

Votes and Proceedings

SECOND SESSION OF THE NINETEENTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

March 31, 2022

The Assembly commenced the hybrid sitting at 1:31 pm, with the Honourable Frederick Blake Jr., Speaker, presiding. Pursuant to Rule 10.1(2), the Speaker allowed the remote participation of the Member for Deh Cho, the Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, the Member for Monfwi and the Honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Ministers' Statements

- 240-19(2) The Minister of Health and Social Services made a statement about ending the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.
- 241-19(2) The Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation made a statement regarding Northwest Territories Housing Corporation apprenticeship program.
- 242-19(2) The Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation made a statement regarding a General Rate Application.

Members' Statements

- 1067-19(2) The Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes made a statement regarding the Inuvik Mike Zubko Airport runway expansion project.
- 1068-19(2) The Member for Monfwi made a statement regarding mental health and addictions support.
- 1069-19(2) The Member for Frame Lake made a statement regarding Northwest Territories mining royalties.
- 1070-19(2) The Member for Hay River South made a statement about the rising cost of living.
- 1071-19(2) The Member for Great Slave made a statement regarding the Inuvik Mike Zubko Airport runway expansion project.

- 1072-19(2) The Member for Thebacha delivered a thank-you message.
- 1073-19(2) The Member for Yellowknife North made a statement regarding vaccine equity.
- 1074-19(2) The Member for Kam Lake made a statement regarding pandemic supports.
- 1075-19(2) The Member for Tu Nedhé-Willideh made a statement about housing expenditures in Tu Nedhé-Willideh.
- 1076-19(2) The Member for Inuvik Boot Lake made a statement regarding Muskrat Jamboree in the Beaufort Delta.
- 1077-19(2) The Member for Hay River North made a statement about filming of “Cold Road” in the South Slave region.
- 1078-19(2) The Member for Nahendeh made a statement regarding the Fort Simpson Speed Skating Club.

Returns to Written Questions

- 36-19(2) The Clerk tabled a Return to Written Question 36-19(2) from the Minister of Health and Social Services to the Member for Great Slave regarding mental health supports for residents.
- 38-19(2) The Clerk tabled a Return to Written Question 38-19(2) from the Minister of Lands to the Member for Frame Lake regarding the Project Assessment Policy review.
- 39-19(2) The Clerk tabled a Return to Written Question 39-19(2) from the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment to the Member for Frame Lake about mining programs and subsidies.

Tabling of Documents

- 627-19(2) Northwest Territories Action Plan for Promoting Critical Minerals: What We Heard – A Summary of the Discussion from a Virtual Workshop Held to Discuss Critical Mineral Development in the Northwest Territories. Tabled by the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment.
- 628-19(2) Northwest Territories Action Plan for Promoting Critical Minerals Appendix: Participant Comments from Critical Minerals Workshop, November 9, 2021. Tabled by the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment.

- 629-19(2) Value of Work Completed Under the Work Credit Program 2015-2022. Tabled by the Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment.
- 630-19(2) Environment and Natural Resources Strategic Plan 2022-2026. Tabled by the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources.
- 631-19(2) Waste Reduction and Recovery Program 2020-2021 Annual Report. Tabled by the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources.
- 632-19(2) Follow-up Letter for Oral Question 1028-19(2): Access to Clean Water. Tabled by the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs.
- 633-19(2) Follow-up Letter for Oral Question 997-19(2): Correctional Facilities. Tabled by the Minister of Justice.
- 634-19(2) Additional Information for Written Question 36-19(2): Mental Health Supports for Residents. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.
- 635-19(2) Northwest Territories Housing Corporation 2022-2023 Consolidated Operating Budget. Tabled by the Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.
- 636-19(2) Northwest Territories Hydro Corporation and Northwest Territories Power Corporation 2022-2023 Corporate Plan. Tabled by the Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Housing Corporation.

Notices of Motion

- 52-19(2) Appointments to the Standing Committees on Social Development and Government Operations
- Notice given by the Member for Frame Lake.

