

JOURNALS

YUKON

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1ST SESSION, 24TH LEGISLATURE

DECEMBER 13 & 14, 1978

CANADA)
)
)
YUKON TERRITORY)

TO ALL TO WHOM these presents shall come or whom the same may
in any wise concern


GREETINGS

A PROCLAMATION

KNOW YE THAT under and by virtue of the power and authority
vested in the Commissioner of the Yukon Territory, the Yukon Legislative
Assembly is summoned to meet for dispatch of business in the Legislative
Assembly Chambers, Whitehorse, Yukon Territory on Wednesday, the 13th
day of December 1978 at the hour of 3:00 p.m.

ALL OF WHICH all persons concerned are required to take notice
and govern themselves accordingly.

GIVEN UNDER my hand and the Seal of the said Territory, at
Whitehorse, this 11th day of December A.D., 1978.



F. B. Fingland
Commissioner of the Yukon Territory

JOURNALS
OF THE
YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
NO. 1

24th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Wednesday, December 13, 1978

The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly informed the Assembly that he had received a communication from the Commissioner stating that the Commissioner would open the Session at three o'clock, p.m. today, Wednesday, the thirteenth day of December, 1978.

The Commissioner entered the Chamber and took the Chair.

The Clerk then said:

"I am commanded by the Commissioner, in his role as Lieutenant-Governor, to state that he does not see fit to declare the causes of the summoning of the present Assembly of this Territory until a Speaker of this Assembly shall have been chosen according to law but today, at a subsequent hour, he will declare the causes of the calling of this Assembly."

The Commissioner then retired from the Chamber.

Mr. Pearson, addressing himself to the Clerk, moved, seconded by Mr. MacKay:

THAT Donald Taylor, Member for Watson Lake, do take the Chair of this Assembly as Speaker. (*Motion No. 1*)

The question being put by the Clerk, it was agreed to.

The Clerk, on behalf of the Assembly, having declared Donald Taylor duly elected, conducted him to the Chair, where, standing on the upper step, he returned his humble acknowledgements to the Assembly for the great honour they had been pleased to confer upon him by choosing him to be their Speaker.

The Speaker declared a recess in order to receive the Commissioner, in his role as Lieutenant-Governor, to present the Speech from the Throne.

The Commissioner re-entered the Chamber, and having taken his seat upon the Chair, Mr. Speaker then addressed the Commissioner to the following effect:

"Sir, the Legislative Assembly have elected me as their Speaker, although I am but little able to fulfill the important duties thus assigned me. If in the performance of these duties I should at any time fall into error, I pray that the fault may be imputed to me and not to the Assembly, whose servant I am and who, through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their Queen and country, hereby claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, access to your person at all reasonable times and that their proceedings may receive from you the most favourable construction."

The Commissioner then said:

"Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to declare to you that I freely confide in the duty and attachment of the Assembly and not doubting that the Assembly's proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper and prudence, I grant, and upon all occasions will recognize and allow the Assembly's constitutional privileges. I assure you that the Assembly shall have ready access to me upon all reasonable occasions, and that the Assembly's proceedings, words and actions will constantly receive from me that most favourable construction."

The Commissioner was then pleased to open the Session with the following speech:

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE:

MR. SPEAKER,
MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE:

IT IS A PARTICULAR HONOUR FOR ME, HAVING ADMINISTERED THE OATHS OF OFFICE TO YOU, TO NOW WELCOME YOU TO THE OPENING OF THE 24TH WHOLLY ELECTED LEGISLATURE OF THE YUKON TERRITORY. I KNOW YOU SHARE WITH ME A SENSE OF PRIVILEGE AT BEING A PARTICIPANT IN THE SIGNIFICANT EVOLUTIONARY STEPS THAT THE CHANGES IN THIS LEGISLATURE REPRESENT.

YOU ARE ALL TO BE CONGRATULATED ON HAVING THE TRUST AND CONFIDENCE OF YOUR CONSTITUENTS AND I KNOW YOU ARE AWARE OF THE HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY WHICH HAS BEEN PLACED UPON YOUR SHOULDERS. I CONGRATULATE YOU, MR. SPEAKER, ON BEING CHOSEN BY YOUR COLLEAGUES TO REASSUME YOUR IMPORTANT POSITION.

THIS NEW LEGISLATURE REPRESENTS A SIGNIFICANT TURNING POINT IN THE HISTORY OF THE TERRITORY. OF PARTICULAR NOTE IS THE WELCOME AND LONG OVERDUE ENTRY TO THESE CHAMBERS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATIVE PEOPLE OF THE YUKON. YOUR PRESENCE HERE HERALDS A NEW BEGINNING TO THE DIFFICULT BUT VITAL TASK OF FINDING THE MEANS WITHIN OUR SOCIETY TO ACCOMMODATE THE DIFFERENCES WHICH EXIST AMONG US WITHOUT DESTROYING THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF NATIVE LIFE.

THE EXPANSION OF THE LEGISLATURE FROM 12 TO 16 MEMBERS ENHANCES REGIONAL REPRESENTATION THROUGHOUT THE YUKON. THE INCREASE HAS ALSO MADE POSSIBLE THE HISTORIC DECISION OF MANY MEMBERS TO ORGANIZE THEMSELVES INTO POLITICAL PARTIES. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THIS DEVELOPMENT WILL LEAD TO MORE DISCIPLINED AND CONSTRUCTIVE DEBATE IN THE LEGISLATURE AND THAT IT WILL MAKE POSSIBLE A CLOSER AND MORE EFFECTIVE WORKING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE LEGISLATURE AND THE EXECUTIVE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT.

IN THIS REGARD, I THINK WE ARE FORTUNATE, IN OUR FIRST EXPERIENCE WITH THE PARTY SYSTEM, TO HAVE ONE PARTY WITH A MAJORITY OF THE SEATS. THIS SHOULD CONTRIBUTE IMMENSELY TO THE STABILITY OF GOVERNMENT IN THE CHALLENGING PERIOD BEFORE US.

THE LEGISLATURE, IN TURN WILL BE FURTHER STRENGTHENED BY THE RECENTLY COMPLETED STEPS TO PROVIDE YOU WITH YOUR OWN STAFF UNENCUMBERED WITH RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE EXECUTIVE.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY ON BEHALF OF ALL YUKONERS TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE DEPARTING MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WHO HAVE GIVEN SO MUCH OF THEMSELVES IN THE SERVICE OF THE YUKON PUBLIC. I KNOW ALL MEMBERS, REGARDLESS OF PARTISAN DIFFERENCES, APPRECIATE THE INTEGRITY AND DILIGENCE THEY HAVE BROUGHT TO THEIR TASK. I SHALL BE ASKING YOU TO NOMINATE FOUR OF YOUR MEMBERS TO THE NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THREE TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL YUKONERS AND IN PARTICULAR THE PUBLIC SERVANTS AND MEMBERS OF THE OUTGOING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE UNFAILING COURTESY AND CO-OPERATION EXTENDED TO ME DURING MY TENURE AS INTERIM COMMISSIONER. A NEW COMMISSIONER WILL BE CHOSEN SHORTLY AND IT IS THE INTENTION OF MY MINISTER, THE HONOURABLE HUGH FAULKNER, TO CONSULT THE NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN THAT REGARD.

IN CLOSING, I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE YOU ONCE AGAIN AND ASSURE YOU THAT MY OFFICERS AND I STAND READY TO ASSIST YOU IN ANY WAY WE CAN.

The Commissioner then retired from the Chamber.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and called the House to order.

Mr. Speaker informed the Assembly that, in order to prevent mistakes, he had obtained a copy of the Speech from the Throne which was laid upon the Table.

(Sessional Paper No.1)

Moved by Mr. Lang, seconded by Mrs. McCall:

THAT Geoffrey Lattin, Member
for Whitehorse North Centre, be appointed
Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committee
of the Whole. *(Motion No. 2)*

The question being put, it was agreed to.

N O. 2

24th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Thursday, December 14, 1978

The Speaker took the Chair at 10:00 a.m.

MOTIONS:

1. Moved by Mr. Graham, seconded by Mr. Lattin:

THAT it is the recommendation of this Assembly that the Honourable Members Mr. Pearson, Mr. Lang, Mr. Njootli and Mr. Tracey be appointed to serve in the Executive Committee of the Government of Yukon *(Motion No. 4)*

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to on the following recorded division.

YEAS

Pearson
Lang
Hibberd
Lattin

Njootli
Graham
McCall
Tracey

Falle
Hanson

10

NAYS

MacKay
McGuire

Penikett
Fleming

Byblow
5

2. Moved by Mrs. McCall, seconded by Mr. Falle:

THAT it is the recommendation of this Assembly that the Honourable Members Mr. Pearson, Mr. Lang and Mr. Tracey be appointed to the Advisory Committee on Finance. *(Motion No. 5)*

The question being put, it was agreed to.

3. Moved by Mr. Njootli, seconded by Mr. Pearson:

THAT the Honourable Members Mr. Lang, Mr. Lattin, Mrs. McGuire, Mr. Graham and Mr. Penikett be appointed to a Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges;
THAT the Honourable Member Mr. Graham be Chairman of the said Committee;
THAT the said Committee have the power to call for persons, papers and records, to sit during intersessional periods and to report from time to time;
THAT the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly be responsible for providing the necessary support services to the Committee; and
THAT the Committee undertake a complete review of the Standing Orders of the Yukon Legislative Assembly and report its recommendations for any amendments at the commencement of the next sitting of the Assembly. *(Motion No. 6)*

The question being put, it was agreed to.

4. Moved by Mr. Tracey, seconded by Mr. Lattin:

THAT a Members' Services Board be struck consisting of the Speaker, Mr. Pearson and Mr. MacKay;
THAT the Speaker be Chairman of the said Board; and

THAT the said Board will assist the Speaker on matters of Assembly organization including:

1. Selection of the Clerk of Assembly
2. Recommendation of appropriate salaries for the Clerk, Clerk Assistant and Law Clerk in accordance with salaries of House Officers in other jurisdictions.
3. Approval of Estimates of the Legislative Assembly vote
4. Consideration of policy questions concerning matters of Assembly organization such as
 - (a) Legislative research services
 - (b) Space allocation
 - (c) Expansion or reduction of staffing
 - (d) Caucus Funding
 - (e) Press Gallery House Rules
 - (f) Seating in the Assembly
 - (g) Hansard
5. Preparation of an annual report of the Legislative Assembly Office to be tabled in the Assembly. *(Motion No. 7)*

The question being put, it was agreed to.

5. Moved by Mr. Penikett, seconded by Mr. MacKay:

THAT it is the opinion of this House that a session of the Legislature should be called as soon as possible for the purpose of amending the Taxation Ordinance. *(Motion No. 8)*

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to.

6. Moved by Mr. Pearson, seconded by Mr. Taylor:

THAT it is the opinion of this Legislature that the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development should immediately amend the instructions to the Commissioner relative to appointments to and terminations from the Executive Committee of elected Members and instruct the Commissioner to act directly upon the advice of the majority leader in the Legislature in respect to such appointments or terminations. *(Motion No. 9)*

A debate arising, and the question being put, it was agreed to.

The Clerk of the Assembly then announced prorogation as follows:

"It is the Commissioner's will and pleasure that this House be now prorogued and this House is accordingly prorogued."

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24th Legislature

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