

THE COUNCIL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

---

S E V E N T H S E S S I O N

---

Yellowknife, June 14-16, 1954

---

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

---

YELLOWKNIFE, MONDAY, JUNE 14, 1954.

---

3 o'clock P.M.

The second session of the Council for the year 1954, being the seventh session of the Council of the Northwest Territories, was convened at Yellowknife at 3 o'clock P.M., on Monday, June 14, 1954.

The members present were:

Messrs: J. Boucher  
J. Brodie  
F. Carmichael  
W.I. Clements  
F.J.G. Cunningham

The members absent were:

Messrs: L.C. Audette  
L.H. Nicholson

PRAYERS.

The Commissioner addressed the Council. His address is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 1.

Mr. Cunningham tabled the following documents:

- (a) The Orders and Regulations issued by the Commissioner under various Ordinances since November 17, 1953. These Orders and Regulations are set forth in Sessional Paper No. 2.
- (b) Annual Report of the Commissioner for the fiscal year 1953-54. This report is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 3.
- (c) Annual Report of the Officer in Charge of the Workmen's Compensation Office in Edmonton for the calendar year 1953. This report is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 4.
- (d) Statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the fiscal year 1953-54 and Report on the Northwest Territories Revenue Account as at April 1, 1954. This statement and report are set forth in Sessional Paper No. 5.

Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Carmichael, moved that the Rules of the Council of the Northwest Territories be amended by deleting Rule 4 and by substituting therefor a new Rule 4; also by adding to Part VI of the Rules of the Council a new rule numbered 14A. After debate, the question being put on the motion, it was agreed to. The motion is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 6.

Mr. Brodie, seconded by Mr. Clements, moved that the Council express to the Commissioner its appreciation for his opening address.

In speaking on his motion, Mr. Brodie suggested that the number of elected members on the Council be increased progressively so that it be at least equal to the number of appointed members by 1957; and that the Council be fully elected in the near future. He suggested that the Territories should have a resident Commissioner and that the seat of Government should be moved from Ottawa to Fort Smith and that the Territorial Government have its own civil service. He also suggested that the Commissioner negotiate with the Federal Government a road and railway construction program, ultimately envisaging trunk road connections between Hay River, Fort Smith and Yellowknife, and a railway from Lynn Lake via Stony Rapids and Rat River to Pine Point and Hay River, and thence to Grimshaw. He also suggested that representations be made to the Federal Government for the construction of proper dock facilities and harbour approaches at Hay River, for the construction of a bridge across the west channel of Hay River, and for the development of Wood Buffalo Park into a tourist resort the same as other national parks. He also criticized the length of time being taken to consolidate the Ordinances of the Northwest Territories, and suggested that present policy be reviewed in connection with compulsory insurance under the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance and the Motor Vehicles Ordinance, and in connection with the tariff of fees for business licences and motor vehicle registration.

Mr. Brodie referred to the Order of May 21, 1954, tabled by Mr. Cunningham, exempting the Fort Smith Community Club from the requirements of obtaining an exhibitor's licence under the Motion Pictures Ordinance and stated that, to his knowledge, no such organization exists. He asked that, in future, copies of Orders and Regulations issued by the Commissioner be forwarded to the members of the Council with the Monthly Letter next following the date of the Order or Regulation.

Mr. Brodie recommended that Council should resume its practice of publishing debates following each session. The Committee considered that, in view of the relatively high cost involved, this was not justified but asked that a study be made of the various means of making the Votes and Proceedings more comprehensive.

In seconding the motion, Mr. Clements suggested that the Advisory Committee on Northern Development should prepare notes of its deliberations for use by the Council, subject to the deletions which would be necessary for security reasons. He also suggested that the members of Council should visit the various settlements of the Mackenzie District and also the Keewatin and Franklin Districts.

In the debate on the motion, Mr. Carmichael suggested that some of the present restrictions on trapping should be lifted at least during the present cycle of low fur prices so that the trappers might be better able to make a living, even if it means departing from strict conservation principles. He suggested that the Administration pay more attention to the opinions of trappers in adjusting quotas and fixing open and closed seasons. He made suggestions as to ways in which game wardens could assist trappers. He also suggested that a bounty

of from \$20 to \$25 per head be paid on wolves to provide trappers with more income and encourage them to get out on their trap lines.

