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09-19	Jul 30	MLA Yellowknife Centre applauds "Made in the NWT" program
09-20	Aug 17	Premier/Minister cheer Team NWT at Canada Summer Games
09-21	Aug 17	Minister challenges youth to be leaders against climate change
09-22	Aug 19	Minister Michael McLeod to represent NWT at provincial/territorial meeting on housing
09-23	Aug 27	MLAs conclude successful caucus retreat

## Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly News Releases 2009 2

09-24	Aug 28	Robert C McLeod assumes responsibilities for NWT HC
09-25	Aug 28	H1N1 briefing for NWT media
09-26	Aug 28	Canada's Energy and Mines Ministers to meet
09-27	Sept 1	Joint News Release: Speakers James Arreak and Paul Delorey today announced that the Nunavut and Northwest Territories legislatures have made a joint submission to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC).
09-28	Sept 2	Premier Roland to participate on 2009 Northern Premiers' Forum
09-29	Sept 8	McLeod to highlight NWT tourism initiatives to ministers
09-30	Sept 8	Members appointed to the Independent Commission to Review Members' Compensation and Benefits
09-31	Sept 15	Minister to present NWT view to Alaska oil and gas conference
09-32	Sept 15	Robert C. McLeod to meet with Territorial Housing Ministers
09-33	Sept 15	Minister of Transportation and Mayors to sign MOUs
09-34	Sept 16	NWT Legislative Assembly hosts 31 <sup>st</sup> Canadian Parliamentary Seminar September 17-20, 2009
09-35	Sept 17	Minister Lee to meet with Canadian Health Ministers
09-36	Sept 22	Bathurst caribou calving ground survey final results
09-37	Sept 24	Fact finding report on climate change released
09-38	Sept 26	Legislative Assembly members pleased with move to more public meetings
09-39	Sept 30	Ministerial Literacy Awards
09-40	Oct 1	Economic Review, Northwest Territories 2009
09-41	Oct 1	World Breastfeeding Week (October 1-7)
09-42	Oct 2	Training Session – 2010 Winter Games Youth Ambassadors and Inuit Games Participants
09-43	Oct 2	Opening of the Kakisa River Bridge
09-44	Oct 1	John Howard Society partners for Homeless Day Shelter
09-45	Oct 5	Minister to host 2 <sup>nd</sup> Revenue Options Roundtable
09-46	Oct 5	Northwest Territories and Alberta MOU co-chairs meet in Edmonton
09-47	Oct 5	New Kakisa River Bridge opens to traffic



## Nahendeh MLA Wants Solution for Fort Simpson Library

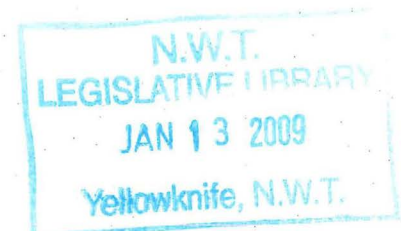
**(YELLOWKNIFE) January 13, 2009 – The MLA for Nahendeh, Kevin Menicoche, would like to see the library in Fort Simpson remain open. The Deh Cho Hall, which is the current home of the John Tetso Memorial library, is scheduled to permanently close its doors next month. The Deh Cho Hall is an older building formally used for government offices, which are being relocated in February. Mr. Menicoche says, “A short-term solution is to continue housing the library in the Deh Cho Hall until the spring. This approach would provide more time to find a permanent space for it.”**

Mr. Menicoche adds, “I have received many emails and phone calls from concerned citizens not wanting to see their library shut down. My constituents have been trying to find a solution on their own, but I think that the government should step-up to the plate and offer to find a solution. I have contacted the appropriate Ministers, but have yet to receive any positive response.”

Mr. Menicoche will be aggressively pursuing a viable solution during the Third Session of the Legislative Assembly which reconvenes on February 4, 2009.

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## **Robert Hawkins Intends to Oppose Motion to Remove the Premier and Cabinet**

**(YELLOWKNIFE) February 4, 2009 – Robert Hawkins, MLA for Yellowknife Centre, has announced his intentions to oppose a motion to remove the current NWT Premier and Cabinet.**

“This motion could not come at a more inopportune time,” says Hawkins. “At a time where we are facing unprecedented economic challenges, we need to pull together and use this consensus system to its best effect – to seek collaborative solutions.”

Mr. Hawkins is reacting to the motion that was introduced today which proposes to dispose of the Premier and the entire Cabinet and proceed with a fresh leadership selection that will determine a new Executive Council. “Unless I hear some new information that changes the situation, I intend to oppose the motion,” says Hawkins.

“If there are issues relating to one or two individuals on Cabinet, then let us face those issues. But, to fire the Premier and the entire Cabinet throws into disarray any progress that has been made to date,” says Mr. Hawkins. “The people of the NWT are expecting leadership and courage, not finger-pointing and political deadlock. We can do better than this motion.”

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## **Members Pleased with Date Change for Supplementary Health Benefits Implementation**

**(YELLOWKNIFE) February 10, 2009 –Yellowknife Members Glen Abernethy, Wendy Bisaro, Bob Bromley, David Ramsay and Hay River Member Jane Groenewegen are pleased with Minister Sandy Lee’s agreement to go back to the drawing board in regards to the Supplementary Health Benefit program. In response to a motion moved by Glen Abernethy, MLA Great Slave, on Friday, February 6, and supported by all Regular Members, Minister Lee announced today that the new implementation date for the new Supplementary Health Benefits Policy is April 1, 2010. “We are happy that the motion put forward by Regular Members was heard and acknowledged by the Minister. This provides suitable opportunity for thorough research analysis and the consultation required to develop a reasonable and affordable Supplementary Health Benefit program for all Northerners,” says Mr. Abernethy.**

Wendy Bisaro, MLA Frame Lake, says, “We are looking forward to working with the Department of Health and Social Services, Minister Lee and the residents of the Northwest Territories to achieve an affordable Supplementary Health Benefits program that works in the best interest of all Northerners.”

“We would like to thank all of the Regular Members for their support of our motion, as well as all NWT residents who spoke out on the matter, and thank Minister Lee for listening to the Members and the residents of the NWT. We are looking forward to the consultation process,” says Jane Groenewegen, MLA Hay River South.

For more information, contact:

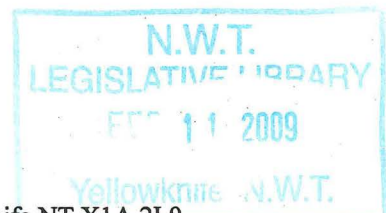
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## **NWT Assembly Unanimous in Support for Mackenzie Valley Highway**

**YELLOWKNIFE (February 25, 2009) -- In a unanimous vote, Members of the 16<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly today called on the Government of Canada to advance funding and planning for a Mackenzie Valley Highway and to begin negotiations immediately on a partnership that will allow this major infrastructure project to move ahead.**

While the federal Government is responsible for the cost of constructing and maintaining new highways in the NWT, the GNWT has proposed a 10-year infrastructure partnership with Canada to cost share the development of new economic infrastructure including the proposed highway.

“A Mackenzie Valley Highway will work to lower the cost of living in northern communities and contribute to their sustainability,” said Sahtu MLA Norman Yakeleya in moving the motion. Mr. Yakeleya added, “We also acknowledge that this project is not without environmental and social challenges, so we will be working to ensure that these are fully addressed.”

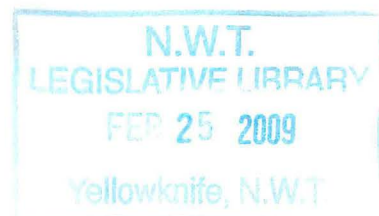
In a clear demonstration of the Assembly’s unity on this critical issue, Mr. Yakeleya’s motion was seconded by the Territory’s Minister of Transportation, Hon. Michael McLeod. “This project will connect Mackenzie Valley and Beaufort Delta communities and provide improved access to services for these remote areas,” he said.

The motion came following a day of debate dedicated to highlighting the importance of the Mackenzie Valley Highway to the economic, social and political development of the NWT. All Members spoke to the urgency and need to finally connect Canada from coast to coast to coast.

“This Road to Resources will provide opportunities to diversify the NWT economy,” NWT Premier Floyd Roland said. “Expanded renewable and non-renewable resource development and tourism opportunities will result in employment and business opportunities for NWT residents and all Canadians.”

Without an all-weather highway, communities and major developments in Canada’s Northwest Territories are reliant on the availability of winter ice roads for their annual supply of goods and fuel.

Chair of the Assembly’s Priorities and Planning Committee, Hay River South MLA Jane Groenewegen says, “The construction of an all-weather Mackenzie Highway will address increasing uncertainty in the reliability and operation of these seasonal highways in the wake of climate change while further enhancing the assertion of Canada’s Sovereignty over the Arctic.”



Today's strong recommendation from the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories reflects a similar motion passed at the Dene Leadership Meeting in Yellowknife last week.

A copy of the GNWT's motion will be sent to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Canada's Transport and Infrastructure Minister John Baird and Western Arctic Member of Parliament Dennis Bevington for their consideration.

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## Legislative Assembly Leads by Example In Environmental and Social Responsibility

**(YELLOWKNIFE) March 6, 2009 – The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories, the Honourable Paul Delorey, yesterday presented the 2009-2010 Main Estimates for the Legislative Assembly. Mr. Delorey highlighted a number of important initiatives that the Legislative Assembly will carry out within the next year.**

“I feel what we are doing as an Assembly is very important and I want the public to know that the Legislative Assembly is showing leadership in environmental and personal responsibility,” says Mr. Delorey. Some of these initiatives include:

- the installation of a wood pellet boiler at the Legislative Assembly, which will reduce the Assembly’s greenhouse gas emissions by over 90 percent;
- a paper reduction strategy that will reduce the Legislative Assembly’s use of paper by 80 percent;
- introduction of regulatory amendments to allow Members to use their constituency budgets to purchase carbon offsets from institutions meeting the “gold standard”, which will allow Members to use their budgets to promote a carbon neutral approach to representing their constituents;
- the Legislative Assembly is going to ‘drop the pop’ and remove disposable water bottles from the Legislature including private meetings and functions;

“The Legislative Assembly is the most important public institution in the Northwest Territories. As law makers, role models and politicians we must practice the habits we want people to emulate,” says Mr. Delorey.

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## Appointment of New Languages Commissioner

**(YELLOWKNIFE) March 12, 2009 – The Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories today appointed Ms. Sarah Jerome of Fort McPherson as the new Languages Commissioner of the Northwest Territories. Her appointment will take effect on Monday, May 11, 2009.**

“I am pleased to welcome Ms. Jerome to this very important and vital role. Ms. Jerome is of Gwich’in ancestry and she brings much knowledge and experience to this position and I look forward to working with her in the future,” said Mr. Delorey. “I would also like to extend my gratitude and thanks to Ms. Shannon Gullberg for all of the excellent work that she has done during her tenure as the Languages Commissioner,” added Mr. Delorey.

The Languages Commissioner is a position appointed by the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories upon the recommendation of the Legislative Assembly and the appointment is for a term of four years. The Languages Commissioner’s office is currently located in Yellowknife but will be moving to Inuvik on the effective date of Ms. Jerome’s appointment.

The Languages Commissioner is appointed pursuant to the *Official Languages Act* of the Northwest Territories. It is the duty of the Languages Commissioner to take all actions and measures within the authority of the *Official Languages Act* with a view to ensuring recognition of the rights, statutes and privileges of each of the Official Languages and to comply with the spirit of the *Official Languages Act* in the administration of the affairs of government institutions.

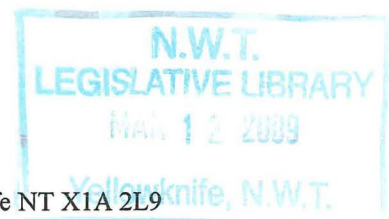
A copy of Ms. Jerome’s biography is attached.

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Sarah Jerome (Tetlich)

Sarah Jerome (Tetlich) is a Gwich'in beneficiary currently living in Fort McPherson. Ms. Jerome was born and raised on the land, by her parents and grandparents, at Road River in the Yukon Territory. She attended residential school in both Aklavik and Inuvik and graduated from Sir Alexander Mackenzie High School in Inuvik in 1968. In 1969, Ms. Jerome graduated from Aurora College in Inuvik from the Teacher Education program, from there she went on to receive her Bachelor of Education from the University of Saskatchewan in 1991.

Ms. Jerome has held various important educational positions in the Beaufort Delta, ranging from teaching to being the Assistant Superintendent of the Beaufort Delta Education Council. Ms. Jerome is fluent in both Gwich'in and English, with Gwich'in being her first language. She is a strong advocate for the Official Languages of the Northwest Territories and has, in the past, taught the Gwich'in language to individuals eager to learn.

Ms. Jerome is the first Official Languages Commissioner of Gwich'in ancestry.

## MLA Nahendeh Opposed to Municipalities Lobbying Against One Rate Zone

**(YELLOWKNIFE) March 30, 2009 – Kevin Menicoche, MLA Nahandeh, believes that the cost of electricity in the Northwest Territories is too high and these costs challenge households and businesses alike.**

In a recent discussion paper prepared for the Public Review of Electricity Regulation, Rates and Subsidy Programs in the Northwest Territories, a one rate zone for electricity throughout the NWT is offered as an option. In this scenario, all NWT households would pay the same unit price. This is the practice in Manitoba. It is also the practice in Saskatchewan and New Brunswick, although rural customers pay an additional small fee of no more than \$4.25 per month.

Kevin Menicoche says, “Costs differ from one community to another. For instance, the average cost of fuel for Tuktoyaktuk residents is more than twice than what it is in Fort Smith. Communities running on hydroelectricity have lower rates than those that use diesel or natural gas-generated power.”

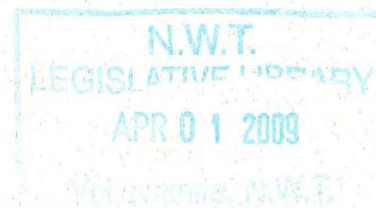
“Having only one rate for electricity in the NWT would offer equity to all residents. It might also reduce the cost of the General Rate Application process. Rather than having to determine 33 different rates, only one rate would be required,” says Mr. Menicoche.

Three municipalities, Yellowknife, Hay River and Fort Smith have joined together to lobby against this unit price concept. Mr. Menicoche is astonished that these large municipalities would join forces to strategize against the small and remote communities. “It is at odds with the principles of government in the Northwest Territories. In consensus government the majority listens to the minority,” says Mr. Menicoche.

Mr. Menicoche will be attending the public meeting in Fort Simpson planned for April 8, 2009 and he calls on all MLAs to attend their regional reviews when they take place in their regions.

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## **Legislative Assembly to Welcome Youth Parliamentarians**

**(Yellowknife, NT) April 17, 2009 – Eighteen high school students from across the North will take part in Youth Parliament 2009 beginning on Monday, April 20 at the Legislative Assembly building in Yellowknife. The students will participate in three days of meetings and briefings in preparation for the Youth Parliament Session during which they assume the roles of their respective Member of the Legislative Assembly.**

Speaker Paul Delorey says, “Youth Parliament has become a proud Northern tradition among high school students. This is the tenth annual Youth Parliament and is an excellent program that develops student awareness of Northern civics. At the same time, it builds on a student’s natural leadership skills and provides opportunity for personal growth in areas such as public speaking, writing, research, and interpersonal skills.”

Youth Parliament is one of several educational outreach programs offered at the Legislative Assembly through the Office of the Speaker. The program is aimed at educating Northern youth about consensus government, emphasizing the Assembly, its function and history, and the important role the institution holds in the NWT.

The participants, by constituency, are:

Deh Cho – Mr. Dwight McLeod  
Great Slave – Mr. Alexander Smith  
Hay River South – Mr. Garrett Ahenakew  
Inuvik Twin Lakes – Ms. Katherine Sittichinli  
Mackenzie Delta – Mr. Frank Gruben  
Nahendeh – Mr. Tyler Pilling  
Sahtu – Ms. Mahalia Mackeinzo  
Tu Nedhe – Ms. Morgan Unka  
Yellowknife Centre – Ms. Nha Ly

Frame Lake – Ms. Teale MacIntosh  
Hay River North – Ms. Christine Gagnier  
Inuvik Boot Lake – Ms. Alecia Lennie  
Kam Lake – Mr. Dylan Short  
Monfwi – Mr. Shawn Gon  
Range Lake – Mr. Tyler Comeau  
Thebacha – Mr. Josh Tordiff  
Weledeh – Ms. Dana Harris  
Yellowknife South – Ms. Taylor Raciborski

The Youth Parliament 2009 session is taking place on Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 1:30 p.m. The public is invited to come watch the Session from the Public Gallery. Media are encouraged to arrange interviews with the students prior to the sitting day. For more information, please contact:

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## MLAs Agree to Common Principles of Consensus Government

**(Yellowknife, NT) April 23, 2009 – Members of the 16<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly have concluded a three-day Caucus retreat by agreeing to a set of ten principles that define what it means to govern in a consensus-based system. The principles define the ways that consensus government differs from party politics and set a standard of conduct for individual MLAs and the various ways they interact with one another inside and out of the Legislative Assembly.**

“Consensus government means many different things to different people,” said Caucus Chair and Frame Lake MLA Wendy Bisaro. “After three days of intensive discussion, all Members in attendance have come together to articulate a common vision of what it means to govern in this unique system. I am very encouraged by the tone coming out of these meetings and by the sincere commitment of all Members to let these principles guide us in the important work ahead of us.”

“I have worked in consensus government for almost 14 years and this is the first time I have seen Members clearly define what it means and how it’s different from party politics,” said NWT Premier and Inuvik Boot Lake MLA Floyd Roland. “I think these principles will not only guide the way we work together for the remainder of this legislature, but also for many legislatures to come.”

In addition to agreement on the ten principles of consensus government, Members reviewed progress on the Vision, Goals and Objectives of the 16<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly, discussed options for targeted use of federal economic stimulus funding, and examined the impact that the global economic downturn is having on the NWT economy and future government activities. Members have agreed to meet again in the full Caucus on May 30, 2009 to further examine the economic situation and other social and economic indicators as a preliminary step in setting broad direction for the 2010-2011 budget.

“The first 18 months of this Assembly have been productive but challenging,” said MLA Bisaro. “Every Member is coming away with a renewed sense of purpose and commitment to focus all of our energies on the important issues facing the NWT in these unprecedented times. The ten principles will be the yardstick we use to hold one another to the commitments we have made to today.”

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## Consensus Government in the NWT Guiding Principles

1. Consensus government is not defined by the absence of party politics. It is defined by the ability and willingness of all Members of the Legislative Assembly to work together, within their respective roles, for the collective good of the people of the Northwest Territories.
2. Consensus government is a unique combination of the British traditions of ministerial responsibility, cabinet solidarity and legislative accountability and the aboriginal traditions of open dialogue, inclusive decision-making, accommodation, respect and trust.
3. Open and respectful communication between all Members is the most essential feature of consensus government. While it is impossible to reach unanimous agreement on all issues, the opportunity for all Members to have meaningful input into important decisions is fundamental.
4. Effective communication is a “double-edged sword.” For consensus government to work, all Members must agree to respect the confidentiality of information before it is properly made public. Similarly, Members should acknowledge the fact that information was shared in confidence once it has been released.
5. Except under extraordinary circumstances, Members of the Legislative Assembly should be made aware of and have opportunity to discuss significant announcements, changes, consultations or initiatives before they are released to the public or introduced in the Legislative Assembly. Use of the element of surprise is inconsistent with consensus government.
6. The role of the Caucus is fundamental to the effectiveness of consensus government. Caucus provides a venue for all Members to set broad strategic direction for a Legislative Assembly and discuss matters of widespread importance to the Northwest Territories as they arise.
7. The Premier and Cabinet are appointed by the Members of the Legislative Assembly to provide overall leadership and direction in accordance with the broad strategic direction set by the Caucus. Cabinet must have the ability to implement this strategic direction effectively and efficiently but in a way that reflects the concerns of Regular Members and maintains their support.
8. Unlike a party-based parliamentary system, the Regular Members are not a “Cabinet in Waiting.” Their ultimate goal is to support Cabinet in implementing the broad strategic direction set by the Caucus.

9. As with all parliamentary systems of government, a healthy level of tension must exist between Cabinet and Regular Members. While the ultimate goal of the Regular Members is not to defeat or discredit Cabinet, it is their responsibility to review and monitor the leadership and direction of Cabinet and hold it to account.
  
