

Votes and Proceedings

FIRST SESSION OF THE TWENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

May 21, 2025

The Assembly commenced sitting at 1:31 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 Monfwi, Honourable Member for Nunakput, Member for Range Lake, Member for Sahtu, Honourable Member for Thebacha, Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh, Member for Yellowknife Centre, Member for Yellowknife North, Honourable Member for Yellowknife South.

Absent: Member for Mackenzie Delta.

Ministers' Statements

123-20(1) The Premier delivered a sessional statement.

Members' Statements

618-20(1) The Member for Range Lake made a statement congratulating Rebecca Alty, new Member of Parliament for the Northwest Territories.

619-20(1) The Member for Great Slave made a statement regarding support for 2SLGBTQIAA+ rights and transgender healthcare.

620-20(1) The Member for Monfwi made a statement regarding the substance abuse crisis in the Northwest Territories.

- 621-20(1) The Member for Yellowknife Centre made a statement regarding the state of the Northwest Territories economy.
- 622-20(1) The Member for Sahtu made a statement about bargaining conditions for the 2025 sailing season.
- 623-20(1) The Member for Yellowknife North made a statement regarding Government of the Northwest Territories relief for territorial diamond mines.
- 624-20(1) The Member for Frame Lake made a statement regarding the regulatory regime for counsellors and psychotherapists.
- 625-20(1) The Member for Dehcho made a statement regarding the administration of and plans for the Hamlet of Enterprise.
- 626-20(1) The Member for Tu Nedhé-Willideh made a statement about housing programs in the Northwest Territories.
- 627-20(1) The Member for Nunakput made a statement regarding the Nunakput constituency and the 20th Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly's vision.
- 628-20(1) The Member for Nahendeh made a statement celebrating the life of Dr. Earl Covert.
- 627-20(1) The Member for Inuvik Boot Lake made a statement celebrating the life of Mr. Vincent Moses.

Follow-up to Oral Questions

- 428-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 428-20(1) from the Minister of Health and Social Services to the Member for Yellowknife North about improving access to primary care.
- 432-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 432-20(1) from the Minister responsible for Housing Northwest Territories to the Member for Yellowknife Centre regarding the naming of Government of the Northwest Territories buildings.
- 433-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 433-20(1) from the Minister of Finance to the Member for Yellowknife North regarding the Government of the Northwest Territories Employment Satisfaction Survey.

- 440-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 440-20(1) from the Minister of Infrastructure to the Member for Sahtu regarding the 2025 Sahtu winter roads resupply.
- 449-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 449-20(1) from the Minister of Finance to the Member for Great Slave regarding home insurance costs.
- 453-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Written Question 453-20(1) from the Minister of Health and Social Services to the Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh regarding cultural sensitivity and costs related to funeral preparation.
- 466-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 466-20(1) from the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment to the Member for Mackenzie Delta regarding the Aurora College closure of community learning centres.
- 479-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Written Question 479-20(1) from the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment to the Member for Great Slave regarding a multi-year funding agreement with Dechinta Centre for Research and Learning.
- 485-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 485-20(1) from the Minister of Health and Social Services to the Member for Dehcho regarding Mental Health Supports for Dehcho region.
- 513-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 513-20(1) from the Minister of Finance to the Member for Dehcho regarding the effectiveness of Indigenous employment programs in the public service.
- 514-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 514-20(1) from the Minister of Health and Social Services to the Member for Yellowknife North regarding Child and Family Services plan of care agreements.
- 522-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 522-20(1) from the Premier to the Member for Range Lake about funding of the Northwest Territories Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.
- 526-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 526-20(1) from the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs to the Member for Range Lake regarding enforcement of the *Dog Act*.

- 540-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up to Oral Question 541-20(1) from the Minister of Health and Social Services to the Member for Great Slave regarding healthcare coverage for Territorial Nominee Program participants.
- 541-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 541-20(1) from the Minister of Infrastructure to the Member for Range Lake about funding increased costs for Yellowknife's drinking water supply.
- 546-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 546-20(1) from the Minister of Infrastructure to the Member for Great Slave regarding driver's license extensions for Territorial Nominee Program participants.
- 549-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 549-20(1) from the Minister of Health and Social Services to the Member for Monfwi regarding elder abuse in the Northwest Territories.
- 562-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 562-20(1) from the Minister of Infrastructure to the Member for Inuvik Boot Lake regarding the Inuvik Airport security screening area.
- 567-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 567-20(1) from the Premier to the Member for Yellowknife North regarding emergency shelter for homeless persons in Yellowknife.
- 569-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 569-20(1) from the Minister of Health and Social Services to the Member for Yellowknife Centre regarding extended healthcare benefits for seniors' prescription glasses.
- 571-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 571-20(1) from the Minister of Infrastructure to the Member for Yellowknife North regarding Arctic Energy Alliance program funding.
- 575-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 575-20(1) from the Minister of Infrastructure to the Member for Mackenzie Delta regarding Dempster Highway conditions.
- 576-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 576-20(1) from the Minister responsible for Housing Northwest Territories to the Member for Tu Nedhé-Willideh regarding delivery of new housing units to Fort Resolution.

- 578-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 578-20(1) from the Minister of Justice to the Member for Monfwi regarding drug related activity in public housing units.
- 612-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up to Oral Question 612-20(1) from the Minister of Infrastructure to the Member for Sahtu regarding environmental assessment of the Line 490 replacement project in Norman Wells.
- 658-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 658-20(1) from the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs to the Member for Yellowknife Centre regarding the Yellowknife drinking water pipeline replacement.
- 659-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 659-20(1) from the Minister responsible for the Northwest Territories Power Corporation regarding Northwest Territories Power Corporation distribution in Hay River.

Returns to Oral Questions

- 530-20(1) The Premier provided a return to Oral Question 530-20(1) asked by the Member for Yellowknife Centre regarding the Senior Envoy to the Government of Canada.
- 607-20(1) The Minister of Health and Social Services provided a return to Oral Question 607-20(1) asked by the Member for Range Lake regarding coverage exemptions for uninsured medical procedures.
- 645-20(1) The Premier provided a return to Oral Question 645-20(1) asked by the Member for Yellowknife Centre regarding the Senior Envoy to the Government of Canada.

Returns to Written Questions

- 14-20(1) The Clerk tabled a return to Written Question 14-20(1) from the Minister of Health and Social Services to the Member for Range Lake about operating rooms at Stanton Territorial Hospital.
- 15-20(1) The Clerk tabled a return to Written Question 15-20(1) from the Minister of Justice to the Member for Monfwi regarding title transfer issues in the Tłı̄chǫ region.
- 16-20(1) The Clerk tabled a return to Written Question 16-20(1) from the Minister of Finance to the Member for Frame Lake regarding environmental liabilities.

Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills

- Bill 17-20(1) The Member for Frame Lake reported that the Standing Committee on Government Operations had reviewed Bill 17, *Municipal and Community Affairs Statutes Amendment Act*, and that Bill 17 was ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole.
- Bill 18 -20(1) The Member for Frame Lake reported that the Standing Committee on Government Operations had reviewed Bill 18, *An Act to Amend the Partnership and Business Names Act*, and that Bill 18 was ready for consideration in Committee of the Whole.

Reports of Standing and Special Committees

- 22-20(1) Standing Committee on Public Accounts Report on the Review of the 2023-2024 Public Accounts.

The Member for Range Lake, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nunakput, moved that Committee Report 22-20(1), Standing Committee on Public Accounts Report on the Review of the 2023-2024 Public Accounts, be received and adopted and by the House.

The motion was CARRIED.

The Member for Range Lake, seconded by the Honourable Member for Nunakput, 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

- 323-20(1) Note to File Mackenzie Valley Review Board Meeting with Government of the Northwest Territories. Tabled by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change.
- 324-20(1) Yellowknife Shelter Information. Tabled by the Premier.
- 325-20(1) Additional Information for Written Question 16-20(1): Environmental Liabilities. Tabled by the Minister of Finance.

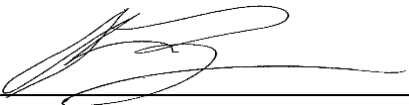
- 326-20(1) The Structured Decision-Making System for Child Protection Policy and Procedures Manual. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.
- 327-20(1) Additional Information for Return to Written Question 14-20(1): Operating Room Activities for Stanton Territorial Hospital. Tabled by the Minister of Health and Social Services.
- 328-20(1) Proposal for Private Members Bill: *An Act to Amend the Public Service Act*. Tabled by the Member for Yellowknife North.
- 329-20(1) College and Association of Nurses - Northwest Territories and Nunavut: Nursing Collective Agreement and Association Function Survey. Tabled by the Member for Yellowknife North.
- 330-20(1) Supplemental Report of the Northwest Territories Integrity Commissioner about Costs Relating to the Complaint by Jennifer Patterson that Mr. Richard Edjericon, Member of the Legislative Assembly for Tu Nedhé-Willideh Breached the Code of Conduct for Members of the Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly. Tabled by the Speaker.
- 331-20(1) List of Deceased Northwest Territories World War II Veterans. Tabled by the Speaker.

Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills

Bill 26-20(1): *An Act to Amend the Public Service Act*

Notice given by the Member for Yellowknife North.

The Speaker adjourned the House at 4:06 p.m.



Hon. Shane Thompson
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



Glen Rutland
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly