

Votes and Proceedings

SECOND SESSION OF THE NINETEENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

March 29, 2021

The Assembly commenced sitting at 1:30 pm, with the Honourable Frederick Blake Jr., Speaker, presiding.

Ministers' Statements

- 145-19(2) The Minister of Environment and Natural Resources made a statement regarding water stewardship.
- 146-19(2) The Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment made a statement about investing in agriculture.
- 147-19(2) The Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation made a statement regarding the community housing support program.

Members' Statements

- 675-19(2) The Member for Tu-Nedhé Wiilideh made a statement regarding the Government's Emerging Wisely Plan.
- 676-19(2) The Member for Thebacha made a statement regarding long-term care beds in the Northwest Territories.
- 677-19(2) The Member for Kam Lake made a statement regarding herd immunity in the Northwest Territories.
- 678-19(2) The Member for Frame Lake made a statement regarding income assistance and tax refunds.
- 679-19(2) The Member for Great Slave made a statement regarding the Government's Emerging Stronger Plan.

- 680-19(2) The Member for Hay River South made a statement regarding long-term care bed projections in the Northwest Territories.
- 681-19(2) The Member for Nunakput made a statement recognizing all the front-line workers, volunteers, leaders and Elders in the Nunakput region.
- 682-19(2) The Member for Yellowknife North made a statement regarding retention of nurses and other health care professionals.
- 683-19(2) The Member for Monfwi made a statement regarding reconstruction of the Behchokò access road.

Written Questions

- 26-19(2) The Member for Frame Lake asked a question of the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs about supporting community governments.

Returns to Written Questions

- 23-19(2) The Minister responsible for the Public Utilities Board delivered a provisional return to the Member for Nunakput regarding the practice of using power-limiting devices in the Northwest Territories.

Tabling of Documents

- 359-19(2) Follow-up Letter for Oral Question 597-19(2): A New Day Program. Tabled by the Minister of Justice.
- 360-19(2) Follow-up Letter for Oral Question 641-19(2): Harvesters Disaster Compensation. Tabled by the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources.
- 361-19(2) Letter dated February 9, 2021 from YWCA NWT Advocacy Committee to Minister of Education, Culture and Employment Requesting Change in Garnishee Interpretation. Tabled by the Member for Frame Lake.
- 362-19(2) Letter dated March 8, 2021 from the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment to YWCA NWT Advocacy Committee regarding Recovery of the Canada Emergency Response Benefit and the Income Assistance Program. Tabled by the Member for Frame Lake.

- 363-19(2) Letter dated March 24, 2021 from Yellowknife Chamber of Commerce to Premier regarding Transparent Process for Easing Restrictions within the NWT. Tabled by the Member for Kam Lake.
- 364-19(2) Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly Annual Report 2018-2020. Tabled by the Speaker.

Notices of Motion

- 32-19(2) Extended Adjournment of the House to May 27, 2021
Notice given by the Member for Yellowknife North.
- 33-19(2) Appointment of Members to the Human Rights Adjudication Panel
Notice given by the Member for Kam Lake.

First Reading of Bills

- Bill 24: *An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act*
Introduced by Minister of Infrastructure.
The Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nahendeh, moved that Bill 24, *An Act to Amend the Revolving Funds Act*, be read for the first time.
The motion was CARRIED.
- Bill 25: *An Act to Amend the Education Act*
Introduced by Minister of Education, Culture and Employment.
The Honourable Member for Hay River North, seconded by the Honourable Member for Range Lake, moved that Bill 25, *An Act to Amend the Education Act*, be read for the first time.
The motion was CARRIED.
- Bill 26: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 3, 2020-2021*
Introduced by Minister of Finance.
The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, moved that Bill 26,

Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 3, 2020-2021, be read for the first time.

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 27: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 3, 2020-2021*

Introduced by Minister of Finance.

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved that Bill 27, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 3, 2020-2021*, be read for the first time.

The motion was CARRIED.

Second Reading of Bills

Bill 26: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 3, 2020-2021*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, moved that Bill 26, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 3, 2020-2021*, be read for the second time.