10. The attendance and participation of all Members of the Legislative Assembly within their respective roles is essential to the effectiveness of consensus government. Formal sessions of the Legislative Assembly and meetings of Caucus, Cabinet and standing and special committees must be a priority for every Member.

## **Yellowknife Centre MLA Applauds Partnership for Establishment of Day Shelter in Yellowknife**

**(YELLOWKNIFE) May 25, 2009 - Robert Hawkins, MLA for Yellowknife Centre, would like to express great appreciation for the forming of a significant partnership that will see the development of a day shelter for men and women in downtown Yellowknife. Specifically, the partnership between Minister Sandy Lee, Department of Health & Social Services; Mayor Gordon Van Tighem, City of Yellowknife; and Richard Morland, Interim President & C.O.O of BHP Billiton's EKATI Diamond Mine.**

“BHP Billiton continues to demonstrate that they are an extraordinary corporate citizen when our city needs partners most. Without their continued interest in initiatives like this new day shelter for the homeless, we would have a difficult time gaining traction to move forward towards a solution,” says Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Hawkins adds, “For some time, I have been advocating the need for a day shelter and public washrooms for those who are in need. As the MLA for Yellowknife Centre, and also as a resident of downtown Yellowknife, I have seen first-hand the need for this service. This shelter will no doubt be good for not only those who need the services, but for our city as a whole. The need for a day shelter for homeless people in downtown Yellowknife is a crucial issue, one which I am happy to say is being addressed because of this major partnership where our Territorial and Municipal Governments are working hand-in-hand with a dedicated corporate citizens such as BHP.”

“This issue has been an important one for me for a long time and the impact that it will have on the day-to-day lives of the homeless population of Yellowknife will be tremendous. The shelter offers a safe place for those who are in need of shelter and essential services, and for those who are trying to get back on their feet,” says Mr. Hawkins.

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## Legislative Assembly Uses Website to Save Paper

**(YELLOWKNIFE) May 27, 2009 – The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Honourable Paul Delorey, has been working on paper-saving strategies to decrease the amount of paper used by the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.**

“It should come as no surprise to any of you when I say this institution is addicted to paper. If you were to take all the paper we use in this building in a year and stack it in piles, it would reach to the top of this Chamber more than six times.” This was a statement made by Speaker Delorey in the House when presenting the 2009-2010 Main Estimates for the Legislative Assembly.

The Legislative Assembly will be providing access to Tabled Documents, Ministers Statements and Motions on its website at the beginning of the May/June Session and they will be available on a go forward basis. “Right now the Legislative Assembly requires 40 paper copies of each Tabled Document. By providing these documents on our website, we are able to cut this number down to seven. Some of these documents are hundreds of pages long, so this is a substantial economic and environmental savings for the Legislative Assembly.” says Mr. Delorey.

“We are making these documents even more accessible to the public and are among one of the first Legislatures across Canada to take this step. As a significant territorial institution, it is doubly important that we should be leading by example.”

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## Major Changes Recommended to *Official Languages Act*

**(YELLOWKNIFE) May 28, 2009 – The Legislative Assembly’s Standing Committee on Government Operations, chaired by MLA Kevin Menicoche, today presented its Final Report on the 2008-2009 Review of the *Official Languages Act* to the Legislative Assembly.**

Mr. Menicoche says, “Basically, the Committee found that the existing *Official Languages Act* does not work. It does not serve the speakers of the languages it is intended to protect. The Aboriginal languages of the NWT are becoming endangered to various degrees. Even the stronger languages are losing speakers, particularly among younger generations. If there is a desire to save the NWT language for future generations there is an urgent need to protect them through comprehensive revitalization efforts.”

“Based on what the Committee members heard from the people and what we learned from extensive research during the one-year review process we made major recommendations. ~~First of all, the Committee recommended that the existing *Act* be repealed to get away from the federal model of legislation that does not match the demographic, socio-geographic, and political realities of the NWT,”~~ says Mr. Menicoche.

Mr. Menicoche adds, “Secondly, the Committee proposed a two prong approach to our Official Languages. It recommends the creation of a new *Official Languages Services Act* setting out a service delivery model for government services in all Official Languages. The Committee also recommended that this new Act be complemented by an Aboriginal Languages Protection Regime to address the dire need for Aboriginal language revitalization and secure the survival of the Aboriginal languages.”

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## Legislative Assembly Drops the Pop

**(YELLOWKNIFE) June 1, 2009 – The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Honourable Paul Delorey, today announced that the Legislative Assembly is dropping the pop.**

“Effective today, the Legislative Assembly is going to drop the pop and ditch disposable water bottles. I have asked the Assembly’s catering contractor to discontinue the sale and distribution of soft drinks and bottled water, that includes catering during private meetings and public functions,” says Mr. Delorey.

Various schools throughout the Northwest Territories have been working on dropping the pop in classrooms to help students lead a healthier lifestyle. “The Legislative Assembly is the most visible public institution in the Northwest Territories. As law makers, role models and politicians, we must each practice the habits we want people to emulate,” this is a statement made by Mr. Delorey when he presented the 2009-2010 Main Estimates to the Legislative Assembly in March 2009.

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## Legislative Assembly Board of Management Appoints Sole Adjudicator

**(YELLOWKNIFE) June 3, 2009 - The Legislative Assembly Board of Management has recommended the appointment of Mr. Ted Hughes, Q.C. as Sole Adjudicator for an inquiry into a complaint filed by six Members of the NWT Legislative Assembly regarding an alleged breach of section 75 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act* by the Hon. Floyd Roland, MLA Inuvik Boot Lake.**

On May 25, 2009, following an investigation of the complaint, the NWT Conflict of Interest Commissioner, Mr. Gerald Gerrand, Q.C., directed that the matter proceed to an inquiry before a Sole Adjudicator. The Board of Management's appointment of Mr. Hughes as Sole Adjudicator is made pursuant to section 103 of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*. Mr. Hughes was appointed from a list of four potential adjudicators previously approved by the Legislative Assembly. An eligible Sole Adjudicator must be a judge or retired judge or a person who currently or previously served in a position equivalent to that of Conflict of Interest Commissioner in a province or territory. Mr. Hughes is a former Conflict of Interest Commissioner for the Northwest Territories, the Yukon and the Province of British Columbia. He has served as a judge of the Saskatchewan District and Surrogate Courts and the Saskatchewan Court of Queen's Bench as well as Deputy Attorney General for British Columbia. Mr. Hughes is well known for his role as Chair of the highly publicized inquiry into the conduct of the RCMP during the APEC leaders' summit in 1997 and for his role as Chief Adjudicator for the Indian Residential Schools Adjudication Process.

After conducting an inquiry, a Sole Adjudicator is required to submit a report, with reasons, to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. The report must either dismiss the complaint or find that the Member complained of is guilty of a contravention of the conflict of interest provisions of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*. In the latter case, the Sole Adjudicator must recommend that one or more punishments specified in the Act be imposed by the Legislative Assembly. On receipt of the Sole Adjudicator's report, the Legislative Assembly must consider it and either impose the recommended punishment or reject it.

In conducting the inquiry, the Sole Adjudicator has the powers of a Board under the *Public Inquiries Act*. The Sole Adjudicator has the authority to determine whether any hearing in an inquiry shall be conducted in public or in private.

The appointment of the Sole Adjudicator must be formally ratified by the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories.

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## Board of Management Approves Amendments to Help Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

**(YELLOWKNIFE) June 3, 2009 – The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories, Honourable Paul Delorey, today announced that the Board of Management approved an amendment to the *Indemnities, Allowances and Expense Regulations of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*.**

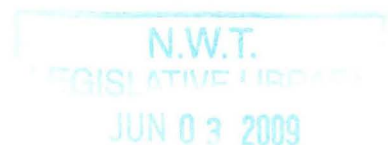
This amendment allows the Members of the Legislative Assembly the choice of using their Constituency Work Expense Allowance to purchase carbon offset credits to help compensate for the carbon emissions associated with their constituency work. This will help the members to assume some responsibility for greenhouse gas emissions and the effects of climate change on the environment.

“The effects of climate change are strongly impacting our Northern climate and it is important that the Assembly take a leadership role in reducing the carbon footprint of the Legislative Assembly, its Members, and its operations,” says Speaker Delorey.

This is part of an ongoing initiative announced by the Speaker in March 2009. At that time the Speaker announced the installation of a wood pellet boiler in the legislature, a paper reduction strategy and a ban on disposable water bottles in the Legislative Assembly.

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## MLA Nahendeh Pleased with Nahanni Park Expansion Bill

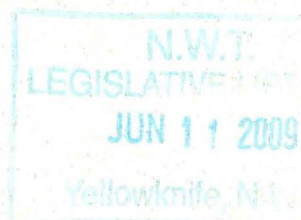
**(YELLOWKNIFE) June 11, 2009 – Kevin Menicoche, MLA Nahendeh, pleased with the bill tabled by Minister Jim Prentice in Parliament on Tuesday, June 9. The bill states a request for the expansion of the Nahanni National Park Reserve.**

“I believe this is a good thing for the people in the Nahendeh region and my constituents generally support this bill. The increase of staff to manage the park will benefit our region as well. This is one more piece of the puzzle towards completing the Deh Cho process,” says Mr. Menicoche.

If the bill is passed and becomes legislation, Nahanni’s new boundaries will cover over 30,000 km<sup>2</sup> of pristine land and will be the third largest park in Canada. Mr. Menicoche says, “This is a huge step for our future generations, they will be able to have their grandchildren’s, grandchildren visit this beautiful part of their country and it will remain forever untouched. I feel very proud to have this world renowned park in my riding.”

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## On the Passing of Mr. Gordon Wray

**(Yellowknife) June 19, 2009 – The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Honourable Paul Delorey, today expressed condolences to the family of the Mr. Gordon Wray, former member of the Legislative Assembly, and Member of the Executive Council, who passed away on Wednesday.**

Speaker Delorey said, “On behalf of Members of this Assembly, it is with great sadness that I offer condolences to Mr. Wray’s family and loved ones. Our former colleague served as a Member of this House for eight years, during which time he proved himself an honourable Member time and again.”

Mr. Wray was first elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1983 in a by-election for the Keewatin North constituency. He was re-elected in the newly re-named riding of Kivallivik in the 1983 and 1987 general territorial elections.

During the 10<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly in 1984, Mr. Wray was appointed Minister of Public Works, Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation and Minister responsible for the Highway Transport Board. The next year, Mr. Wray was also named Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. He remained responsible for these departments until the election of the 11<sup>th</sup> Legislature in 1987. Mr. Wray was re-elected and was designated as Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, Minister of Personnel, Minister of Public Works and Minister of Highways. In addition to these positions, Mr. Wray also became a Member of the Legislative Assembly Management and Services Board. In 1988, Mr. Wray was named Minister of Economic Development and Tourism.

Mr. Wray was born in Dundee, Scotland and moved to Canada in 1970, where he worked as an employee for the Hudson’s Bay Company. He was stationed at posts throughout the north including the communities of Rankin Inlet, Coral Harbour, Repulse Bay and Baker Lake. Before joining the territorial government Mr. Wray was the hamlet secretary and manager in Rankin Inlet, and managed several of his own businesses throughout the north. An active northern resident, Mr. Wray was a member of various boards and community organizations, including the NWT Water Board. Mr. Wray is survived by his wife Rita and children Cheryl, Scott, Fiona, Kristy and Stuart.





Northwest  
Territories Legislative Assembly

The flags at the Legislative Assembly building in Yellowknife will be lowered to half-mast on the day of his funeral to recognize the passing of this active community member and Northern leader.

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## MLA Yellowknife Centre Applauds “Made in the NWT” Program

**(YELLOWKNIFE) July 30, 2009 – MLA Robert Hawkins would like to applaud the work done by the NWT Chamber of Commerce and the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment for developing and launching a “Made in the NWT” program.**

“This was a very important issue I brought forward to the Minister of ITI which would work to assist in the recognition of our Northern Manufacturers industry. A program like this helps build consumer pride and loyalty in many of the products that can be made here at home in the north. But like anything, recognition of where some of the products are brought to life is key to making this initiative work,” says Mr. Hawkins.

Mr. Hawkins has been pushing for this kind of “Made in the NWT” program in the House for years now, and is extremely happy to see the program implemented. The program is designed to help promote Northwest Territories-based manufacturers and help them promote their products to potential customers. The NWT Chamber of Commerce has a supply of “Made in the NWT” stickers which are available to manufacturers free of charge which they can use to label their goods produced in the NWT.

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