

## YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Motions adopted during the  
Fall Sitting of the  
First Session of the  
29th Legislative Assembly

October 30, 1997 - December 15/16, 1997

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  
Fall Sitting of the  
First Session of the  
29th Legislative Assembly**

October 30, 1997 - December 15/16, 1997

**INDEX**

<b><u>SUBSTANTIVE MOTIONS</u> (listed in chronological order)</b>	<b><u>Page</u></b>
<b><u>Subject Matter</u></b>	
1. Telephone service in the Yukon: reliable, affordable and accessible (#72)	1
2. Old age benefits: federal proposal to restructure (#68)	1-2
3. Multilateral Agreement on Investment: cease negotiations on (#82)	2
4. Alcohol abuse in the Yukon (#83)	2
5. Unemployment Insurance: federal restructuring (#73)	3
6. Members' Services Board: change in appointment (#79)	3

## YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Motions adopted during the  
Fall Sitting of the  
First Session of the  
29th Legislative Assembly

October 30, 1997 - December 15/16, 1997

1. Motion #72 - Mr. Livingston, Member for Lake Laberge  
Debated November 5, 1997  
Carried November 5, 1997

THAT it is the opinion of this House that:

- (1) Yukoners deserve reliable, affordable and accessible telephone service;
- (2) the present telephone service does not adequately serve the varied needs of rural and urban Yukoners;
- (3) the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission has a responsibility to Yukoners to ensure that regulated competition facilitates lower long distance rates, improved service and extension of services in underserved areas;
- (4) all telephone services directed towards basic home and business use in the Yukon should be regulated by the CRTC to ensure reliable, affordable and accessible service;
- (5) the Government of the Yukon should urge the CRTC to direct telecommunications companies operating in Canada to establish a fund to expand the Yukon's telecommunications infrastructure; and
- (6) the Government of the Yukon should actively pursue all avenues to promote reliable, affordable and accessible telephone service in the Territory.
- (7) the Hansard of the debate on this motion be forwarded to CRTC to advise it of the views of the Yukon Legislative Assembly on this important issue."

**Amended**

2. Motion #68 - Mr. Ostashek, Leader of the Official Opposition  
Debated November 12, 1997  
Carried November 12, 1997

THAT it is the opinion of this House that the federal Liberal Government proposal to restructure old age benefits:

- (1) has flaws and raises serious issues of fairness in that the proposed seniors benefit will penalize Canadians who are saving for retirement while at the same time reduce their future retirement benefits,
- (2) as well as represents an attack on universality of Canada's social programs by replacing a public pension system with a minimal welfare system for the very poorest of seniors, and
- (3) imposes severe clawbacks on low and middle-income Canadians, robbing them of an ability to live their retirement in self-reliance and dignity;

THAT this House urges the federal Liberal Government to uphold the sacred trust of our country's obligations to its senior citizens by holding public hearings in Yukon and canceling proposed changes and cuts and restoring a comprehensive, universal public pension; and

THAT this House urges the Government of Yukon to hold public hearings on the implications of the proposed seniors benefit in the event that the federal Liberal Government fails to conduct public hearings in the territory.

**Amended**

3. Motion #82 - Mr. Hardy, Member for Whitehorse Centre  
Debated November 19, 1997  
Carried November 19, 1997

THAT it is the opinion of this House that:

- (1) the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI), sponsored by the U.S.A., supported by Canada, and currently the subject of secret negotiations by the 29 industrial nations in OECD (the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development), represents a major attack on the autonomy and self-determination of governments at all levels; and
- (2) the democratic process which Canadians so value is seriously threatened by the MAI whose aim is to remove control of the economic process from the people's elected representatives and to consolidate it in the hands of transnational corporations;

and

THAT this House calls on the federal Government to cease all negotiations on the MAI and to facilitate full participation of all Canadians in major decisions affecting our economic future.

4. Motion #83 - Mrs. Edelman, member for Riverdale South  
Debated November 26, 1997  
Carried November 26, 1997

THAT it is the opinion of this House that:

- (1) alcohol abuse is a major problem for Yukon society;
- (2) alcohol abuse is destructive to personal relationships, and contributes to domestic violence;
- (3) alcohol abuse is a significant factor in health care costs to Yukoners;
- (4) impaired driving is a serious problem for Yukoners and alcohol abuse is a significant factor in the commission of other crimes; and
- (5) misuse of alcohol during pregnancy is causing increasing concern among Yukoners, because of the disabilities that those persons suffering from Fetal Alcohol Syndrome/Fetal Alcohol Effects encounter, and because of the effects on our education system;

THAT, recognizing the seriousness of alcohol abuse in the Yukon, the Yukon Government should continue its coordinated, focused approach, including the work of the Fostering Healthy Communities Committee, and report back to this House in the spring of 1998 about progress and actions in the area of alcohol and drug services prevention and treatment; and

THAT the actions leading to the preparation of this report should include consultation with affected government departments, other governments, and non-government organizations dealing with alcohol addiction and abuse.

**Amended**

5. Motion #73 - Mr. Hardy, Member for Whitehorse Centre  
Debated November 5, 1997; December 3, 1997  
Carried December 3, 1997

THAT it is the opinion of this House that:

- (1) the Government of Canada has unfairly restricted access to income support for Canadians who have paid into Unemployment Insurance (renamed Employment Insurance) throughout their working lives; and
- (2) despite a projected \$20 billion cumulative surplus by the end of 1998, the Government of Canada has unfairly reduced EI benefits, eliminated training programs and appropriated workers' money to pay down the deficit;

THAT this House expresses strong opposition to the federal Liberal Government's ongoing attempts to dismantle this vital component of our social safety net, causing great hardship to the victims of Canada's structural unemployment; and

THAT this House calls for the billions in savings, which restrictions to unemployment insurance have produced, to be used to restore the program to meet the real financial and training needs of unemployed workers.

6. Motion # 79 - Hon. Mr. Harding, Government House Leader  
Debated December 15, 1997  
Carried December 15, 1997

THAT the membership of the Members' Services Board, as established by Motion # 4 of the First Session of the Twenty-Ninth Legislature, be amended:

- (1) by rescinding the appointment of Jack Cable, Member for Riverside; and
- (2) by appointing Pat Duncan, Member for Porter Creek South.