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 27: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 3, 2020-2021*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved that Bill 27, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 3, 2020-2021*, 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 Tabled Document 286-19(2): Main Estimates 2021-2022, and Committee Report 8-19(2): Standing Committee on Rules and Procedures Report on Motion 5-19(2), Referral of Point of Privilege Raised by Member for Monfwi on March 10, 2020; Committee Report 9-19(2): Standing Committee on Rules and

Procedures Report on the Chief Electoral Officers' Report on the Administration of the 2019 Territorial General Election; and Tabled Document 286-19(2): Main Estimates 2021-2022, and reported progress with nine motions carried, that consideration of Committee Report 8-19(2) is concluded, that consideration of Tabled Document 286-19(2) is concluded, that the House concur in those estimates and that an appropriation bill based thereon be introduced without delay.

Committee Motion 94-19(2):

Moved by Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh:

I MOVE that consideration of Tabled Document 286-19(2), Main Estimates 2021-2022 be now concluded and that Tabled Document 286-19(2) be reported and recommended as ready for further consideration in formal session through the form of an appropriation bill.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 95-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Rules of the Legislative Assembly be amended to clearly state the right to use any official language when speaking in the Assembly;

AND FURTHER, that this right necessarily implies the right to be understood by those Members who do not speak that language;

AND FURTHERMORE, that the Rules of the Legislative Assembly be amended to reflect the right of Members to receive interpretation in any official language.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 96-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Rules of the Legislative Assembly be amended to clearly state that documents in any official language may be tabled in the Assembly.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 97-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that simultaneous interpretation of Committee proceedings into any official language should be made available to Members or witnesses appearing before Committee, with a one-week notice;

AND FURTHER, that the availability of this service should be communicated clearly with Members and any witnesses.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 98-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Legislative Assembly increase efforts to provide interpretation into regionally appropriate official languages when Standing and Special Committees hold public meetings in communities outside of the capital.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 99-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake:

I MOVE that this committee recommends, should a situation arise in the future where interpretation is not available for a language being spoken in the Assembly, that the Speaker give strong consideration to a recess in, or adjournment of proceedings until such a time as adequate interpretation can be provided.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 100-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Speaker and Board of Management develop a rights-based official languages policy for the Legislative Assembly and that the policy come into effect prior to the end of this Assembly.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 101-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the suggestions made on pages 10 and 11 of Committee Report 8-19(2) be investigated by the Office of the Speaker, the Board of Management and the Office of the Clerk in an effort to make immediate improvements in the provision of official languages services;

AND FURTHER, if any of these suggestions are found to not be feasible at present, a plan to realize these outcomes be included in the official languages policy.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 102-19(2):

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake:

I MOVE that this committee recommends that the Standing Committee on Government Operations consider the issues of interpreter and translator training and accreditation and the possibility of a future Government of the Northwest Territories languages bureau in the context of its review of the *Official Languages Act*.

The motion was CARRIED.

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

Third Reading of Bills

Bill 20: *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act*

The Honourable Member for Hay River North, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved that Bill 20, *An Act to Amend the Employment Standards Act*, be read for the third time.

The Minister of Education, Culture and Employment requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Great Slave, Kam Lake, Deh Cho, Yellowknife North, Monfwi, Nahendeh, Sahtu, Inuvik Boot Lake, Hay River North, Hay River South,

Thebacha, Nunakput, Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Yellowknife South, Range Lake, Yellowknife Centre. (16)

Members against: Frame Lake. (1)

Members abstaining: (0)

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 26: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 3, 2020-2021*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, moved that Bill 26, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures), No. 3, 2020-2021*, be read for the third time.

The Minister of Finance requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Great Slave, Kam Lake, Frame Lake, Deh Cho, Yellowknife North, Monfwi, Nahendeh, Sahtu, Inuvik Boot Lake, Hay River North, Hay River South, Thebacha, Nunakput, Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Yellowknife South, Range Lake, Yellowknife Centre. (17)

Members against: (0)

Members abstaining: (0)

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 27: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 3, 2020-2021*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved that Bill 27, *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 3, 2020-2021*, be read for the third time.

The Minister of Finance requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Great Slave, Kam Lake, Frame Lake, Deh Cho, Yellowknife North, Monfwi, Nahendeh, Sahtu, Inuvik Boot Lake, Hay River North, Hay River South, Thebacha, Nunakput, Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Yellowknife South, Range Lake, Yellowknife Centre. (17)

Members against: (0)


Members abstaining: (0)

The motion was CARRIED.

The Speaker adjourned the House at 5:16 pm.



Hon. Frederick Blake Jr.
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



Glen Rutland
Acting Clerk of the Legislative Assembly