

Votes and Proceedings

FIRST SESSION OF THE TWENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

October 20, 2025

The Assembly commenced sitting at 1:30 p.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 Inuvik Twin Lakes, Honourable Member for Kam Lake, Member for Mackenzie Delta, Member for Monfwi, Honourable Member for Nunakput, Member for Range Lake, Honourable Member for Thebacha, Member for Yellowknife Centre, Member for Yellowknife North, Honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Absent: Member for Sahtu, Member for Tu Nedhé-Willideh.

Ministers' Statements

- 148-20(1) The Minister of Environment and Climate Change made a statement regarding the 2025 wildfire season.
- 149-20(1) The Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs provided an update on emergency management activities.
- 150-20(1) The Minister of Health and Social Services made a statement regarding a model of care in small community health centres.

Members' Statements

- 722-20(1) The Member for Monfwi made a statement regarding impacts of the 2025 wildfire season and fire management policy.

The Member for Monfwi sought and was granted unanimous consent to conclude her statement.

- 723-20(1) The Member for Range Lake made a statement regarding expansion of the Yellowknife Airport.
- 724-20(1) The Member for Yellowknife Centre made a statement regarding the Arctic Economic and Security Corridor.
- 725-20(1) The Member for Yellowknife North made a statement regarding primary health care delivery.
- The Member for Yellowknife North sought and was granted unanimous consent to conclude her statement.
- 726-20(1) The Member for Dehcho made a statement regarding the 2025 wildfire evacuation of Fort Providence.
- The Member for Dehcho sought and was granted unanimous consent to conclude her statement.
- 727-20(1) The Member for Great Slave made a statement regarding the Northwest Territories-Healthcare Excellence Canada's Cultural Safety Design Collaborative Team Report: "Honouring the Voices of Indigenous Peoples – Actions for Change in the Northwest Territories Health Care System".
- 728-20(1) The Member for Mackenzie Delta made a statement regarding income support programs.
- 729-20(1) The Member for Frame Lake made a statement regarding early literacy screening.
- 730-20(1) The Honourable Member for Nahendeh made a statement celebrating the life of Reginald Bellefontaine.
- 731-20(1) The Member for Inuvik Boot Lake made a statement regarding Arctic Winter Games funding.

Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills

- Bill 26 -20(1) The Member for Frame Lake reported that the Standing Committee on Government Operations had reviewed Bill 26, *An Act to Amend the Public Service Act*.

In accordance with Rule 8.3(2), the Member for Frame Lake, seconded by the Member for Great Slave, moved that the review period for Bill 26, *An Act to Amend the Public Service Act*, be extended by 120 days.

The motion was CARRIED.

As the Standing Committee on Government Operations received a 120-day extension to its review period for Bill 26, the Speaker ruled the point of order raised by the Member for Yellowknife Centre on October 17, 2025, moot. The Speaker referred the debate on the point of order to the Standing Committee on Privilege and Procedures for review and, if required, to make a recommendation to change the Rules.

Reports of Standing and Special Committees

25-20(1) Standing Committee on Government Operations Report on the Review to Date of Bill 26: *An Act to Amend the Public Service Act*

The Member for Frame Lake, seconded by the Member for Great Slave, moved that Committee Report 25-20(1), Standing Committee on Government Operations Report on the Review to Date of Bill 26, *An Act to Amend the Public Service Act*, be received and adopted by the Assembly.

The motion was CARRIED.

The Member for Frame Lake, seconded by the Member for Great Slave, moved that pursuant to Rule 9.4(5)(a), the Government of the Northwest Territories table a comprehensive response to this report, including all recommendations, within 120 days or at the earliest opportunity subsequent to the passage of 120 days.

The motion was CARRIED.

Tabling of Documents

392-20(1) 2025 Northwest Territories Environmental Audit Final Report. Tabled by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change.

393-20(1) Conference of Management Authorities Species at Risk Annual Report 2024-2025. Tabled by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change.

394-20(1) Northwest Territories Species at Risk Committee Annual Report 2024-2025. Tabled by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change.

395-20(1) Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut Annual Report 2024. Tabled by the Minister responsible for the Workers' Safety and Compensation Commission.

First Reading of Bills

Bill 32: *An Act to Amend the Public Service Act, No. 2*

Introduced by the Minister of Finance.

In accordance with Rule 8.2(3), the Speaker deemed Bill 32, read for the first time and ready for second reading.

Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

The Deputy Chair, the Member for Dehcho, reported that the Committee of the Whole considered Bill 21: *An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act*; Bill 22: *Legislation Act*; Bill 28: *An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance, No. 2*; 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 with two motions carried, and that Bills 21, 22 and 28 are ready for Third Reading.

Committee Motion 79-20(1)

The Member for Inuvik Boot Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee defer further consideration of Tabled Document 386-20(1), Supplementary Estimates (Operations Expenditures and Borrowing Authorization), No. 3, 2024-2025, at this time.

The motion was CARRIED.

Committee Motion 80-20(1)

The Member for Inuvik Boot Lake moved the following motion:

I MOVE that this Committee defer further consideration of Tabled Document 387-20(1), Supplementary Estimates (Infrastructure Expenditures), No. 2, 2025-2026, at this time.

The motion was CARRIED.

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

The Speaker adjourned the House at 5:56 p.m.



Hon. Shane Thompson
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



Glen Rutland
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly