

**No. 2**  
**ORDER PAPER**  
**OF THE**  
**YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**Second Session**

**34<sup>th</sup> Legislature**

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Monday, April 24, 2017

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Prayers

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**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

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Second Reading

1. Bill No. 1, *Act to Perpetuate a Certain Ancient Right*  
- Mr. Adel, Member for Copperbelt North

**WRITTEN QUESTIONS**

1. Written Question No. 1 (April 20, 2017)  
Ms. McLeod, Member for Watson Lake  
Addressed to the Hon. Ms. Frost, Minister of Health and Social Services  
Will the Government of Yukon commit to undertaking a review of the Medical Travel program, including the Travel for Medical Treatment Subsidy both in and out of territory, to ensure that it is meeting the current needs of Yukoners and providing them with the support they require when receiving treatment?

## 2. Written Question No. 2 (April 20, 2017)

Mr. Kent, Member for Copperbelt South

Addressed to the Hon. Mr. Pillai, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources

Given that the Premier has previously stated that he is in favour of government compensation for individuals whose placer and quartz mining claims are negatively affected by government decisions can the Minister:

- (1) provide further detail on the government's plan on using compensation as a tool to negotiate with placer and quartz claimholders;
- (2) provide the details of its plan to address current and future expropriation of placer and quartz mining claims in the territory, including:
  - (a) What tools will be used to ensure all parties are treated fairly in the negotiation process, and;
  - (b) What the projected costs will be and who will cover them in regards to:
    - i. negotiations,
    - ii. compensation, and;
    - iii. administrative and legal fees.
- (3) provide updates on current negotiations with placer claim holders within the municipality of Dawson City who have been negatively affected by government decisions?

## 3. Written Question No. 3 (April 20, 2017)

Mr. Kent, Member for Copperbelt South

Addressed to the Hon. Mr. Pillai, Minister of Economic Development

With regard to Government of Yukon's plans for a redundant fibre optic line to the territory will the Minister:

- (1) indicate whether the Government is still committed to a redundant fibre optic line;
- (2) provide any updates on the progress being made for the proposed fibre optic line along the Dempster Highway to Inuvik;
- (3) indicate whether alternate routes for a redundant fibre optic line are being examined by the government;
  - a. if yes, which routes and what are the costs associated for the alternate routes;
- (4) provide an update on work this government has undertaken to determine federal funding sources?

## 4. Written Question No. 4 (April 20, 2017)

Ms. Van Bibber, Member for Porter Creek North

Addressed to the Hon. Ms. McPhee, Minister of Education

Will the Minister please provide an answer to the following question:

will the Government of Yukon continue the work of the previous government to develop a made-in-the-Yukon vision for education, that includes but is not limited to:

- (1) continued investment on strong student outcomes and learning models;
- (2) completing the development and implementation of a made-in-the-Yukon curriculum that includes northern perspectives;
- (3) ensuring the fundamentals of reading, writing and math are continued to be emphasized in our schools; and

- (4) coding and financial literacy?
5. Written Question No. 5 (April 20, 2017)  
Ms. Van Bibber, Member for Porter Creek North  
Addressed to the Hon. Ms. Dendys, Minister responsible for the Women's Directorate  
With respect to the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, will the Minister:
- (1) commit to increasing funding for women's organizations for their participation in the inquiry; and
  - (2) commit to full participation in the inquiry on behalf of the Government of Yukon?
6. Written Question No. 6 (April 20, 2017)  
Mr. Hassard, Leader of the Official Opposition  
Addressed to the Hon. Mr. Mostyn, Minister of Highways and Public Works  
With regards to the Yukon Resource Gateway Project submitted by the Government of Yukon to the Government of Canada for funding consideration would the Minister be able to provide:
- (1) confirmation as to whether or not they are still pursuing federal support for this project;
  - (2) any updates on discussions with the federal government or Yukon's Member of Parliament;
  - (3) any and all correspondence between Yukon and Canada since November 7, 2016?
7. Written Question No. 7 (April 20, 2017)  
Mr. Hassard, Leader of the Official Opposition  
Addressed to the Hon. Ms. Frost, Minister responsible for the Yukon Housing Corporation  
During the recent territorial election, a letter from the Chief of the Ross River Dene Council was sent to all parties highlighting the risks the community faces regarding unsuitable housing and how it is affecting the health and safety of its citizens.  
  
The Liberal Party committed to take action and provide temporary, emergency housing to the citizens in Ross River for the winter, and indicated it would work with the community to identify permanent solutions and associated funding Spring 2017. Last week, at a public meeting with the community, the government stated that no commitment had been made, and that a risk assessment must be carried out before there would be any further action on the issue.
- (1) could the Minister provide clarification for her comments regarding the government's intention to follow-through with its election commitment to provide emergency housing for Ross River over the winter;
  - (2) could the Minister provide a timeline as to when the government intends to carry out this commitment to the citizens of Ross River currently situated in unlivable housing conditions, and;
  - (3) in place of the promised emergency temporary housing in Ross River, what is currently being done to protect the health and safety of the residents in the community?

## 8. Written Question No. 8 (April 20, 2017)

Mr. Hassard, Leader of the Official Opposition

Addressed to the Hon. Mr. Mostyn, Minister of Highways and Public Works

In regards to the previous request from the Official Opposition that the Government of Yukon release the content of all briefing materials provided in the government transition binders;

whereas the Minister of Justice has previously stated that the amendments to the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy (ATIPP) Act* passed in 2012 allowing government to deny access to documents including briefing notes prepared for ministers, is “contrary to the purpose of the ATIPP legislation”, which “enshrines the fundamental right that citizens deserve to know how their government is making its decisions” and;

whereas the Minister of Highways and Public Works has previously stated that “the new Liberal government wants to make sure it is only redacting or withholding very specific information and making most of it available” and;

whereas the new government as a whole has made a commitment to create a more open and transparent government, increase the amount of government information available to Yukoners, and repeal most, if not all, amendments to the ATIPP Act passed in 2012, which they consider to be “unprecedented”, can the Minister provide answers to the following questions:

- (1) does the government believe that Yukoners are better served when they have access to more information;
- (2) does the government believe that citizens deserve to know how their government is making its decisions;
- (3) will the Minister provide clarification as to whether the government still stands by its election commitments to create a more open and transparent government, and increase the amount of government information available to Yukoners;
- (4) does the government believe that withholding documents from opposition members and the public contributes to a more open and transparent government for Yukoners;
- (5) does the government believe that denying access to documents including briefing notes prepared for ministers, is contrary to the purpose of the ATIPP legislation:
  - (a) if so, can the government clarify the comments from a Cabinet Spokesperson who indicated to media on January 11, 2017 that briefing notes prepared for ministers will not be made public; and
- (6) will the government consider releasing the content of all briefing material provided in the government transition binders?

## 9. Written Question No. 9 (April 20, 2017)

Mr. Hassard, Leader of the Official Opposition

Addressed to the Hon. Mr. Silver, Premier

With regard to the Yukon Government’s carbon tax scheme it has signed on to with Ottawa, will the government:

- (1) Provide details on its planned rebate program including:

- (a) details on how they will track how much each individual Yukoner will pay extra as a result of the carbon tax:
    - i. for example, will Yukoners be required to submit receipts;
  - (b) details on how the money will be returned to Yukoners;
  - (c) the frequency of rebates;
  - (d) whether or not they intend to give every Yukoner the same amount in a rebate or if every Yukoner will receive a rebate for exactly how much they pay extra as a result of the carbon tax;
  - (e) details on how the government will alleviate concerns of individuals who may not be able to afford waiting until they receive a rebate;
  - (f) details on how the government will ensure that the cost of food does not become prohibitive;
  - (g) whether or not the rebate will be considered taxable income;
  - (h) whether or not Yukoners will receive rebates for increased costs of travel to Yukon from a point of origin other than the territory;
  - (i) whether or not Yukoners have to apply for their rebate;
  - (j) who will administer the rebate program;
  - (k) will the government put in place a mechanism for Yukoners to dispute their rebate if they do not believe it is equal to how much carbon tax they paid;
- (2) confirm whether or not it will also ensure Yukoners are rebated for any increased GST revenue as a result of the carbon tax:
    - a. if not, why not;
  - (3) clarify whether or not the following statement in support of green incentives instead of carbon taxes that is attributed to a Liberal Candidate is the official government position, "I think we're a lot better off if we do that type of solution versus taxing people":
    - a. if not, why not;
  - (4) provide its economic analysis of the impacts of a carbon tax for the years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 on the following:
    - (a) fuel;
    - (b) housing;
    - (c) home heating costs broken down by fuel type;
    - (d) municipal governments;
    - (e) the National Nutritious Food Basket for the average Yukon family;
    - (f) diapers;
  - (5) provide its economic analysis of the impacts of a carbon tax for the years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 on the following economic sectors:
    - (a) mining and exploration broken down by placer mining and hard rock mining;
    - (b) tourism;
    - (c) retail;
    - (d) agriculture;
    - (e) information and technology;
    - (f) construction;
    - (g) forestry;

- (6) provide its economic analysis of the impacts of a carbon tax for the years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 broken down by each Yukon community as well as provide analysis of the impacts on Yukoners that live outside of communities.
- (7) provide details on the government's plans to provide openness and transparency to Yukoners on the impacts of the carbon tax including
  - (a) whether they intend to implement a Point-Of-Sale system that indicates clearly on receipts how much carbon tax is being paid on each item
    - i. if not, why not;
  - (b) whether they intend to develop, publish, and table in the Legislative Assembly an annual report on the economic impacts of the carbon tax on Yukoners and Yukon businesses
    - ii. if not, why not;
- (8) confirm whether comments made by the Premier to local media where he stated that Yukoners will receive more money back in rebates than they actually put in due to tourists paying a carbon tax while not being eligible for rebates are accurate:
  - (a) if accurate, would the government provide details on its plans to prevent any negative impacts on the tourism sector as a result of this tax on tourism.
- (9) provide any studies that the government has commissioned on the carbon tax;
- (10) provide all correspondence since November 7, 2016 on the topic of the carbon tax or the Yukon's approach to climate change between Yukon (including elected government officials, Cabinet Office staff, members of the government's transition team, and departmental officials) and the federal government including, but not limited to, emails, letters, text messages, Blackberry messages, Blackberry PIN messages, social media, and documents exchanged at in person meetings;
- (11) provide a list of all briefing notes, communications documents, and background information documents related to the carbon tax generated since November 7, 2016?

10. Written Question No. 10 (April 20, 2017)

Mr. Hassard, Leader of the Official Opposition

Addressed to the Hon. Mr. Silver, Premier

With regard to ongoing discussions on healthcare transfers between the federal government and the Council of the Federation will the Premier provide an update regarding:

- (1) whether northern health care was discussed at the recent Health Ministers Meeting in Ottawa;
  - (a) if so, what was the content of those discussions and what did Yukon agree to;
  - (b) if not, did the Government of Yukon ask for northern health care to be on the agenda:
    - i. if so, why was the Government of Yukon unsuccessful at having northern health care discussed;
    - ii. if not, why not;

- (2) the status of the negotiations ;
- (3) the projected amounts to be received by the Government of Yukon under the federal government's current proposal through:
  - (a) the annual federal health transfers, and;
  - (b) the Territorial Health Investment Fund (THIF) which is set to expire in 2018,
- (4) the projected amount to be received by the Government of Yukon under a funding escalator of 6% through:
  - (a) the annual federal health transfers, as well as;
  - (b) the Territorial Health Investment Fund (THIF) which is set to expire in 2018;
- (5) whether the Government of Yukon is in favour of the current federal proposal to provide health transfers with a 3% escalator or whether they believe the escalator for health transfers should be returned to 6%;
- (6) whether the Government of Yukon will ensure the funding received is:
  - (a) kept at a sustainable level and;
  - (b) allocated in a way that ensures the quality of delivery is maintained in all healthcare sectors?

11. Written Question No. 11 (April 20, 2017)

Mr. Cathers, Member for Lake Laberge

Addressed to the Hon. Mr. Silver, Premier

Does the Premier agree that the Yukon Government should continue to assist in the development of communications infrastructure in rural Yukon, including improving access to emergency services by working with the private sector to expand cellular phone coverage to people without service in rural areas including Grizzly Valley, Deep Creek, Fox Lake, Ibx Valley, Junction 37, Mendenhall, and Champagne?

12. Written Question No. 12 (April 20, 2017)

Mr. Cathers, Member for Lake Laberge

Addressed to the Hon. Mr. Silver, Premier

Will the Yukon Government support continued growth of the Yukon's agriculture sector by working with farmers, market gardeners, and agricultural organizations to increase production of local food and agriculture products with actions including:

- (1) working with farmers, market gardeners, and industry associations to implement the Local Food Strategy;
- (2) reviewing the Vision for Yukon Agriculture: 2006 Agriculture Policy and the Yukon's Agricultural Multi-Year Development Plan to ensure they reflect the current needs of farmers, market gardeners and the Yukon public;
- (3) supporting the development of agriculture infrastructure that improves food security, facilitates access to market and encourages local food production;
- (4) making agricultural land available to Yukon farmers through planned development, a directed spot land application process, and spot land applications;

- (5) seeking partnerships with First Nations interested in creating opportunities for farming settlement land through options available under the new Land Titles Act;
- (6) supporting development of local markets for Yukon agriculture products, including providing the Fireweed Community Market with a renewed multi-year funding agreement;
- (7) exploring opportunities to improve the ability of farmers and gardeners to sell and market their products;
- (8) working with farmers, market gardeners, and industry associations to maximize the effectiveness of the Growing Forward 2 program;
- (9) supporting the development of community greenhouses and community gardens; and
- (10) reviewing the operation structure and fees for the mobile abattoir to maximize its effectiveness, and ensure it does not unfairly compete with small businesses offering similar services?

13. Written Question No. 13 (April 20, 2017)

Mr. Cathers, Member for Lake Laberge

Addressed to the Hon. Ms. McPhee, Minister of Justice

Given that property crime is an ongoing concern for all Yukoners, will the government commit to work in partnership with the RCMP, First Nation governments, municipalities, and stakeholders including small business owners to implement measures to improve community safety, reduce property crime, and target the illegal drug trade?

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## Notice Paper

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### Motions Other Than Government Motions

1. Motion No. 1

Mr. Hassard, Leader of the Official Opposition

THAT it is the opinion of this House that the Government of Yukon should:

- (1) recognize that it has been nearly a year since the Legislative Assembly has sat;
- (2) recognize that since December 3, 2016 the government has approved close to half a billion dollars without legislative oversight;
- (3) recognize that the Premier has announced that there will be a completely new type of budgeting that will require Members of the Legislative Assembly enough time to familiarize themselves with;
- (4) recognize that they have insisted on redoing their original Speech from the Throne while also delaying the tabling of the budget until five days into the sitting thus limiting the amount of time members have to debate; and
- (5) agree to the maximum Sitting length of 40 days for the 2017 Spring Sitting of the Legislative Assembly to allow Members of the Legislative Assembly the necessary time to work, review, and debate the budget.

2. Motion No. 2

Ms. Hanson, Leader of the Third Party

THAT this House urges the Government of Yukon, within the first year of the 34<sup>th</sup> Yukon Legislative Assembly, to fulfil their commitment to a Yukon early childhood strategy that will consider amendments to the *Child Care Act* and its regulations to:

- (1) reflect current knowledge and best practices in early childhood development; and
- (2) consult and include early childhood and child care professionals, parents, and First Nation governments in planning and implementation.

3. Motion No. 3

Ms. White, Member for Takhini-Kopper King

THAT this House urges the Government of Yukon to release an estimate of the cost to the public to abandon the newly acquired gas well L38 in the Kootaneelee region.