

## Votes and Proceedings

### FIRST SESSION OF THE TWENTIETH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

#### February 24, 2026

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 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.

The Honourable Member for Kam Lake sought and received unanimous consent to move to Item 4, Recognition of Visitors in the Gallery, on the Orders of the Day.

#### Ministers' Statements

- 182-20(1) The Minister of Finance made a statement regarding the Health Recruitment Unit.
- 183-20(1) The Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs made a statement regarding the 2024-2025 Annual Report on the Northwest Territories Emergency Management System.
- 184-20(1) The Minister of Education, Culture and Employment made a statement regarding Indigenous Languages Month.

## Members' Statements

- 906-20(1) The Member for Frame Lake made a statement regarding coordinated access to disabilities support programs.
- The Member for Frame Lake sought and received unanimous consent to conclude his statement.
- 907-20(1) The Member for Range Lake made a statement regarding a Child and Youth Advocate.
- 908-20(1) The Member for Inuvik Boot Lake made a statement regarding the Dempster Highway.
- 909-20(1) The Member for Sahtu made a statement regarding internal trade barriers.
- The Member for Sahtu sought and received unanimous consent to conclude his statement.
- 910-20(1) The Member for Dehcho made a statement regarding peer group placement in schools.
- 911-20(1) The Member for Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh made a statement regarding the action plan for the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Implementation Act*.
- 912-20(1) The Member for Great Slave made a statement regarding Vets Without Borders.
- 913-20(1) The Member for Yellowknife North made a statement regarding private contract paramedics.
- The Member for Yellowknife North sought and received unanimous consent to conclude her statement.
- 914-20(1) The Member for Monfwi made a statement regarding child and family services.
- 915-20(1) The Member for Yellowknife Centre made a statement regarding the elimination of the Northwest Territories Payroll Tax to reduce the high cost of living.
- 916-20(1) The Honourable Member for Nahendeh made a statement celebrating the life of Christine Holman.

### Returns to Oral Questions

- 974-20(1) The Minister of Health and Social Services provided a return to Oral Question 974-20(1) asked by the Member for Range Lake regarding the Medical Travel Policy and ministerial exemptions.

### Follow-up for Oral Questions

- 928-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 928-20(1) from the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs to the Member for Great Slave regarding radon testing, exposure and mitigation in the Northwest Territories.
- 988-20(1) The Clerk provided a follow-up for Oral Question 988-20(1) from the Minister of Health and Social Services to the Member for Yellowknife North regarding the air ambulance contract.

### Written Questions

- 32-20(1) The Member for Range Lake asked a question of the Minister of Health and Social Services regarding medical travel costs, budget pressures and travel volumes.
- 33-20(1) The Member for Range Lake asked a question of the Minister of Health and Social Services regarding medical travel delays and coordination.
- 34-20(1) The Member for Yellowknife Centre asked a question of the Minister of Health and Social Services regarding medical travel escort policies, eligibility and appeals.

### Tabling of Documents

- 473-20(1) Government of the Northwest Territories Response to Committee Report 27-20(1): Report on Bill 23: *An Act to Amend the Children's Law Act* and Bill 24: *An Act to Amend the Family Law Act*. Tabled by the Minister of Justice.
- 474-20(1) Government of the Northwest Territories Response to Committee Report 28-20(1): Report on Bill 27: *An Act to Amend the Protection Against Family Violence Act*. Tabled by the Minister of Justice.
- 475-20(1) Waste Reduction and Recovery Program 2024-2025 Annual Report. Tabled by the Minister of Environment and Climate Change.

- 476-20(1) Northwest Territories Emergency Management System Annual Report 2025. Tabled by the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs.
- 477-20(1) *Plain Language Summary for Bill 42, Tłegóhłı Got'ıne Final Self-Government Agreement Act.* Tabled by the Premier.
- 478-20(1) *Statement of Consistency for Bill 42, Tłegóhłı Got'ıne Final Self-Government Agreement Act.* Tabled by the Premier.
- 479-20(1) Northwest Territories Legislative Assembly Response to Committee Report 31-20(1): Report on the Review of the 2024-2025 Annual Report of the Northwest Territories Office of the Ombud and the 2024-2025 Annual Report of the Languages Commissioner. Tabled by the Speaker.

#### Notices of Motion

67-20(1) Child and Youth Advocate

Notice given by the Member for Range Lake.

#### Second Reading of Bills

Bill 42: *Tłegóhłı Got'ıne Final Self-Government Agreement Act*

Introduced by the Premier.

The Honourable Member for Hay River North, seconded by the Honourable Member for Hay River South, moved that Bill 42, *Tłegóhłı Got'ıne Final Self-Government Agreement Act*, be read for the second time.

The motion was CARRIED.

The Honourable Member for Hay River North sought and received unanimous consent to waive Rule 8.2(7) and have Bill 42 deemed ready for third reading.

#### 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 Bill 33: *Technical Safety Statutes Amendment Act*; Bill 35: *Miscellaneous Statute Law Amendment Act, 2026*; and Tabled Document 448-20(1): 2026-2027 Main Estimates, and reported progress and that Bill 33 and Bill 35 are ready for third reading.

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

The Speaker adjourned the House at 7:51 p.m.



Hon. Shane Thompson  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly



Harjot Sidhu  
Acting Clerk of the Legislative Assembly