



NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

THE COUNCIL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

SEVENTEENTH SESSION

Chesterfield Inlet, July 27 - July 31, 1959.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

- (11) an expression of satisfaction at the recent progress of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in the establishment of a Northern Service;
- (12) the desirability of taking progressive steps that would lead to greater responsibility by the Territorial Council and Administration, in order to develop the Territories toward provincial status;
- (13) the importance of removing the present legal disparities between races;
- (14) the attraction of the resources of the Mackenzie Basin for contiguous provinces;
- (15) the fact that the people of the Mackenzie District would not wish to join any province, as had at times been suggested by various people, but would prefer to retain their present status as part of the Northwest Territories, with the ultimate possibility that the District might become a separate province;
- (16) the wisdom of hiring Eskimos for work in the North and the good example of the North Rankin Nickel Mines in this regard;
- (17) the necessity of more employment opportunities for Eskimos as their numbers increase;
- (18) the possibility of labour legislation to deal with such matters as overtime, hours of work, and holidays with pay, and a statement that the Administration is looking into these matters;
- (19) the necessity of better communications in the North;
- (20) the inadequacy of the waiting room facilities for passengers at the Yellowknife Airport;
- ✓ (21) the importance of Indians and Eskimos in the defence of the North, and the fact that the utilization of this source of manpower is in the national interest;
- (22) the importance of training northern people in the handling of machinery;
- (23) the recent decisions of Mr. Justice J.H. Sissons regarding the application of the Liquor Ordinance and the Game Ordinance to Indians and Eskimos;
- (24) the **Treaty rights** of Indians in the Territories;
- (25) the caribou as an essential source of meat, and the possibility of finding alternative supplies;
- (26) the desirability of using formal questions and resolutions in the work of the Council;
- (27) the fact that places like the Rehabilitation Centre at Rankin Inlet are typical of the way in which progress for Eskimos should be sought because they are helped without being given charity;

- (28) the need for a complete revision of the Game Ordinance and a statement of the Administration's intention to submit a Bill to accomplish this;
- (29) the possibility of opening the Richardson Mountains for big game hunting;
- (30) a statement that it is too difficult and expensive, and sometimes impossible, for the Department of Fisheries to stock lakes with fish.

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

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 1959.

10 o'clock A.M.

PRAYERS.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider further the motion on the Commissioner's opening address, Mr. Nicholson in the chair.

The following points were considered:

- (1) a statement that the Roman Catholic Mission at Fort Simpson had offered to make land available for vocational training in agriculture. The Mission has abandoned farming except to grow potatoes and other fresh vegetables for the school residents, thereby indicating the uneconomic nature of commercial agriculture in that particular area. It was the view of some of the members of the Committee that the Administration should examine the possibility of taking advantage of the Mission's offer, and perhaps utilizing the marketing facilities of the Department of Agriculture for whatever produce is grown;
- (2) a statement of the Administration's sympathy for the plight of the people who are unable to obtain enough fish from Great Bear Lake to meet their requirements, and the impossibility of disregarding the expert advice of the Department of Fisheries concerning restocking;
- (3) the fact that commercial interests in the Territories have not raised the question of fish-freezing facilities in a way that would enable the Federal Government to participate in a cost-sharing scheme under its legislation;
- (4) a statement that the char fishing project of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources is being carried on as part of its responsibility for Eskimos;

- (5) an opinion that there was a market available for quick-frozen filleted fish through supermarkets in southern Canada and the United States, but that most of the fishing industry was interested primarily in fresh fish;
- (6) the establishment of a timber reserve for Treaty Indians at Hay River, and the desirability of making sure that it does not interfere with the interests of others. It was stated that Indians must still have a permit to cut timber on the reserve if the wood is for sale, but that such a permit was not necessary if it was for their own use. There was an expression of opinion that a privileged commercial position for Indians was undesirable because it had the effect of placing them in a position of tutelage;
- (7) the fact that wood as a fuel for heating the utilidor system at Inuvik was inadequate, and the unfortunate effect of this on people in the Aklavik area who have been able to derive some income from woodcutting;
- (8) an explanation of the efforts of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources to ensure the continued use of wood as a fuel in departmental buildings in places where this is economical;
- (9) the fact that there was a surplus of labour and plentiful timber in a number of areas in the Mackenzie District and that these should be combined in some way to eliminate relief as far as possible. It was suggested that possibly the communities in these areas could establish a community wood pile as a relief measure.

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

3 o'clock P.M.

The Committee continued its consideration of the motion on the Commissioner's opening address, Mr. Nicholson in the chair.

The Committee considered the following points:

- (1) a brief explanation of the investigation of the land rights to which Indians in the Northwest Territories are entitled under Treaties 8 and 11;
- (2) the desirability of issuing a certificate of accomplishment by the Vocational Training School in Yellowknife which would indicate the length and quality of the training a person had received;
- (3) a statement of the Administration's intention to decentralize its administrative functions in the Mackenzie Valley. It was pointed out that the first steps had already been taken by reorganizing the Northern Administration Branch.

Mr. Nicholson reported progress.

Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Drury, moved that Rule 2 of the Rules of Council be suspended from 10 o'clock A.M. to 1 o'clock P.M. and from 3 o'clock P.M. to 6 o'clock P.M., and that the Council sit from 8 o'clock P.M. to 10 o'clock P.M. on Wednesday, July 29, 1959. (The purpose was to permit a visit by Council members to Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet.)

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

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

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 1959.

8 o'clock P.M.

PRAYERS.

The Committee continued its consideration of the motion on the Commissioner's opening address, Mr. Nicholson in the chair.

The Committee considered the following points:

- (1) the question of the legality of giving away game meat;
- (2) the permissibility of hunting big game in a trapping area;
- (3) the desirability of examining the traditional method of controlling trapping privileges, (i.e. by defining the people entitled to them) and determining the extent to which it is advisable to continue the present system;
- (4) a statement that the loss of trapping privileges and the inability to obtain reinstatement had a bad psychological effect on young people.

The Committee reported to Council.

Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Porritt, moved that the motion to amend Rule 2 passed on Tuesday, July 28, 1959, be amended to permit the Council to remain in session until 11 o'clock P.M.

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

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

The following points were considered:

- (1) the desirability of permitting children over sixteen who were not dependent on hunting and trapping for a livelihood to assist parents who are holders of general hunting licences;

- (2) a recommendation that the proposed revisions in the Game Ordinance be distributed to the members of the Council in advance;
- (3) the apparent decline in the wolf population of the Territories;
- (4) a recommendation that the Administration examine the possibility of applying to Eskimos the policy presently carried out by the Indian Affairs Branch of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration whereby credits or guaranteed advances were given to Indians by traders;
- (5) the possibility of fur export taxes being too high and the view that all taxes should be considered in the light of the financial position of the Territorial Government;
- (6) a statement that there was a fairly wide variation in the wages being paid for the loading and unloading of supply boats in the Eastern Arctic and that instructions were issued to pay wages at the prevailing rate.

The Council adjourned at 11 o'clock P.M.

THURSDAY, JULY 30, 1959.

10 o'clock A.M.

All members except Mr. Audette and Mr. Jones were present.

PRAYERS.

Mr. Nicholson 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.

Mr. Nicholson's report is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 1A.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

Mr. Brown tabled the following documents:

- (a) Annual Report of the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories. This report is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 2.
- (b) Annual Report of the Officer in Charge of the Workmen's Compensation Office. This report is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 3.
- (c) Annual Report of the Superintendent of Liquor. This report is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 4.

- (d) Statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the Fiscal Year 1958-59. This report is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 5.
- (e) Orders and Regulations issued pursuant to the Ordinances of the Northwest Territories between May 31, 1958 and July 13, 1959, inclusive, and not previously laid before the Council. These Orders and Regulations are set forth in Sessional Paper No. 6.
- (f) Other papers and reports on miscellaneous subjects. These papers and reports are set forth in Sessional Papers Nos. 7 to 19, inclusive.

Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Nicholson, moved that an expression of loyalty and affection for the Queen be conveyed to Her and that the Council regrets Her inability to visit the Northwest Territories.

The question being put on the motion, it was carried unanimously. This resolution is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 20.

On a motion by Mr. Gall, seconded by Mr. Brown, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Amend the Business Licence Ordinance, was read the first time.

