

Votes and Proceedings

SECOND SESSION OF THE NINETEENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

November 5, 2020

The Assembly commenced sitting at 1:30 pm, with Mrs. Lesa Semmler, Deputy Speaker, presiding.

Ministers' Statements

- 95-19(2) The Minister of responsible for the Status of Women made a statement regarding a work plan for the development of the Government of the Northwest Territories action plan in response to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Final Report.
- 96-19(2) The Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board made a statement regarding Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission support to employers during COVID-19.
- 97-19(2) The Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs made a statement regarding Sport Canada COVID-19 funding support.
- 98-19(2) The Minister of Health and Social Services made a statement regarding family violence.

Members' Statements

- 453-19(2) The Member for Hay River South made a statement regarding Remembrance Day.
- 454-19(2) The Member for Frame Lake made a statement regarding food security.
- 455-19(2) The Member for Deh Cho made a statement in recognition of interpreters.
- 456-19(2) The Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh made a statement regarding the Affirmative Action Policy.

- 457-19(2) The Member for Great Slave made a statement regarding Remembrance Day.
- 458-19(2) The Member for Thebacha made a statement of reflections on effecting positive change.
- 459-19(2) The Member for Nunakput made a statement regarding Remembrance Day and a wish list.
- 460-19(2) The Member for Kam Lake made a statement about identifying and ending systemic racism.
- 461-19(2) The Member for Monfwi made a statement regarding elders' housing issues.
- 462-19(2) The Member for Yellowknife North made a statement regarding guaranteed basic income.
- 463-19(2) The Honourable Member for Range Lake made a statement regarding National Skilled Trades and Technology Week and recognized Michael Turner-Davis and Nathan Dunn.
- 464-19(2) The Honourable Member for Hay River North made a statement regarding Remembrance Day.
- 465-19(2) The Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake made a statement regarding National Skilled Trades and Technology Week and recognized Joel Hanthorn and Joseph Lemieux.
- 466-19(2) The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South made a statement regarding National Skilled Trades and Technology Week and recognized Slavomir Rohac.
- 467-19(2) The Honourable Member for Sahtu delivered a eulogy for Elaine Blake.

Returns to Oral Questions

- 358-19(2) The Minister of Health and Social Services provided a return to Oral Question 358-19(2) asked by the Member for Deh Cho regarding a long-term care facility.

Written Questions

- 21-19(2) The Member for Kam Lake asked a question of the Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation regarding applications to the National Co-Investment Fund.

Returns to Written Questions

- 19-19(2) The Clerk tabled a return to Written Question 19-19(2) from the Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation to the Member for Kam Lake regarding homeowners insurance.

Tabling of Documents

- 235-19(2) Taking Action - A Work Plan to Address the Calls for Justice in Reclaiming Power and Place: Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Tabled by the Minister responsible for Status of Women.
- 236-19(2) Interim Public Accounts of the Government of the Northwest Territories for the Year Ended March 31, 2020. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 237-19(2) Northwest Territories Business Development and Investment Corporation 2019-2020 Annual Report. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 238-19(2) Grants and Contributions Results Report 2019-2020. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 239-19(2) Consolidated Budget 2020-2021. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 240-19(2) Northwest Territories Oil and Gas Annual Report 2019. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 241-19(2) NWT Health and Social Services System Annual Report 2019-2020. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.
- 242-19(2) Tłıchǫ Community Services Agency Health and Social Services Annual Report 2019-2020. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.
- 243-19(2) 2019-2020 Annual Report of the Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.
- 244-19(2) Hay River Health and Social Services Authority Annual Report 2019-2020. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.

- 245-19(2) Annual Report 2019-20 Northwest Territories Hydro Corporation and Northwest Territories Power Corporation. Tabled by the Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation.
- 246-19(2) Annual Reports for the Northwest Territories Education Bodies for the 2019-2020 School Year Ending June 30, 2020 Volumes 1 and 2. Tabled by the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment.
- 247-19(2) Operations Report 2019-2020 Western Canada Lottery Program. Tabled by the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs.
- 248-19(2) Northwest Territories Housing Corporation Annual Report 2019-2020. Tabled by the Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.
- 249-19(2) Excerpt from Globe And Mail, November 3, 2020 - "In Manitoba, An Omnibus Bill Puts Systemic Racism Against Indigenous People In Plain View". Tabled by the Member for Kam Lake.