Mr. Carmichael expressed the opinion that the amount of \$40 per month now being paid to Old Age Assistance and Old Age Security recipients is insufficient in view of the high cost of living in the north, and recommended for consideration by the Committee that the monthly payment be increased to \$50. The Committee considered that, due to the many implications, it would be unwise to make the increase requested at this time and asked that the Administration submit a complete report to Council at its next session.

Mr. Carmichael referred to the high freight rate on shipments of liquor to Aklavik and suggested that provision be made for the stocking and sale of liquor by the Sub-District Administrator at that point in order to take advantage of the relatively lower freight rates during the navigation season.

In the debate on the motion, Mr. Boucher stated that there is a marked difference between the present Council and the Council as it was years ago. He said that years ago, not only were all members appointed, but almost all of them were officers of the same Federal department, the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories being also the Deputy Minister of that department. At that time, there could hardly have been any question as to whether the legislation and matters presented for the consideration of the Council would be passed in the form in which they were presented. However, the new Council will include four elected members out of a total of nine. Furthermore, of the five appointed members, only one is an official of the Federal department administered by the Commissioner. As the bills are being drafted, the Administration does not consult the appointed members any more than the elected ones. In Council, the appointed members express their views and opinions as freely and independently as the elected members do, and the Commissioner has no real assurance that the Council will agree with the proposals put forth by the Administration. The Council has thus evolved from some sort of a staff conference to a truly non-partisan deliberative assembly.

In the debate on the motion, Mr. Cunningham explained the proposal of the Federal Government to establish a Northern Health Service. He also outlined the increased responsibilities assumed this year by Canada in connection with the sea supply of weather stations in the Queen Elizabeth Islands, and reported on the steps being taken to find a better location for Aklavik.

On motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Brodie, Council went into Committee to consider Mr. Brodie's motion on the Commissioner's address, Mr. Clements in the Chair.

Mr. Clements reported progress on the Committee's consideration of the motion on the Commissioner's address.

Council adjourned at 6 o'clock P.M.

---

TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 1954.

10 o'clock A.M.

Council continued in Committee of the Whole on the motion of appreciation to the Commissioner for his opening address, Mr. Clements in the Chair.

Mr. Brodie referred to the Order of May 21, 1954, tabled by Mr. Cunningham, exempting the Fort Smith Community Club from the requirements of obtaining an exhibitor's licence under the Motion Pictures Ordinance and stated that, to his knowledge, no such organization exists. He asked that, in future, copies of Orders and Regulations issued by the Commissioner be forwarded to the members of the Council with the Monthly Letter next following the date of the Order or Regulation.

The Committee discussed the question of exemptions under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the Northwest Territories Workmen's Compensation Ordinance and it agreed that the next Monthly Letter should include information outlining the circumstances under which these exemptions are granted.

Mr. Carmichael expressed the opinion that the amount of \$40 per month now being paid to Old Age Assistance and Old Age Security recipients is insufficient in view of the high cost of living in the north and recommended for consideration by the Committee that the monthly payment be increased to \$50. The Committee considered that, due to the many implications, it would be unwise to make the increase requested at this time and asked that the Administration submit a complete report to Council at its next session.

Mr. Brodie recommended that Council should resume its practice of publishing debates following each session. The Committee considered that, in view of the relatively high cost involved, this was not justified but asked that a study be made of the various means of making the Votes and Proceedings more comprehensive.

Mr. Carmichael referred to the high freight rate on shipments of liquor to Aklavik and suggested that provision be made for the stocking and sale of liquor by the Sub-District Administrator at that point in order to take advantage of the relatively lower freight rates during the navigation season.

Mr. Clements presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended favourably on the motion on the Commissioner's address.

The question being put on the motion, it was carried unanimously.

On motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Amend the Devolution of Real Property Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Carmichael, seconded by Mr. Boucher, Bill 2, An Ordinance to Amend the Game Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Brodie, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Amend the Local Improvement District Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Carmichael, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, Bill 4, An Ordinance to Amend the Medical Profession Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Brodie, seconded by Mr. Carmichael, Bill 5, An Ordinance to Amend the Motor Vehicles Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Brodie, seconded by Mr. Clements, Bill 6, An Ordinance to Amend the Pharmaceutical Chemists Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Brodie, Bill 7, An Ordinance to Amend the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Clements, Bill 8, An Ordinance Respecting A Citizenship Instruction Agreement Between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Carmichael, Bill 9, Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance 1954-55, was read the first time.