On a motion by Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 2, An Ordinance to Amend the Hay River Municipal District Ordinance, was read the first time.

On a motion by Mr. Goodall, seconded by Mr. Nicholson, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Provide Hospital Insurance for Residents of the Northwest Territories, was read the first time.

On a motion by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Lang, Bill 4, An Ordinance to authorize the Commissioner to borrow a sum not exceeding Five Hundred Thousand Dollars from the Government of Canada and to authorize the Commissioner to execute an Agreement relating thereto (1959), was read the first time.

On a motion by Mr. Lang, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 5, An Ordinance to Amend the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, was read the first time.

On a motion by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 6, An Ordinance Respecting Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st day of March, 1960, was read the first time.

On a motion by Mr. Gall, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Amend the Business Licence Ordinance, was read the second time.

On a motion by Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 2, An Ordinance to Amend the Hay River Municipal District Ordinance, was read the second time.

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

Mr. Goodall presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bill 1 with amendment, and Bill 2 without amendment.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

On a motion by Mr. Goodall, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Provide Hospital Insurance for Residents of the Northwest Territories, was read the second time.

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

3 o'clock P.M.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Bill 3, Mr. Gall in the chair.

Mr. Gall presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bill 3, with amendment, and a recommendation that the taxes necessary to finance the hospital insurance scheme be determined by the Administration and appropriate legislation be introduced, if necessary, at the next session of the Council.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

On a motion by Mr. Lang, seconded by Mr. Porritt, Bill 5, An Ordinance to Amend the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, was read the second time.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Bill 5, Mr. Lang in the chair.

Mr. Lang presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bill 5, without amendment.

On a motion by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 4, An Ordinance to authorize the Commissioner to borrow a sum not exceeding Five Hundred Thousand Dollars from the Government of Canada and to authorize the Commissioner to execute an Agreement relating thereto (1959), was read the second time.

On a motion by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 6, An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st day of March, 1960, was read the second time.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider Bills 4 and 6, Mr. Drury in the chair.

Mr. Drury presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended Bills 4 and 6, with amendments.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

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

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 1959.

10 o'clock A.M.

PRAYERS.

Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Porritt, moved that the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources be requested to recommend to the

Government of Canada that the Northwest Territories Act be amended as soon as possible to empower the Council to legislate in relation to game so as to bind Eskimos and Indians as well as other persons.

The question being put on the motion, it was carried unanimously. This resolution is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 21.

Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Drury, moved that the Commissioner request the Governor in Council to bring subsection (3) of section 95 of the Indian Act into force in the Northwest Territories.

The question being put on the motion, it was carried unanimously. This resolution is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 22.

The Council went into Committee of the Whole to consider a Reference for Advice as to the time and place of the next session, Mr. Porritt in the chair.

Mr. Porritt presented the report of the Committee. The Committee recommended that the next session of the Council be held at Ottawa, commencing Monday, January 11, 1960.

The Council accepted the report of the Committee.

On a motion by Mr. Gall, seconded by Mr. Brown, Bill 1, An Ordinance to Amend the Business Licence Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 1 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 23.

On a motion by Mr. Porritt, seconded by Mr. Drury, Bill 2, An Ordinance to Amend the Hay River Municipal District Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 2 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 24.

On a motion by Mr. Goodall, seconded by Mr. Porritt, Bill 3, An Ordinance to Provide Hospital Insurance for Residents of the Northwest Territories, was read the third time and passed. Bill 3 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 25.

On a motion by Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Goodall, Bill 4, An Ordinance to authorize the Commissioner to borrow a sum not exceeding Five Hundred Thousand Dollars from the Government of Canada and to authorize the Commissioner to execute an agreement relating thereto (1959), was read the third time and passed. Bill 4 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 26.

On a motion by Mr. Lang, seconded by Mr. Gall, Bill 5, An Ordinance to Amend the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance, was read the third time and passed. Bill 5 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 27.

On a motion by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Porritt, Bill 6, An Ordinance Respecting Additional Expenditures for the Public Service of the Northwest Territories for the Financial Year Ending the 31st day of March, 1960, was read the third time and passed. Bill 6 is set forth in Sessional Paper No. 28.

The Commissioner assented to Bills 1 to 6, inclusive, as passed by the Council.

PROROGATION.