Motions

- 51-19(2) Extended Adjournment of the House to May 26, 2022

Moved by the Member for Thebacha.

I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hay River North, that when this House adjourns on Thursday, March 31, 2022, it shall be adjourned until Thursday, May 26, 2022;

AND FURTHERMORE, that at any time prior to May 26, 2022, 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.

Pursuant to rule 10.3(1), the vote was recorded. The results of the recorded vote were:

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

Members against: (0)

Members abstaining: (0)

The motion was CARRIED.

52-19(2) Appointments to the Standing Committees on Social Development and Government Operations

The Member for Frame Lake sought unanimous consent to waive Rule 6.1(1) and deal with Motion 52-19(2). Consent was granted.

Moved by the Member for Frame Lake.

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Thebacha, that the following Member be removed as an alternate to the Standing Committee on Social Development:

Mr. Jackie Jacobson, the Member for Nunakput;

AND FURTHER, that the following Member be appointed to the Standing Committee on Social Development:

Mr. Rocky Simpson, the Member for Hay River South;

AND FURTHERMORE, that the following Member be appointed to the Standing Committees on Social Development and Government Operations:

Mr. Richard Edjericon, the Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh.

Pursuant to rule 10.3(1), the vote was recorded. The results of the recorded vote were:

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

Members against: (0)

Members abstaining: (0)

The motion was RULED OUT OF ORDER.

First Reading of Bills

Bill 51: *Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures) 2022-2023*

The Minister of Finance presented Bill 51, *Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures) 2022-2023*.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 51 read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Second Reading of Bills

Bill 51: *Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures) 2022-2023*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nahendeh, moved that Bill 51, *Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures) 2022-2023*, be read for the second time. In accordance with rule 10.3(1), the vote was recorded.

The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Yellowknife North, Inuvik Twin Lakes, Nahendeh, Sahtu, Inuvik Boot Lake, Hay River North, Frame Lake, Kam Lake, Yellowknife South, Range Lake, Yellowknife Centre. (11)

Members against: Great Slave, Hay River South, Monfwi, Deh Cho, Tu Nedhé-Willideh, Thebacha. (6)

Members abstaining: (0)

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre raised a point of order against the Member for Great Slave challenging the validity of the Member voting on the motion. The Speaker ruled that there was no point of order.

The motion was CARRIED.

Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

The Premier rose on a point of order against the Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes under Rule 3.2(3)(i).

The Chair ruled there was a point of order and asked the Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes to apologize and withdraw her comments. The Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes did.

The Premier rose on a Point of Order against the Member for Yellowknife North.

Referencing his previous ruling, the Chair ruled there was a point of order and asked the Member for Yellowknife North to apologize and withdraw his comments. The Member refused.

Pursuant to Rule 3.4(4), the Chair suspended proceedings to report the circumstances to the Speaker.

The Speaker permitted debate on the point of order and allowed the Premier to withdraw her point of order.

The Deputy Chair, the Member for Hay River South, reported that the Committee of the Whole considered Bill 23: *An Act to Amend the Public Utilities Act*; Bill 29: *Resource Royalty Information Disclosure Statute Amendment Act*; and Committee Report 26-19(2): Standing Committee on Social Development Report on the Review of the *Child and Family Services Act* – Lifting NWT Children, Youth and Families: An All of Territory Approach to Keeping Families Together, and reported progress with 19 motions carried and that Committee Report 26-19(2) is concluded.

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

Committee Motion 220-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories declare the overrepresentation of Indigenous children and youth in Child and Family Services a crisis and develop a whole of government response in partnership with Indigenous governments.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 221-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services provide birthing support that is holistic, client-centred and culturally safe, with doula and midwife services staffed in each regional center.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 222-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services establish a territorial treatment addictions recovery program or treatment supports specifically for youth to remain in the territory and maintain their support systems.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 223-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services create a pan-territorial youth homelessness plan that expands safe community-based housing options by collaborating with communities and non-governmental organizations.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 224-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services tailor the Healthy Family Program for vulnerable families to access culturally safe and affirming child-rearing practices and expand the program to all 33 communities.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 225-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs lead an all-of-government approach to ensuring access to recreational programming by providing additional funding for recreational facilities and programming, so all families have increased access to these spaces outside regular business day hours, and additional funding specifically for those children and youth in care to participate in extracurricular activities.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 226-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services establish family mentorship pilot projects that pair vulnerable parents with grandparents or elders to share encouragement, childrearing practices and indigenous knowledge.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 227-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services increase funding to Indigenous governments, communities and organizations to deliver addictions recovery on-the-land healing options specifically tailored to youth.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 228-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services lead work with communities to establish culturally safe and gender-inclusive family violence emergency shelters in each Northwest Territories community with sustainable funding.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 229-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services deliver and make mandatory culturally safe and trauma-informed training for foster families.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 230-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services establish a recruitment strategy to increase the number of Indigenous foster families, including encouraging extended families to care for children by providing additional financial resources and support.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 231-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services develop a child and family services evaluation and monitoring framework, including a data profile on children and youth in care.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 232-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services establish an Indigenous advisory body sub-committee specifically for child and Family Services.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 233-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services audit all Child and Family Services resources, ensuring they are all plain language, culturally safe and easily accessible online, including a plain language summary of the *Child and Family Services Act*.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 234-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services provide legal services to parents as early as the plan of care stage with Child and Family Services.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 235-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services make legislative changes to the *Child and Family Service Act* to support the readiness of Indigenous governments to draw down jurisdiction for child welfare, using trauma-informed language that centers children and youth as individuals with rights, ensures cultural continuity for Indigenous children and youth, and affirms the unique political relationship with Indigenous groups and peoples.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 236-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services establish a comprehensive spectrum of services available to children, youth and adults with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders and their parents and/or caregivers to prevent developmental delay and mobilize support for families.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 237-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Department of Health and Social Services implement annual quality improvement plan reporting which includes progress on the Committee's recommendations.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 238-19(2)

Moved by the Member for Kam Lake:

I MOVE that this Committee recommends that the Government of the Northwest Territories provide a response to this report within 120 days.

The motion was CARRIED.

Third Reading of Bills

Bill 39: *An Act to Amend the Post-secondary Education Act*

The Honourable Member for Hay River North, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved that Bill 39, *An Act to Amend the Post-secondary Education Act*, be read for the third time.

Pursuant to Rule 10.3, the vote was recorded. The results of the recorded vote were:

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

Members against: (0)

Members abstaining: (0)

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 41: *Justice Administration Statutes Amendment Act*

The Honourable Member for Hay River North, seconded by the Honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved that Bill 41, *Justice Administration Statutes Amendment Act*, be read for the third time.

Pursuant to Rule 10.3, the vote was recorded. The results of the recorded vote were:

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

Members against: (0)

Members abstaining: (0)

The motion was CARRIED.

Bill 51: *Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures) 2022-2023*

The Honourable Member for Yellowknife South, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nahendeh, moved that Bill 51, *Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures) 2022-2023*, be read for the third time.

Pursuant to Rule 10.3, the vote was recorded. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Yellowknife North, Inuvik Twin Lakes, Nahendeh, Sahtu, Inuvik Boot Lake, Hay River North, Frame Lake, Kam Lake, Yellowknife South, Range Lake, Yellowknife Centre. (11)

Members against: Great Slave, Hay River South, Monfwi, Deh Cho, Tu Nedhé-Willideh, Thebacha. (6)

Members abstaining: (0)

The motion was CARRIED.

Assent

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

Bill 37: *An Act to Amend the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*

Bill 38: *Miscellaneous Statute Law Amendment Act, 2021*

Bill 39: *An Act to Amend the Post-secondary Education Act*

Bill 41: *Justice Administration Statutes Amendment Act*

Bill 49: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 3, 2021-2022*

Bill 50: *Supplementary Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures),
No. 3, 2021-2022*

Bill 51: *Appropriation Act (Operations Expenditures) 2022-2023*

The Speaker adjourned the House at 7:30 pm.



Hon. Frederick Blake Jr.
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



Tim Mercer
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly