

## **PUBLIC GALLERY ORDER AND DECORUM**

**Visitors to the Public Gallery are always welcome and encouraged to attend sittings of the Yukon Legislative Assembly.**

**The Guidelines for Visitors in the Public Gallery are as follows: Backpacks, umbrellas, large bags, large coats and other items must be left in lockers provided outside the Public Gallery (see the Security Guard on duty). No balloons or placards are permitted. All hats must be removed. No musical instruments are permitted. Visitors are not permitted to bring food or beverages (including water) into the Public Gallery.**

**To help maintain order and decorum while the Assembly is in session, visitors are asked to refrain from actions that might disturb the proceedings including:**

- **Making loud comments, applauding or any interruption or disturbance,**
- **Recording the proceedings – including photography, video or sound recording without the Speaker’s prior permission,**
- **Talking to Members of the Legislative Assembly during the proceedings,**
- **Standing in the Public Gallery, except at the top of the gallery,**
- **Standing in front of the media gallery or in the handicap area,**
- **Standing or sitting on stairs,**
- **Using electronic devices (e.g. laptops, blackberries, including texting). Handwritten notes may be taken in the Public Gallery.**

**Visitors may leave the Public Gallery at any time, through the exit door to the Public Gallery.**

**Thank you for your co-operation.**

## **THE PEOPLE IN THE CHAMBER**

### **Speaker**

The Speaker is the Chief Presiding Officer of the Yukon Legislative Assembly. The Speaker presides over the debates in the House, determining the order in which members may speak. The Speaker is also responsible for maintaining order, and applies the Standing Orders (rules of the proceedings). The Assembly also has a Deputy Speaker who presides when the Speaker is not available. The Deputy Speaker also chairs Committee of the Whole.

### **Members of Yukon Legislative Assembly**

Voters in each of Yukon’s 19 electoral districts elect one member to represent them in the Assembly. Those Members who sit to the Speaker’s right are in the Government caucus. Opposition Members sit to the Speaker’s left.

### **Clerks-at-the-Table**

The Clerks are permanent officers who support the Assembly by keeping records of the proceedings and providing advice to Members and the Speaker on parliamentary procedure and practice.

### **Sergeant-at-Arms/Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms**

An Officer of the Assembly with ceremonial and security duties, including care and keeping of the mace, security in the Chamber and supervision of visitors in the Public Gallery.

### **Hansard**

Transcribers who produce the written transcripts of parliamentary debates. The Hansard is the substantially verbatim record of the debates of the House, and is publicly available on the Yukon Legislative Assembly website: [www.legassembly.gov.yk.ca](http://www.legassembly.gov.yk.ca)

### **Media Gallery**

Journalists who observe and report on events in the Yukon Legislative Assembly may do so from the public gallery or the media gallery that overlooks the floor of the house.

### **Pages**

Pages seated on either side of the Speaker act as messengers in the Legislative Chamber.

## OPENING TIMES FOR VISITING THE CHAMBER

The Public Gallery is open on any day that the Legislative Assembly is in session. When the Assembly is in session it sits Monday through Thursday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (except on statutory holidays). The Public Gallery opens at 12:45 p.m.

The opening date of a Spring or Fall sitting is announced at least two weeks in advance. It is published on the Yukon Legislative Assembly website [www.legassembly.gov.yk.ca](http://www.legassembly.gov.yk.ca) (home page or through the calendar reference) or may also be found through local media outlets.

Public tours of the Yukon Legislative Assembly can be arranged through the Government of Yukon receptionist counter at 867-667-5811.

## YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY Visiting the Chamber

