

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Motions adopted during the
First Session of the
32nd Legislative Assembly

April 19, 2007 – June 14, 2007

Note: The following is an unofficial consolidation of the substantive motions adopted during the time period noted above. If motions were amended before adoption, the amendment is incorporated in the text and a notation made that the motion was amended.

**Consolidation of Motions adopted during
the
First Session of the
32nd Legislative Assembly**

April 19, 2007 – June 14, 2007

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Substantive Motions

1. Motion #28 – Mr. Nordick, Member for Klondike
Debated May 2, 2007
Carried May 2, 2007

THAT this House urges the Government of Yukon to provide new incentives to increase the labour pool for entry-level jobs in the service and retail industries in the short-term:

- (1) for seniors who might wish to take on part-time or full-time work but are discouraged by the higher rates of income taxes they would then pay,
- (2) for stay-at-home parents who are unable to take on work due to the cost of childcare,
- (3) for those on social assistance who would like to supplement their income to help meet their needs, and
- (4) for students, where the cost of introducing these new entrants to the job market may be prohibitive to employers.

2. Motion #70 – Hon. Mr. Cathers, Government House Leader
Debated May 24, 2007
Carried May 24, 2007

THAT the honourable members Hon. Brad Cathers, Hon. Elaine Taylor, Steve Nordick, Don Inverarity and John Edzerza be appointed to the Standing Committee on Appointments to Major Government Boards and Committees, established pursuant to Standing Order 45.

3. Motion #73 – Hon. Mr. Cathers, Government House Leader
Debated May 24, 2007
Carried May 24, 2007

THAT this House establish an all-party select committee on anti-smoking legislation, with a mandate including touring the Yukon to consult with the public on legislative options for banning smoking in public places; and

THAT the motion establishing such a committee be tabled and called for debate during the 2007 Spring Sitting of the Legislative Assembly, thus enabling consultation to be carried out in 2007.

4. Motion #74 – Mr. Mitchell, Leader of the Official Opposition
Debated April 25, 2007
Carried April 25, 2007

THAT this House urges the Government of Yukon to take immediate action to address the serious environmental and economic effects of climate change on the Yukon.

5. Motion #96 – Hon. Mr. Fentie, Premier
Debated May 1, 2007
Carried May 1, 2007

THAT the Yukon Legislative Assembly, pursuant to section 2 of the *Ombudsman Act*, recommends that the Commissioner in Executive Council appoint Tracy-Anne McPhee as the Ombudsman of Yukon for a term of five years, effective April 9, 2007.

6. Motion #110 – Mr. Cardiff, Member for Mount Lorne
Debated May 23, 2007
Carried May 23, 2007

THAT this House establish an independent, non-partisan commission of Yukon citizens to conduct a review of MLA salaries and benefits in relation to those in other Canadian jurisdictions, and to report its findings and recommendations to the Yukon Legislative Assembly during the Fall 2007 sitting.

Amended

7. Motion #112 – Mr. Nordick, Member for Klondike
Debated May 16, 2007
Carried May 16, 2007

THAT this House urges the Government of Yukon to continue to implement and expand its very successful decade of sport and culture initiative and Best Ever program by increasing its investment through the bilateral agreement with Sport Canada to enhance:

- (1) athlete development;
- (2) rural and aboriginal participation;
- (3) coaching and development support; and
- (4) high performance and elite support.

8. Motion #116 – Mr. Nordick, Member for Klondike
Debated May 16, 2007
Carried May 16, 2007

THAT this House urges the Government of Yukon to build a new correctional facility that incorporates a correctional philosophy that emphasizes treatment and programming support for offenders.

9. Motion #125 – Hon. Mr. Cathers, Government House Leader
Debated May 24, 2007
Carried May 24, 2007

THAT a Select Committee on Whistle-blower Protection be established;

THAT the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Hon. Ted Staffen, be the chair of that committee;

THAT the honourable members Hon. Jim Kenyon, Steve Nordick, Eric Fairclough and Steve Cardiff be appointed to the committee;

THAT the committee report to the House its findings and recommendations respecting the central issues that should be addressed in whistle-blower protection legislation including:

- (1) whether all public institutions and private organizations performing "public", functions will be covered,

- (2) whether only employees or others -- unions, advocacy groups, the media, citizens -- can use this legislation,
- (3) what types of wrongdoing will be covered,
- (4) whether the same office will conduct investigation, mediation and the protection of whistle-blowers,
- (5) whether employees will have to exhaust departmental procedures before approaching the whistle-blower protection office,
- (6) how retaliation against whistle-blowers will be defined and how long protection will exist,
- (7) whether there will be a reverse onus on the employer to demonstrate that adverse decisions on a whistle-blowing employee were not a reprisal,
- (8) what remedies for employees judged to be adversely affected will be specified in the legislation, and
- (9) what sorts of consequences there will be for employees who engage in reckless or malicious accusations of wrongdoing and for managers who engage in reprisal against employees who act in good faith;

THAT the committee report to the House its recommendation as to whether whistle-blower protection legislation should include a sunset clause similar to that found in section 35 of the *Ombudsman Act*;

THAT the committee have the power to call for persons, papers and records and to sit during inter-sessional periods,

THAT the committee hold hearings for the purpose of receiving the views and opinions of Yukon citizens and interested groups on whistle-blower protection legislation;

THAT the committee have the power to seek background information from experts and to be able to call and hear these experts as witnesses;

THAT while all testimony provided to the committee shall be in a matter of public record, the committee have the power to hold in-camera meetings and to direct that the records of the committee, in specific instances, not contain details that could lead to the identification of an individual group, third party, or community;

THAT if the House is not sitting at such time as the committee is prepared to present its report, the committee transmit its report to all Members of the Legislative Assembly and then, not more than one day later, release the report to the public; and

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

10. Motion #143 –Hon. Mr. Cathers, Government House Leader
Debated June 13, 2007
Carried June 13, 2007

THAT a Select Committee on anti-smoking legislation be established;

THAT the Hon. Brad Cathers be the Chair of that Committee;

THAT the honourable Members Darius Elias and John Edzerza be appointed to the Committee;

THAT Bill #104, entitled Smoke-free Places Act, be referred to the Committee;

THAT the Committee hold hearings for the purpose of receiving the views and opinions of Yukon citizens and interested groups on legislative options for banning smoking in public places;

THAT decisions by the Committee require unanimous agreement by members of the Committee;

THAT the Committee report to the Legislative Assembly no later than the 15th day of the next regular sitting day of the Legislative Assembly:

- (a) its findings, if any, related to public opinion on options for legislative change; and
- (b) its recommendations, if any, regarding what form of legislation implementing changes recommended by the Committee should take;

THAT, in the event the Legislative Assembly is not sitting at the time that the Committee is prepared to report, the Chair of the Committee forward copies of the report to all Members of the Legislative Assembly, thereafter make the report public, and subsequently present the report to the Legislative Assembly at the next sitting of the Legislative Assembly;

THAT, during its review of public opinion on legislative options for banning smoking in public places, the Committee be empowered:

- (a) to invite officials from the Government of Yukon to appear as witnesses on technical matters;
- (b) to invite representatives of the Canadian Cancer Society to appear as witnesses on technical matters;
- (c) to engage a technical expert who is not a Member of the Legislative Assembly or an employee of the Government of Yukon to act as a facilitator at the public hearings;
- (d) to invite such other persons as it deems necessary to appear as witnesses on technical matters;
- (e) to hold public hearings;
- (f) to print such papers and evidence as may be ordered by it; and

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