At the request of the Commissioner, Council went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Brodie in the Chair, on a Reference for Advice as to the desirability of granting liquor privileges to Eskimos.

Mr. Brodie presented the report of the Committee. The Committee was in favour of granting of same liquor privileges to Indians and Eskimos as are enjoyed by other persons.

Council accepted the Committee's report. The Commissioner stated that a study will be made to determine whether full liquor privileges can be granted to Indians and Eskimos, and a report will be presented to Council at its next session.

At the request of the Commissioner, Council went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Boucher in the Chair, on a Reference for Advice as to the desirability of replacing the three bursaries provided in Vote 106 of the Appropriation Ordinance 1954-55, to be paid one each to an Eskimo, Indian and a student other than Indian or Eskimo, by three bursaries payable only to students other than Indian or Eskimo.

Mr. Boucher presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended that, in view of the fact that the Federal Government has made provision for the granting of bursaries to Indians and Eskimos, the bursaries provided for in Vote 106 of the Appropriation Ordinance 1954-55, be granted to students other than Indian or Eskimo.

Council accepted the Committee's report.

Council adjourned at 1 o'clock P.M.

---

3 o'clock P.M.

On motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Amend the Devolution of Real Property Ordinance, was read a second time. Council went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Carmichael in the Chair.

Mr. Carmichael presented the report of the Committee on Bill 1. The Bill was recommended without amendment.

Council accepted the Committee's report.

On motion by Mr. Carmichael, seconded by Mr. Clements, Bill 2, An Ordinance to Amend the Game Ordinance, was read a second time. Council went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Cunningham in the Chair.

Mr. Cunningham presented the report of the Committee on Bill 2. The Bill was recommended without amendment.

Council accepted the Committee's report.

On motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Amend the Local Improvement District Ordinance, was read a second time.

On motion by Mr. Carmichael, seconded by Mr. Clements, Bill 4, An Ordinance to Amend the Medical Profession Ordinance, was read a second time.

On motion by Mr. Brodie, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, Bill 5, An Ordinance to Amend the Motor Vehicles Ordinance, was read a second time.

On motion by Mr. Brodie, seconded by Mr. Carmichael, Bill 6, An Ordinance to Amend the Pharmaceutical Chemists Ordinance, was read a second time.

On motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, Bill 7, An Ordinance to Amend the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, was read a second time.

On motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Carmichael, Bill 8, An Ordinance Respecting A Citizenship Instruction Agreement between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada, was read a second time. Council went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Clements in the Chair.

Mr. Clements presented the report of the Committee on Bill 8. The Bill was recommended without amendment.

Council accepted the Committee's report.

On motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Carmichael, Bill 9, Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance 1954-55, was read a second time. Council went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Brodie in the Chair.

Mr. Brodie reported progress on the Committee's consideration of Bill 9.

Council adjourned at 6 o'clock P.M.

---

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 1954.

10 o'clock A.M.

Council continued in Committee of the Whole on Bill 9, Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance 1954-55, Mr. Brodie in the Chair.

Mr. Brodie presented the report of the Committee on Bill 9. The Committee recommended this Bill with amendments.

Council accepted the Committee's report.

On motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Boucher, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Amend the Devolution of Real Property Ordinance, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 1 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 7.

On motion by Mr. Carmichael, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, Bill 2, An Ordinance to Amend the Game Ordinance, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 2 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 8.

On motion by Mr. Clements, seconded by Mr. Brodie, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Amend the Local Improvement District Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 3 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 9.

On motion by Mr. Carmichael, seconded by Mr. Clements, Bill 4, An Ordinance to Amend the Medical Profession Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 4 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 10.

On motion by Mr. Brodie, seconded by Mr. Boucher, Bill 5, An Ordinance to Amend the Motor Vehicles Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 5 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 11.

On motion by Mr. Brodie, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, Bill 6, An Ordinance to Amend the Pharmaceutical Chemists Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 6 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 12.

On motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Clements, Bill 7, An Ordinance to Amend the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 7 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 13.

On motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Brodie, Bill 8, An Ordinance Respecting A Citizenship Instruction Agreement between the Northwest Territories and the Government of Canada, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 8 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 14.

On motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Carmichael, Bill 9, Supplementary Appropriation Ordinance 1954-55, with amendments, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. This Bill is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 15.