

THE COUNCIL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

T W E L F T H S E S S I O N

Ottawa, January 14-23, 1957

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OTTAWA, MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 1957

3 o'clock P.M.

The First Session of the Council for the year 1957, being the Twelfth Session of the Council of the Northwest Territories, was convened at Ottawa, at 3 o'clock P.M. on Monday, January 14, 1957.

All members were present.

PRAYERS.

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

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

During the debate on the motion, the following subjects were discussed:

- (1) social and economic advances in the Territories in the past few years and a suggestion that, while a great deal has been accomplished, much more remains to be done;
- (2) progress made in establishing a common school system and the problems in areas where schools have been in operation under the auspices of religious groups;
- (3) social and economic problems in the Territories, and the suggestion that such problems, although of equal importance in all districts, are quite different in the Mackenzie District than they are elsewhere in the Territories. It was suggested that the problem in the Mackenzie District is one of adjustment to new circumstances, such as wage employment and other conditions brought on by the influx of civilization, whereas the problem in the balance of the Territories is principally one of survival;
- ~~(4)~~ a suggestion that shortcomings in the construction program have caused unwarranted delays in the expansion of educational facilities;
- ~~(5)~~ a suggestion that the Council and the Federal Government accept the principle that all Eskimos be given a formal education and that this be made an immediate objective;
- (6) the excellent work being done by the Department of National Health and Welfare in tuberculosis case finding and treatment and the sharp decline in the incidence of tuberculosis in the Western Arctic;
- ~~(7)~~ a suggestion that the tuberculosis case finding and treatment program in the Eastern Arctic should be intensified;
- ~~(8)~~ a suggestion that the Federal Government be asked to discontinue the means test for blind persons;

- (9) an expression of disappointment that the preliminary report of the Royal Commission on Canada's Economic Prospects contained no indication of a study having been made of northern development or of any intent on the part of the Commission to report separately on this subject;
- (10) an expression of appreciation for the Commissioner's brief to the Royal Commission on Broadcasting outlining the inadequacies of radio facilities in the Northwest Territories;
- (11) the importance of caribou conservation to the indigenous population, and a suggestion that if the herds could be brought back to a reasonable level through proper conservation measures, they might some day be valuable, not only from the standpoint of providing food for residents of the Territories, but they might also be sold commercially in markets outside of the Territories and thus form the basis of a new industry;
- (12) the desirability of designing the Eskimo education program to keep Eskimos in the north;
- (13) the importance of transportation facilities to the development of the north;
- (14) a suggestion that the Council give consideration in the very near future to the establishment of an administrative capital in the north;
- (15) the establishment in the Northwest Territories of a home for aged Indians, Eskimos and others;
- (16) arrangements being made for the move of Aklavik to the new site (East 3);
- (17) a suggestion that in the granting of commercial fishing rights on part of Great Slave Lake, residents of the Northwest Territories be given preference;
- (18) a recommendation that the method of collecting fur export tax be reviewed. It was suggested that the present method of collecting the tax creates some hardship to traders and trappers;
- (19) a suggestion that a board be established to review the status of Indians and consider whether a broader definition of "Indian" than that contained in the Indian Act is desirable; also that Indian councils be established;
- (20) a recommendation that the level of Territorial grants in aid of the operation of hospitals and nursing stations be reviewed; and
- (21) employment opportunities for Eskimos.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider further the motion on the Commissioner's opening address, Mr. Goodall in the chair. A number of the subjects mentioned in the formal debate were discussed in greater detail.

A paper prepared by the Economic Division of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, concerning fishing in Great Slave Lake, was distributed. This paper is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 2.

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

The Council adjourned at 6 o'clock P.M.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 1957

10 o'clock A.M.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to continue its consideration of the motion on the Commissioner's opening address, Mr. Goodall in the chair.

The Committee continued its discussion of matters mentioned in the formal debate and, in addition, considered the following:

- (a) a suggestion that contracts for the construction of small buildings, such as houses, could be carried out more expeditiously and efficiently if the local representatives of the Administration were authorized to deal with them rather than Ottawa officers;
- ✓ (b) a forecast of employment opportunities in the Territories over the next five to ten years;
- (c) efforts being made to encourage Eskimo and Indian employees on the Distant Early Warning line and on other major construction projects to save a portion of their earnings;
- (d) the lack of vitamins in the native diet and measures which might be taken to fortify the foods available to natives;
- (e) the serious plight of natives in the Fort Simpson area because of the lack of game, particularly rabbits;
- (f) a report by the Administration on the possibility of restocking of lakes in the Fort Simpson area.

Mr. Goodall presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended favourably on the motion on the Commissioner's opening address. The question being put on the motion, it was carried unanimously.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

Mr. Cunningham tabled the Orders and Regulations issued by the Commissioner under various Ordinances since September 1, 1956. These Orders and Regulations are set forth in Sessional Paper No. 3.

On motion by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Boucher, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Amend the Game Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Nicholson, Bill 2, An Ordinance to Amend the Insane Persons Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Audette, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Amend the Insurance Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Audette, Bill 4, An Ordinance to Amend the Liquor Ordinance, was read the first time.

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

On motion by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Audette, Bill 6, An Ordinance to Amend the Municipal District Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Audette, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 7, An Ordinance Respecting Public Health, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Carmichael, seconded by Mr. Boucher, Bill 8, An Ordinance to Amend the Vital Statistics Ordinance, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Porritt, Bill 9, An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1957, was read the first time.

On motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Audette, Bill 10, An Ordinance Respecting Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1958, was read the first time.

The Council adjourned at 1 o'clock P.M.

3 o'clock P.M.

On motion by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Amend the Game Ordinance, was read the second time.

On motion by Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Boucher, Bill 2, An Ordinance to Amend the Insane Persons Ordinance, was read the second time.

On motion by Mr. Audette, seconded by Mr. Carmichael, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Amend the Insurance Ordinance, was read the second time.

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

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Bills 1, 2, 3 and 5, Mr. Porritt in the chair.

Mr. Porritt reported progress on the Committee's consideration of Bills 1, 2, 3 and 5.

The Council adjourned at 6 o'clock P.M.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1957

10 o'clock A.M.

Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Carmichael, moved the following resolution:

"That this Council request the Government of Canada to abolish the means test respecting the payment of pensions to blind persons"

Following a brief debate on the resolution, it was agreed by the Council that it should be considered in Committee at a later date.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to continue its consideration of Bills 1, 2, 3 and 5, Mr. Porritt in the chair.

The Committee adjourned at 1 o'clock P.M.

3 o'clock P.M.

The Committee continued its consideration of Bills 1, 2, 3 and 5, Mr. Porritt in the chair.

Mr. Porritt presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bill 1, with amendment, and Bills 2, 3 and 5, without amendment. The Committee also recommended that the quota on martens be removed.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

Mr. Drury, seconded by Mr. Carmichael, moved the following resolution:

"Resolved that in the case of the re-issue to another holder of a certificate of registration for a registered trapping area, preference should, all other essential circumstances being equal, be given to a member of the immediate family of the latest registered holder."

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

On motion by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 6, An Ordinance to Amend the Municipal District Ordinance, was read the second time.

On motion by Mr. Drury, seconded by Mr. Porritt, Bill 7, An Ordinance Respecting Public Health, was read the second time.

On motion by Mr. Carmichael, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 8, An Ordinance to Amend the Vital Statistics Ordinance, was read the second time.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Bills 6, 7 and 8, Mr. Boucher in the chair.

Mr. Boucher reported progress on the Committee's consideration of Bills 6, 7, and 8.

The Council adjourned at 6 o'clock P.M.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 1957

10 o'clock A.M.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to continue its consideration of Bills 6, 7 and 8, Mr. Boucher in the chair.

The Committee adjourned at 1 o'clock P.M.

3 o'clock P.M.

The Committee continued its consideration of Bills 6, 7 and 8.

Mr. Boucher presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bill 6 with amendments, Bill 8 without amendments, and reported progress on Bill 7.

The Committee asked that the Administration review the provisions of Bill 6 relating to the medical and hospital care of employees in camps and present a report at the next session of the Council on the adequacy or need for such legislation in the light of present conditions in the Territories. The Committee further requested that any amendments which the Administration considers desirable in this regard be placed before the Council for consideration at its next session. It thought that the Administration should circulate copies of its report and proposed amendments, if any, to representatives of employers and management prior to the next session, and invite such representatives to submit written briefs. The Committee felt that oral representations on this subject should not be heard at the next session of the Council.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

The Council adjourned at 6 o'clock P.M.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 1957

10 o'clock A.M.

Mr. Porritt asked whether arrangements were being made to pay rent to the Church of England authorities for the building owned by that organization and being used for school purposes at Hay River.

He said that the church authorities have not received any rent for the period January, 1956 to June, 1956. Mr. Cunningham replied to the effect that money is available to pay this rent, but that actual payment has been delayed pending settlement of a legal technicality.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to continue its consideration of Bill 7, Mr. Boucher in the chair.

Mr. Boucher presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bill 7 with amendment.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

At the request of the Commissioner, the Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider a reference for advice as to the desirability of introducing fluoride into the water supply at Fort Smith, Mr. Carmichael in the chair.

Mr. Carmichael presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended the Commissioner be advised that it is in favour of the introduction of fluoride into the water supply at Fort Smith.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

The Council adjourned at 1 o'clock P.M.

3 o'clock P.M.

On motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Audette, Bill 9, An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1957, was read the second time.

On motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 10, An Ordinance Respecting Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1958, was read the second time.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Bills 9 and 10, Mr. Nicholson in the chair.

Mr. Nicholson presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bill 9 without amendment, and reported progress on Bill 10.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

The Council adjourned at 6 o'clock P.M.

MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 1957

10 o'clock A.M.

Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Parker, moved the following resolution:

"WHEREAS section 4 of the Hospital Aid Ordinance requires this Council to fix rates at which public aid will be paid to hospitals in the Northwest Territories;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the rates at which public aid will be paid to hospitals on and after the 1st day of April, 1957, under the authority of the Hospital Aid Ordinance shall be as follows:

1. Class A Hospitals - \$3.00 per patient day
Class B Hospitals - \$1.50 per patient day
Class C Hospitals - \$1.00 per patient day
2. Public aid shall not be paid
 - (a) to company hospitals and company nursing stations in respect of patients who are employees of the company; and
 - (b) in respect of persons for whom the Federal Government, the Territorial Government or a municipal district pays full per diem rates."

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

At the request of the Commissioner, the Council went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Drury in the chair, to consider a reference for advice

"as to whether it would be desirable

- (a) to request the Governor in Council of Canada to permit the extension of liquor privileges to any or all Indians in the Northwest Territories, as provided for in Section 95 of the Indian Act as amended by Parliament in 1956;
- (b) to amend the Northwest Territories Liquor Ordinance so as to extend liquor privileges to additional Eskimos in the Northwest Territories; and,

if it is the view of the Council that action should be taken, in the immediate future, along the lines indicated in (a) or (b), or both, the Commissioner requests the advice of Council as to the nature and extent of the liquor privileges that should be extended to Indians and Eskimos, and what distinctions, whether as to residence, occupation or otherwise, should be made in determining the persons eligible for such privileges."

The Committee adjourned at 1 o'clock P.M.

3 o'clock P.M.

The Committee continued its consideration of the reference for advice relating to liquor privileges for Indians and Eskimos.

Mr. Drury reported progress on the Committee's consideration of the reference for advice relating to liquor privileges for Indians and Eskimos.

The Council adjourned at 6 o'clock P.M.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 1957

10 o'clock A.M.

The Commissioner read a letter dated January 18, 1957, from Major General H.A. Young, Deputy Minister, Department of Public Works, concerning the school construction program being carried out by that department in the Territories. Major General Young's letter is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 4.

Mr. Parker discussed the letter from the Deputy Minister of Public Works.

Mr. Porritt asked that the Council consider the desirability of giving residents of the Territories preferential treatment in the granting of fishing privileges in Great Slave Lake. The Commissioner suggested that this subject might be appropriately discussed when the Council was in Committee of the Whole to consider Bill 10, and with the agreement of the Council, Mr. Porritt was asked to raise the matter at that time.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to continue its consideration of the reference for advice relating to liquor privileges for Indians and Eskimos, Mr. Drury in the chair.

Mr. Drury presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended the Commissioner be advised

- ✓ (a) that it favours extending to Indians and Eskimos the privilege of consuming beer only on licensed premises throughout the Northwest Territories;
- (b) that no further permits should be issued to Eskimos under paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 2 of the Liquor Ordinance by reason of the fact that they have, for the eighteen months immediately preceding their application, earned their livelihood chiefly by means other than hunting and trapping; the rights of Eskimos already in receipt of a permit (including the rights of renewal thereof) issued pursuant to these provisions not to be affected by this change; and

- (c) to take action to accomplish the foregoing by requesting the Governor in Council of Canada to issue a proclamation pursuant to section 95 of the Indian Act, and by placing before the Council appropriate amendments to the Liquor Ordinance.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to continue its consideration of Bill 10. In Mr. Nicholson's absence, Mr. Audette took the chair.

The Committee adjourned at 1 o'clock P.M.

3 o'clock P.M.

The Committee continued its consideration of Bill 10, Mr. Audette in the chair.

In conjunction with its consideration of allotment 303, the Committee considered the resolution moved by Mr. Parker and seconded by Mr. Carmichael on January 16 relative to abolishment of the means test for Blind Persons' Allowance.

Mr. Audette presented the report of the Committee. The Committee reported progress on Bill 10, and, in connection with the resolution of Mr. Parker and Mr. Carmichael, recommended that the Commissioner be asked to report to the Council the action taken by the Federal Government on a brief recently presented to it by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

The Council adjourned at 6 o'clock P.M.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1957

10 o'clock A.M.

Mr. Porritt asked that the Council consider the desirability of amending the Fur Export Tax Ordinance to provide for the collection of the tax from the fur auction sales agencies rather than from the trappers and traders. The Commissioner suggested Mr. Porritt raise this matter for consideration in the Committee of the Whole on Bill 10.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to continue its consideration of Bill 10, Mr. Audette in the chair.

The Committee adjourned at 1 o'clock P.M.

3 o'clock P.M.

The Committee continued its consideration of Bill 10, Mr. Audette in the chair.

Mr. Porritt's suggestion that the procedure for collecting fur export tax be revised was considered by the Committee, and it was agreed that no change in existing procedure should be made at the present time.

Mr. Audette presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bill 10 with amendments.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

On motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Carmichael, Bill 4, An Ordinance to Amend the Liquor Ordinance, was read the second time.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Bill 4, Mr. Parker in the chair.

Mr. Parker presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bill 4 with amendments.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

On motion by Mr. Audette, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Amend the Game Ordinance, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 1 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 5.

On motion by Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Boucher, Bill 2, An Ordinance to Amend the Insane Persons Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 2 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 6.

On motion by Mr. Audette, seconded by Mr. Porritt, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Amend the Insurance Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 3 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 7.

On motion by Mr. Boucher, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 4, An Ordinance to Amend the Liquor Ordinance, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 4 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 8.

On motion by Mr. Goodall, seconded by Mr. Porritt, 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. 9.

On motion by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Audette, Bill 6, An Ordinance to Amend the Municipal District Ordinance, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 6 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 10.

On motion by Mr. Drury, seconded by Mr. Porritt, Bill 7, An Ordinance Respecting Public Health, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 7 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 11.

On motion by Mr. Carmichael, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 8, An Ordinance to Amend the Vital Statistics Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 8 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 12.

On motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 9, An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1957, was read the third time and passed. Bill 9 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 13.

On motion by Mr. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Porritt, Bill 10, An Ordinance Respecting Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st Day of March, 1958, as reported by the Committee, was read the third time and passed. Bill 10 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 14.

The Commissioner assented to Bills 1 to 10, inclusive, as passed by the Council.

At the request of the Commissioner, the Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider a reference for advice as to the place of the next session, Mr. Goodall in the chair.

Mr. Goodall presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended that the next session of the Council be held at Frobisher Bay, and that if suitable accommodation and eating arrangements cannot be made available at that point, it be held at Yellowknife. The Committee further recommended that the next session of the Council commence Monday, June 17, but that the Commissioner should feel free to alter the commencement date if circumstances arise which, in his opinion, warrant such action.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

PROROGATION.