

Votes and Proceedings

FIRST SESSION OF THE TWENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

October 17, 2025

The Assembly commenced sitting at 10:01 a.m. with the Honourable Shane Thompson, Speaker, presiding.

Members' Attendance

Present: Member for Dehcho, Member for Frame Lake, Member for Great Slave, Honourable Member for Hay River North, Honourable Member for Hay River South, Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, Honourable Member for Kam Lake, Member for Mackenzie Delta, Member for Monfwi, Honourable Member for Nunakput, Member for Range Lake, Member for Sahtu, Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Member for Yellowknife Centre, Member for Yellowknife North, Honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Absent: Honourable Member for Inuvik Twin Lakes, Honourable Member for Thebacha.

Point of Order

The Member for Yellowknife Centre rose on a point of order under Rule 8.3 regarding Bill 26, *An Act to Amend the Public Service Act*.

The Speaker ruled that the matter would be brought back for debate prior to Committee of the Whole on this date.

Ministers' Statements

- 146-20(1) The Minister of Finance delivered a 2025-2026 fall economic and fiscal update.
- 147-20(1) The Minister responsible for Housing Northwest Territories delivered a capital delivery status update.

Members' Statements

- 710-20(1) The Member for Great Slave made a statement regarding the Northwest Territories Nominee Program.
- 711-20(1) The Member for Range Lake made a statement regarding government support for the mining industry.
- 712-20(1) The Member for Sahtu made a statement regarding Small Business Week 2025.
- 713-20(1) The Member for Inuvik Boot Lake made a statement regarding the Mackenzie Valley Highway.
- 714-20(1) The Member for Monfwi made a statement regarding support for students in transitional programs.
- The Member for Monfwi sought and was granted unanimous consent to conclude her Member's Statement.
- 715-20(1) The Member for Mackenzie Delta made a statement regarding the condition of the Dempster Highway.
- 716-20(1) The Member for Yellowknife North made a statement regarding family violence.
- 717-20(1) The Member for Tu Nedhé-Willideh made a statement regarding negotiation of the Akaitcho land claim and self-government final agreement.
- 718-20(1) The Member for Frame Lake made a statement regarding Yellowknife encampments and approaches to homelessness.
- 719-20(1) The Member for Yellowknife Centre made a statement regarding support for the Northwest Territories economy.
- 720-20(1) The Honourable Member for Nahendeh made a statement celebrating the life of Betty Ann Villeneuve.
- 721-20(1) The Member for Dehcho delivered a eulogy for Samuel Gargan.

Follow-up for Oral Questions

- 682-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up to Oral Question 682-20(1) from the Minister of Health and Social Services to the Member for Yellowknife North regarding support for healthcare workers in the Northwest Territories.

- 692-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up to Oral Question 692-20(1) from the Minister of Health and Social Services to the Member for Inuvik Boot Lake regarding the Extended Health Benefits Program.
- 726-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up to Oral Question 726-20(1) from the Minister of Health and Social Services to the Member for Tu Nedhé-Willideh regarding Indigenous governance and guidance in healthcare.

Tabling of Documents

- 385-20(1) 2026-2027 Capital Estimates. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 386-20(1) Supplementary Operations (Operations Expenditures and Borrowing Authorization), No. 3, 2024-2025. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 387-20(1) Supplementary Estimates (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 2, 2025-2026. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 388-20(1) Supplementary Estimates (Operations Expenditures), No. 2, 2025-2026. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 389-20(1) Fall 2025 Economic and Fiscal Update. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 390-20(1) Northern Employees Benefits Services (NEBS) Pension Plan Annual Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2024. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.
- 391-20(1) Additional Information for Follow-up to Oral Question 692-20(1) Extended Health Benefits Program. Tabled by the Premier for the Minister of Health and Social Services.

Motions

- 61-20(1) Remuneration of Essential Staff During an Evacuation

Moved by the Member for Yellowknife Centre:

NOW THEREFORE, I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Sahtu, that the Legislative Assembly recommend that the Government of the Northwest Territories reimburse AVENS \$400,000, which is the portion of costs incurred from their assistance to the Government during the 2023 wildfire evacuation and is not covered by the federal Disaster Assistance Fund;

AND FURTHER, that the Government of the Northwest Territories in its response to the 2023 Wildfire Emergency Response After-Action Review, provide guidelines on how to address remuneration of essential staff during an evacuation particularly for non-governmental organizations providing contract services to the Government of the Northwest Territories;

AND FURTHERMORE, that the Government of the Northwest Territories respond to this motion within 120 days.

The Member for Range Lake, pursuant to section 77(1) of the *Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act*, informed the House of a conflict of interest in this motion as his spouse chairs the board of AVENS, A Community for Seniors. The Member withdrew from the proceedings during this matter.

The Member for Yellowknife Centre requested a recorded vote. The results of the recorded vote were:

Members for: Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Dehcho, Sahtu, Yellowknife Centre, Inuvik Boot Lake, Monfwi, Frame Lake, Great Slave, Mackenzie Delta, Yellowknife North. (10)

Members against: None. (0)

Members abstaining: Yellowknife South, Kam Lake, Hay River North, Hay River South, Nunakput. (5)

The motion was CARRIED.

The Speaker returned to the Point of Order raised by the Member for Yellowknife Centre and permitted debate before taking the matter under consideration and ruling at a later date.

Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

The Chair, the Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, reported that the Committee of the Whole considered Tabled Document 385-20(1): 2026-2027 Capital Estimates; Tabled Document 386-20(1): Supplementary Estimates (Operations Expenditures and Borrowing Authorization), No. 3, 2024-2025; Tabled Document 387-20(1): Supplementary Estimates (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 2, 2025-2026; and Tabled Document 388-20(1): Supplementary Estimates (Operations Expenditures), No. 2, 2025-2026, and reported progress.

The Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, seconded by the Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, moved concurrence of the report of the Committee of the Whole. The motion was CARRIED.

The Speaker adjourned the House at 1:42 p.m.



Hon. Shane Thompson
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



Glen Rutland
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly