



# Fourth Report of the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges

36<sup>th</sup> Yukon Legislative Assembly

Written Questions

October 5, 2026



**Fourth Report of the**  
**Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges**  
**36<sup>th</sup> Yukon Legislative Assembly**

**Written Questions**

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**Adam Gerle, MLA**

Porter Creek South

Chair

**Tyler Porter, MLA**

Southern Lakes

Vice-Chair

**Doris Anderson,**  
**MLA**

Porter Creek North

**Hon. Scott Kent,**  
**MLA**

Copperbelt South

**Patti McLeod,**  
**MLA**

Watson Lake-Ross  
River-Faro

**Debra-Leigh Reti,**  
**MLA**

Vuntut Gwitchin

**Lane Tredger,**  
**MLA**

Whitehorse Centre

**Justin Ziegler,**  
**MLA**

Riverdale South

Logan Ockenden  
Clerk to the Committee





# **Yukon Legislative Assembly**

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## **Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges**

36<sup>th</sup> Yukon Legislative Assembly

October 5, 2026

Hon. Yvonne Clarke, MLA  
Speaker  
Yukon Legislative Assembly

Dear Speaker:

On behalf of the members of the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges, appointed by order of the 36<sup>th</sup> Yukon Legislative Assembly, I have the honour to present the committee's fourth report.

Respectfully,

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Adam Gerle, Chair  
Standing Committee on Rules,  
Elections and Privileges



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## **Preface**

On December 10, 2025, the Yukon Legislative Assembly adopted the following motion:

THAT Adam Gerle, the Hon. Scott Kent, Patti McLeod, Tyler Porter, Doris Anderson, Lane Tredger, Justin Ziegler, and Debra-Leigh Reti be appointed to the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges established pursuant to Standing Order 45(1);

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. 5)

Pursuant to Motion No. 5 and Standing Order 45(1), the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges met on June 26 and September 1, 2026, to review the rules regarding written questions in the Standing Orders of the Yukon Legislative Assembly.

## **Written Questions**

All Canadian jurisdictions allow for members to submit written questions. However, the rules governing written questions vary significantly, including the number of questions that may be placed on the Order Paper at one time and the requirement for responding to questions.

Written questions are typically an opportunity for members to ask longer questions and seek more detailed responses than they otherwise could during Oral Question Period. They also provide one of the few opportunities for members to direct questions to private members.

## **Requirement for Response**

A majority of jurisdictions in Canada impose a requirement to respond to written questions and set a number of days in which the response must be provided. The House of Commons, for example, requires that written questions be responded to within 45 calendar days. The Yukon Legislative Assembly is currently one of the jurisdictions which does not impose a timeframe for responding to written questions.

The Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges supports the addition of a requirement to respond to written questions and amending the Standing Orders of the Yukon Legislative Assembly to establish a response period that is more consistent with the practices of the House of Commons.

### **Providing a Response Outside of a Sitting**

To account for the requirement of a response within 45 calendar days, the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges is proposing that if the Legislative Assembly is not sitting at the time when a response is required, the Clerk shall transmit the response to all Members of the Legislative Assembly and then release it to the public. The response would then be tabled as a legislative return by the respondent on the first day of the next Sitting.

### **Reducing Maximum Number of Questions on the Order Paper**

There is currently a limit of up to five active written questions per Member of the Legislative Assembly, under Standing Order 37(3). The Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges believes that to balance the addition of a deadline for responses, the maximum number of written questions for each member at any given time should be reduced.

### **Recommendations**

The Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges recommends:

**THAT, Standing Order 37 of the Standing Orders of the Yukon Legislative Assembly be amended by:**

- (1) replacing the number “five” with the number “four” in Standing Order 37(3); and**
- (2) adding in Standing Order 37(4) the phrase “within 45 calendar days of the question appearing on the Order Paper or, if the Legislative Assembly is not sitting at that time, the response shall be sent to the Clerk who shall then transmit it to all Members of the Legislative Assembly and then release it to the public” after the word “Routine”.**