Motions

- 22-19(2) Appointment of Law Clerk

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake.

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that the Legislative Assembly recommends the appointment of Ms. Sheila MacPherson as Law Clerk and Mr. Toby Kruger as Deputy Law Clerk as recommended by the Board of Management.

AND FURTHER that the Speaker be authorized to communicate the effective date of appointment to the Commissioner.

The motion was CARRIED.

- 23-19(2) Appointment of Sole Adjudicators

Moved by the Member for Yellowknife North.

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Hay River North, that the following persons be approved by the Legislative Assembly as sole adjudicators:

Hon. Maurice Herauf; and

Jeffrey Schnoor, Q.C.

The motion was CARRIED.

24-19(2) Changes to Committees Membership

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Deh Cho, that the appointment of Mrs. Frieda Martselos to the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Environment be revoked;

AND FURTHER, whereas Rule 89(2) requires that Members be appointed to the Standing Committee on Government Operations;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Deh Cho, that Mr. Steve Norn be appointed as an alternate member to the Standing Committee on Government Operations.

N/A Amendment to Motion 24-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Deh Cho, that Motion 24-19(2): Changes to Committees Membership, be amended by adding the following:

AND FURTHERMORE, whereas Mr. Steve Norn was appointed to the Special Committee on Reconciliation and Indigenous Affairs by Motion 21-19(2) on October 29, 2020;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Deh Cho, that Mrs. Frieda Martselos replace Mr. Steve Norn as a member of the Special Committee on Reconciliation and Indigenous Affairs.

The motion to amend was CARRIED.

Motion 24-19(2) as amended was CARRIED.

25-19(2) Extended Adjournment of the House to February 3, 2021

Moved by the Member for Yellowknife North.

I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Hay River North, that, notwithstanding Rule 4, when this House adjourns on Thursday, November 5, 2020, it shall be adjourned until Wednesday, February 3, 2021;

AND FURTHER, that any time prior to February 3, 2021, if the Speaker is satisfied, after consultation with the Executive Council and Members of the Legislative Assembly, that the public interest requires that the House should meet at an earlier time during the adjournment, or at a time later than the scheduled resumption of the House, the Speaker may give notice and thereupon the House shall meet at the time stated in such notice and shall transact its business as if it had been duly adjourned to that time.

The motion was CARRIED.

First Reading of Bills

Bill 22: *Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), 2021-2022*

Introduced by Minister of Finance.

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Range Lake, moved that Bill 22, *Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), 2021-2022*, be read for the first time. The motion was CARRIED.

Second Reading of Bills

Bill 22: *Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), 2021-2022*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Range Lake, moved that Bill 22, *Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), 2021-2022*, be read for the second time. The motion was CARRIED.

Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

The Deputy Chair, the Member for Hay River South, reported that the Committee of the Whole considered Committee Report 6-19(2): Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures Report on Remote Sitings, and reported progress with 16 motions carried and that Committee Report 6-19(2) is concluded.

The Member for Hay River South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, moved concurrence of the report of the Committee of the Whole. The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 59-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Rules of the Assembly authorize the Speaker to conduct part or all of a Session remotely using an approved platform in the event of a state of emergency declared for the entire territory under the *Emergency Management Act*, or a public health emergency declared under the *Public Health Act*.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 60-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that the mace, as a symbol of the authority of the people of the Northwest Territories, should be placed in the Chamber on its normal stand if possible, and if not, displayed in another manner in keeping with its symbolic significance during any remote sitting of the Assembly.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 61-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that the Rules of the Legislative Assembly authorize the Speaker to allow a Member to attend all or part of a Session remotely when that Member is unable to travel due to a state of emergency being declared in the Member's home community; the Member is under an order of the Chief Public Health Officer prohibiting travel; or the Speaker believes travel would put the Member's health or safety at risk.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 62-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that Rule 12(10), which states "when in the Assembly every Member shall be attired in traditional indigenous attire or in a manner that does not offend the dignity of the Assembly" apply when a Member is appearing remotely.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 63-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that training and orientation for online sittings should be provided.

AND FURTHER, that the Board of Management should look at providing a headset to each Member to ensure consistency;

AND FURTHERMORE, that any Member attending remotely be required to wear a headset.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 64-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that any Member attending remotely by videoconference be required to have a neutral background on screen;

AND FURTHER, if the Speaker determines a background is distracting to the House, the Speaker be empowered to order the Member to rectify the issue, and if the Member refuses, to turn off the Member's video and allow the Member to participate via audio only.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 65-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that whenever a Member is attending Session remotely, all votes on readings of bills or on any motion that requires notice be conducted as a recorded vote.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 66-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that when a Member attending remotely loses their connection just prior to or during a vote, that the Member immediately contacts the Table Officer to register their vote,

and that the Clerk will announce to the House how that Member voted at the end of the roll call;

AND FURTHER, that three minutes will be counted from the end of the roll call to when the Speaker announces the results if a Member has lost connection prior to voting to allow the Member time to contact the Table Officer.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 67-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that when conducting a roll call, the Clerk call on the mover of the motion, followed by each Member attending remotely by order of their normal seat in the House, then each Member seated in the Chamber;

AND FURTHER, that for Members attending remotely, they will be called no more than three times for their vote before the Clerk moves on to the next Member.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 68-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that during Oral Questions, if a Member attending remotely is disconnected while asking a question, if the Member is successful in reconnecting before the allotted time expires, the Speaker will allow the Member to continue their questions;

AND FURTHER, if the Member is not able to reconnect before the allotted time expires, the Member may choose to submit the full question and up to three supplemental questions in writing, and that the Minister would have two sitting days in which to respond.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 69-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that if a Minister attending remotely loses their connection when a question has been asked to that Minister, then the question shall be redirected to the Premier or designate to respond.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 70-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that when a Member files a Written Question with the Office of the Clerk, the Member should note if, in the event the Member loses their connection, the Written Question can be announced by the Clerk and be printed in its entirety in Hansard.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 71-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that in the event a Member loses connection while delivering a Member's Statement, that the Speaker ask the Member to conclude their statement once they are reconnected, provided the House has not moved to another Order;

AND FURTHER, in the event that Members' Statements has been concluded when the Member reconnects, the Member's Statement would be printed in full at the end of Member's Statements.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 72-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that the House adopt a revised daily order of business in the Rules of the Legislative Assembly for a remote sitting, pursuant to the changes listed in this report.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 73-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that the Legislative Assembly direct the Office of the Clerk to produce a reference guide for Members and staff outlining key changes and best practices to be used while sitting remotely;

AND FURTHER, that the Office of the Clerk be mandated to update the reference guide as needed as new practices are identified.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 74-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

I MOVE this committee recommends that after any remote sitting, the Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures be tasked with conducting a review and to provide any recommendations for improvements.

The motion was CARRIED.

Third Reading of Bills

Bill 22: *Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), 2021-2022*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Range Lake, moved that Bill 22, *Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), 2021-2022*, be read for the third time and requested a recorded vote.

The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Ms. Nokleby, Ms. Cleveland, Mr. O'Reilly, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Lafferty, Honourable S. Thompson, Honourable P. Chinna, Honourable D. Archie, Honourable R. J. Simpson, Mr. R. Simpson, Mrs. Martselos, Honourable C. Wawzonek, Honourable C. Cochrane, Honourable J. Green.
(14)

Members against: Mr. Bonnetrouge, Mr. Norn. (2)

Members abstaining: (0)

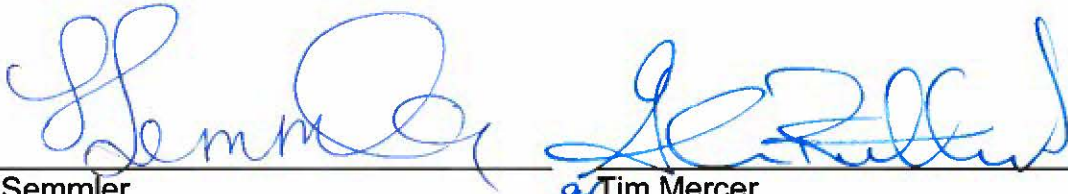
The motion was CARRIED.

Assent

The Commissioner of the Northwest Territories assented to the following Bills:

- Bill 15: *Miscellaneous Statute Law Amendment Act, 2020*
- Bill 17: *An Act to Amend the Corrections Act*
- Bill 18: *An Act to Amend the Legal Profession Act*
- Bill 19: *An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act*
- Bill 21: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 2, 2020-2021*
- Bill 22: *Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), 2021-2022*

The Speaker adjourned the House at 5:01 pm.



Lesla Semmler
Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

Tim Mercer
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly