

Yukon Legislative Assembly

Special Committee on Electoral Reform

35th Yukon Legislative Assembly

MINUTES

Meeting No. 3 Wednesday, July 28, 2021 Committee Meeting Room, Yukon Legislative Assembly, Whitehorse

The Special Committee on Electoral Reform met in camera this day at 1:43 p.m., the Chair, Kate White, presiding.

Members present: Kate White (Chair),

Brad Cathers (by teleconference), and

Hon. John Streicker.

Also present: Allison Lloyd, Clerk to the Committee

Approval of Agenda

It was agreed, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Streicker, seconded by Mr. Cathers, THAT the agenda for Meeting No. 3 of the Special Committee on Electoral Reform be adopted as presented.

Approval of Minutes of Meeting No. 2 (July 12, 2021)

It was agreed, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Streicker, seconded by Mr. Cathers, THAT the minutes for Meeting No. 2 (July 12, 2021) of the Special Committee on Electoral Reform be adopted.

Work Plan

The committee discussed the timeline for the committee's research contract request for proposal. The request for proposal closes at 4:00 p.m. on August 31, 2021, with the final report to the committee from the successful applicant due October 21, 2021. It was noted that the timeline will prevent certain potential candidates from applying. Committee members also observed that extending the deadlines would affect the overall timeline for the committee's work.

The committee discussed a potential list of communities for the committee to travel to for public hearings. During discussions, committee members noted that some voting systems may affect representation for rural Yukoners in the Legislative Assembly and input from smaller communities is therefore important. The importance of accessibility for individuals with lower levels of computer literacy was also discussed.

A suggestion to hold hybrid virtual hearings, with a physical meeting location in a rural community and committee members participating remotely by videoconference, was discussed.

The Clerk to the Committee was tasked with investigating the logistical options for holding the hearings with videoconferencing, live streaming, and transcription.

It was agreed, on motion of the Hon. Mr. Streicker,

THAT the Special Committee on Electoral Reform hold in person public hearings in the following communities, at a minimum:

- Whitehorse
- Dawson City
- Watson Lake
- Haines Junction
- Mayo
- Teslin
- Carmacks

and

THAT hybrid public hearings be held in other communities.

Committee members proposed that the committee communicate with Yukon municipalities, local advisory councils, and First Nations within the next 6 to 8 weeks regarding the possibility of holding hybrid public hearings.

The committee discussed potentially calling local experts as witnesses, after the research contract has been awarded, to help the committee understand the local context of electoral reform options.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be to the call of the Chair.

At 2:47 p.m. the committee adjourned.

Clerk to the Committee