

35th Yukon Legislative Assembly



**Eighth Report
of the
Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and
Privileges**

Ministerial Statement

October 4, 2023



Yukon Legislative Assembly

Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges

35th Yukon Legislative Assembly

Eighth Report

On May 17, 2021, the Yukon Legislative Assembly adopted the following motion, as amended:

THAT the Hon. Richard Mostyn, the Hon. John Streicker, Patti McLeod, Brad Cathers, and Annie Blake be appointed to the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges established pursuant to Standing Order 45(1);

THAT the committee meet a minimum of four times each calendar year;

THAT the committee convene no later than 30 days after the adoption of this motion by the Assembly;

THAT the committee have the power to call for persons, papers, and records and to sit during intersessional periods;

THAT the committee review, as necessary, such standing orders as it may decide upon;

THAT the committee, following the conduct of any such review, report any recommendations for amendment to the Assembly; and

THAT the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly be responsible for providing the necessary support services to the committee.

(Motion No. 9)

Pursuant to this Order of the House and Standing Order 45(1), the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges met four times in 2021 (June 11, August 17, September 21, and December 21), five times in 2022 (February 10, 17 and 24, and October 14 and 17) and three times to date in 2023 (April 4 and 18, and August 9), to review the Standing Orders of the Yukon Legislative Assembly.

Lane Tredger served as a substitute for committee member Annie Blake at the meetings from June 2021 through February 2022. On April 14, 2022, the Legislative Assembly amended the membership of the committee with the adoption of Motion No. 302, thereby replacing committee member Annie Blake with Lane Tredger.¹

This eighth report contains the committee's recommendations on the rubric Ministerial Statement in the Daily Routine.

¹ Motion No. 302 identifies Lane Tredger as Emily Tredger. MLA Tredger changed their name March 29, 2023.

Ministerial Statement

The Legislative Assembly's Daily Routine includes the rubric Ministerial Statement. The current standing orders pertaining to ministerial statements are Standing Order 11(2) through 11(4):

- 11 (2) The ordinary Daily Routine in the Assembly shall be as *Daily Routine* follows:
- Introduction of Visitors
 - Tributes
 - Tabling Returns and Documents
 - Presenting Reports of Committees
 - Petitions
 - Introduction of Bills
 - Notices of Motions
 - Ministerial Statement
 - Oral Question Period (not exceeding 30 minutes)
- (3) On the Ministerial Statement, as listed in Standing Order 11(2), a Minister may make an announcement or statement on government policy or a matter of public interest. Such announcement or statement shall not last longer than four minutes. A member for each of the parties in opposition to the government may comment thereon for not more than four minutes and a Minister may then give a reply of not more than four minutes. *Ministerial Statement: Ministers*
- (3.1) One Ministerial Statement or Cabinet Commission Statement shall be allowed per sitting day. *One Ministerial Statement allowed per day*
- (3.2) Copies of the Ministerial Statement to be delivered that day shall be provided to the Speaker and the House Leader of each party in opposition to the government at least two hours before the opening of the sitting. *Ministerial Statement: Copies provided*
- (4) On the Ministerial Statement, as listed in Standing Order 11(2), a member who has been designated as a Cabinet Commissioner may make an announcement or statement related to his or her Commission. Such announcement or statement shall not last longer than four minutes. A member for each of the parties in opposition to the government may comment thereon for not more than four minutes and the Cabinet Commissioner may then give a reply of not more than four minutes. *Ministerial Statement: Cabinet commissioners*

Committee Consideration of Ministerial Statement

On June 11, 2021, the committee identified ministerial statements as a priority for future consideration. The committee considered the Daily Routine rubric Ministerial Statement in the committee's meetings on September 21 and December 21, 2021 and reported a recommendation to the Legislative Assembly on April 27, 2022 in the committee's third report. The report was concurred in on April 28, 2022 and the standing orders were accordingly amended to add Standing Order 11(3.2), regarding the advance provision of copies of a ministerial statement.

The committee considered the standing orders regarding ministerial statements again at meetings on April 4 and 18, and August 9, 2023.

Recommendation

Upon consideration of the matter, the committee recommends:

THAT the Standing Orders of the Yukon Legislative Assembly be amended by adding the following new standing order:

"11(3.3) Prior to recognizing a Minister or Cabinet Commissioner on the Ministerial Statement, the Speaker must be satisfied that the Government House Leader and at least one House Leader of a party in opposition to the government are in agreement that the Ministerial Statement should be delivered that day."

Respectfully,



Hon. Richard Mostyn, Chair
Standing Committee on Rules,
Elections and Privileges

OCT 4/23

Date