of the Special Committee.

Interpretation services will be available at the public meetings.

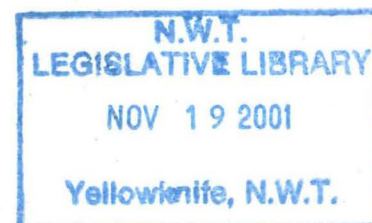
The Special Committee was established by the Legislative Assembly to undertake the mandatory 10-year review of the *Official Languages Act*, and to provide recommendations based on public input. The review will look at the *Act*'s effectiveness in enabling members of the NWT's official languages communities to access government services in their official language of choice. The review will address all provisions in the *Act*, and their implementation in the 10-years since the *Act* became law.

Members of the Special Committee are:

Mr. Steven Nitah, MLA Tu Nedhe – Chair  
Mr. David Krutko, MLA Mackenzie Delta– Deputy Chair  
Hon. Roger Allen, MLA Inuvik Twin Lakes  
Mr. Brendan Bell, MLA Yellowknife South  
Mr. Michael McLeod, MLA Deh Cho

For more information please contact:

Benoît Boutin  
Committee Coordinator  
(867) 920-6929  
[benoit\\_boutin@gov.nt.ca](mailto:benoit_boutin@gov.nt.ca)



## Community Consultation Schedule

Fort Smith.....	November 19, 2001
Lutsel K'e.....	November 20, 2001
Fort Rae/Edzo.....	November 21, 2001
Fort Simpson.....	November 22, 2001
Fort Resolution.....	December 10, 2001
Hay River.....	December 11, 2001
Fort Providence.....	December 12, 2001
Wha Ti.....	December 14, 2001

December 3, 2001

For Immediate Release

**Caucus Priority and Planning Session – Hay River, December 6 – 7, 2001**

**Members of the 14<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly will meet in Hay River, NT December 6-7 for a planning session.**

The goal of this Caucus session is to review priorities and strategies, and set a balanced and achievable work plan of how the Members' objectives will be managed for the remainder of the 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly's term. "Working together we will determine the best way to achieve our goals," said Bill Braden, Caucus Chairman and MLA for Great Slave.

At the beginning of their term, the Members of the 14<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly set out their agenda in the framework vision document "Towards a Better Tomorrow." It highlighted four key areas.

1. Self-reliant individuals, families and communities, working with governments, toward improving social well-being;
2. Better governance through partnerships;
3. A northern-controlled economy that is balanced, diversified, stable and vibrant; and
4. Adequate resources helping all levels of government to become more self-reliant in meeting the needs of the people they serve.

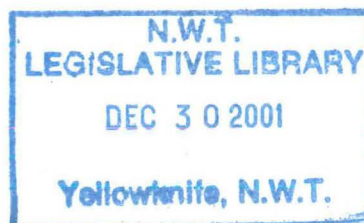
The Caucus session in Hay River is the third planning session that this assembly has held and will provide the Members with the opportunity to examine progress as well as set priorities. "Caucus has set this time to take a good look at what we have achieved so far and what areas we need to focus on for the remaining 18 months," said, Mr. Braden.

Although the meetings are not open to the public, a community public meet-and-greet event will be held at the Arena Complex Community Hall at 6:30pm on Thursday December 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Contacts:**

Bill Braden  
Caucus Chairman  
MLA, Great Slave  
(867) 669-2276 or toll free 1(800)661-0784  
e-mail: bill\_braden@gov.nt.ca

David Hamilton  
Clerk  
Legislative Assembly of the NWT  
(867) 669-2299  
e-mail: clerks@gov.nt.ca



December 12, 2001

For Immediate Release

### **Caucus Seeks Balance in Strategic Direction**

**The 14<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly will use the remainder of its term to balance out its overall strategic objectives and pursue enhanced relations at the federal level.**

Members set this direction when they met in Caucus for two days of planning and priority-setting discussions in Hay River on December 6 and 7. The meeting was a mid-term follow-up, which coincidentally also marked the second anniversary of the Territorial Election in 1999.

"We recognize that our first two years emphasized bigger, long-term projects like pipelines, governance and devolution issues," said Caucus Chair Bill Braden, MLA for Great Slave. "Members want to shift that focus more to programs and service delivery to the communities, and to families."

While some 44 bills have already been passed, the list of potential new legislation is extensive. The Caucus asked government Ministers and Legislative Assembly standing committees to work closely on planning the legislative agenda for the balance of the term, expected to end sometime in the fall of 2003.

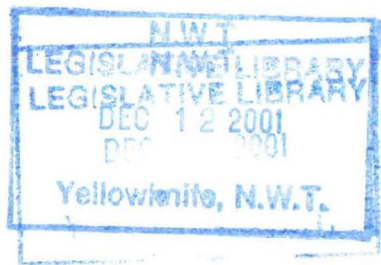
Mr. Braden said Members also want to pursue closer federal government relations at both the political and departmental levels.

While in Hay River, Members enjoyed local hospitality and participated in several community events including the December 6<sup>th</sup> Vigil, an evening reception for the community, the Sunrise Rotary Club meeting, curling with local elders and students from Harry Camsell School, and a visit to the NWT Power Corporation headquarters.

#### Contacts:

Bill Braden, Chair  
MLA, Great Slave  
(867) 669-2276  
Toll Free: 1(800) 661- 0784  
e-mail: bill\_braden@gov.nt.ca

Steven Nitah, Deputy Chair  
MLA, Tu Nedhe  
(867) 669-2287  
Toll Free: 1(800) 661-0784  
e-mail: steven\_nitah@gov.nt.ca



December 13, 2001

For Immediate Release

### **COST OF CONFLICT COMPLAINT AND RESULTING PROCESSES**

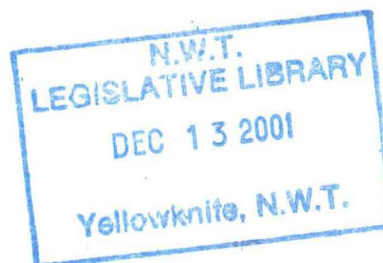
**The Chairs of the Board of Management and the Special Committee on Conflict Process committed to releasing the figures for all costs related to the entire conflict matter at the conclusion of the process. The cost breakdown for the three processes is attached.**

The Legislative Assembly will be seeking additional funding to cover the costs incurred during the review of the conflict of interest complaint and the other related processes.

The initial complaint was filed by Jack Rowe on April 5, 2001 against the then Minister of Health and Social Services, Jane Groenewegen. Subsequent to the conflict of interest complaint, two other processes were initiated. The first was the Application to the Board of Management on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2001 followed by the establishment of the Special Committee on Conflict Process on June 12, 2001.

The Board of Management will seek approval for the additional funding during the next session of the Assembly schedule for February 2002.

David M. Hamilton  
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly  
Phone: (867) 669-2299  
Toll Free: 1(800)661-0784  
e-mail: clerks@gov.nt.ca



## Breakdown of Costs Related to the Groenewegen Conflict Complaint

	Groenewegen Conflict Complaint	Board of Management Application	Special Committee on Conflict Process	Total
Compensation & Benefits	0.00	0.00	3,897.35	3,897.35
Travel & Transportation	683.00	0.00	9,182.15	9,865.15
Materials & Supplies	44.91	0.00	2,771.06	2,815.97
Purchased Services	0.00	0.00	2,755.93	2,755.93
Contract Services*	103,399.23	183,586.01	141,251.01	428,236.25
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 104,127.14</b>	<b>\$ 183,586.01</b>	<b>\$ 159,857.50</b>	<b>\$ 447,570.65</b>

**\*Included in Contract Services:**

Carol Roberts, Conflict Commissioner	\$30,047.00
Chivers Greckol & Kanee (Jane Groenewegen)	\$88,556.57
Morley & Ross (Carol Roberts)	\$57,633.74
Lovett & Westmacott (Carol Roberts)	\$40,668.96
Arvay Finlay (Carol Roberts)	\$84,137.57
Peterson, Stang & Malakoe (Law Clerk)	\$80,902.02
Hansard Transcription	\$33,956.25
Miscellaneous	\$12,334.14