

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Motions adopted during the
First Session of the
31st Legislative Assembly

February 27, 2003 – May 1, 2003
June 12, 2003

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
31st Legislative Assembly**

February 27, 2003 – May 1, 2003
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INDEX

<u>SUBSTANTIVE MOTIONS (listed in chronological order)</u> <u>Subject Matter</u>	<u>Page</u>
1. Speaker (Ted Staffen) elected (#1)	1
2. Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committee of the Whole (Patrick Rouble) appointed (#16)	1
3. Deputy Chair of Committee of the Whole (Dean Hassard) appointed (#17).....	1
4. Address in Reply to Speech from the Throne (#18).....	1
5. Yukon Placer Authorization: federal Ministry of Fisheries to keep in place (#41)	1-2
6. Alaska Railroad proposal: establish an international joint commission on the development of (#36)	2
7. Health Care needs: development of a pan-northern solution (#32).....	2
8. Rules, Elections and Privileges, Standing Committee on: Hassard, Jenkins, Cathers, Arntzen, Hardy, McRobb and Duncan be appointed (#19)	3
9. Statutory Instruments, Standing Committee on: Cathers, Jenkins, Peter, and Duncan be appointed (#20)	3
10. Public Accounts, Standing Committee on: Hardy, Fentie, Jenkins, Rouble, Fairclough, and Duncan be appointed (#21).....	3
11. Members' Services Board: Speaker, Fentie, Hardy, Duncan and Jenkins be appointed (#22)	3-4
12. Non-government agencies: funding agreements with Yukon and federal Governments (#67)	4
13. Government of Yukon relationship with First Nations Governments (#12)	4
14. White Pass and Yukon Route Railway right-of-way: preserve as an access corridor for Yukon (#59).....	5

<u>SUBSTANTIVE MOTIONS (listed in chronological order) (continued)</u>	<u>Page</u>
<u>Subject Matter</u>	
15. Social worker, supervisory and policy staffing needs: addressing recommendations of the Child Welfare League of Canada (#65).....	5
16. Special Sitting in Mayo to celebrate its 100 th anniversary (#8).....	5
17. Federal Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans to conduct public hearings regarding the future of Yukon fish habitat protection (#46).....	6
18. Yukon Human Rights Commission: appoint Edith Fraser and John McCormick and reappoint Eleanor O'Donovan to be members (#49).....	6
19. Provision of information to Opposition MLAs in a timely manner (#80).....	6
20. Congratulations to the Village of Mayo on the celebration of its one hundredth anniversary (#100).....	6-7

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MOTIONS

1. Witnesses – Yukon Workers’ Compensation Health and Safety Board (#1).....	8
2. Witnesses – Yukon Development Corporation (#2).....	8

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Substantive Motions

1. Motion #1- Mr. Fentie
Debated February 27, 2003
Carried February 27, 2003

THAT Ted Staffen, Member for Riverdale North, do take the Chair of this Assembly as Speaker.

2. Motion #16 – Mr. Jenkins, Government House Leader
Debated March 3, 2003
Carried March 3, 2003

RESOLVED THAT Patrick Rouble, Member for Southern Lakes, be appointed Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committee of the Whole.

3. Motion #17 – Mr. Jenkins, Government House Leader
Debated March 3, 2003
Carried March 3, 2003

RESOLVED THAT Dean Hassard, Member for Pelly-Nisutlin, be appointed Deputy Chair of Committee of the Whole.

4. Motion #18 – Mr. Cathers, Member for Lake Laberge
Debated March 3, 2003, March 4, 2003, March 5, 2003
Carried March 5, 2003

THAT the following Address be presented to the Commissioner of the Yukon:

MAY IT PLEASE THE COMMISSIONER: We, the Members of the Yukon Legislative Assembly, beg leave to offer our humble thanks for the gracious Speech that you have addressed to the House.

5. Motion #41 – Hon. Mr. Fentie, Premier
Debated March 11, 2003
Carried March 11, 2003

THAT it is the opinion of this House that:

- (1) the placer mining industry in the Yukon is of special significance to the territory, having helped create the territory as a separate jurisdiction in Canada in 1898, and remains an economic mainstay to this day, over 100 years later,
- (2) the Yukon Placer Authorization signed in 1993 was established to enable the placer mining industry to continue operations while protecting and preserving fish habitat for a decade,
- (3) the recent decision by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans to phase out the Yukon Placer Authorization was made without proper consultation, and failed to meet the

consultation requirements of Yukon First Nations land claims and self-government final agreements, and

- (4) the decision failed to give due consideration to all relevant information about the economic and social impact on Yukon people and their families, or on the Yukon's economy as a whole; and

THAT this House urges the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to keep the existing Yukon Placer Authorization in place until proper consultation has taken place on a replacement authorization that achieves the objectives of protecting fish habitat without jeopardizing responsible placer mining.

6. Motion #36 – Mr. Hassard, Member for Pelly-Nisutlin
Debated March 19, 2003
Carried March 19, 2003

THAT it is the opinion of this House that there would be significant economic benefits for Yukon should a railroad be built connecting Alaska, through Yukon, to the southern United States;

THAT this House recognizes that:

- (1) the Alaska House of Representatives unanimously passed a bill setting aside land for a railroad right-of-way up to the Yukon border; and
- (2) Senator John Cowdery, of the Alaska State Legislature, has tabled a Bill entitled *An Act relating to a railroad utility corridor for extension of the Alaska Railroad to Canada and for the extension of the Alaska Railroad to connect with the North American Railroad system*; and

THAT this House urges the Government of Yukon to work closely with the Government of Canada and with Yukon First Nation governments whose land the railroad would cross to identify and explore all areas of mutual interest related to the Alaska railway proposal; and

THAT this House urges the Government of Canada, with the full participation of the Government of Yukon and Yukon First Nation governments affected, to commence discussions with the Government of the United States and the State of Alaska about establishing a mechanism such as an international joint commission to expedite the development of the Alaska Railroad proposal.

Amended

7. Motion #32 – Mr. Rouble, Member for Mount Lorne
Debated March 19, 2003
Carried March 19, 2003

THAT this House recognizes that:

- (1) every Canadian citizen deserves to receive adequate health care regardless of where they live,
- (2) the cost of maintaining the current level of health care in the Yukon has been increasing at an annual rate of \$7 to \$10 million,
- (3) the Canada Health and Social Transfer which is based on per capita funding does not address the specialized needs of the three northern territories that have small populations separated by vast distances and high transportation costs, and
- (4) the recently negotiated Health Care Fund, while a step in the right direction, will only cover the annual increase in health care costs; and

THAT this House urges the Government of Canada to work together with the three northern territories to develop a permanent pan-northern solution to address health care needs in the north.

Amended

8. Motion #19 – Hon. Mr. Jenkins, Government House Leader
 Debated March 25, 2003
 Carried March 25, 2003

THAT the honourable Members Dean Hassard, Hon. Peter Jenkins, Brad Cathers, Haakon Arntzen, Todd Hardy, Gary McRobb and Pat Duncan be appointed to the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges;

THAT the said Committee have the power to call for persons, papers and records and to sit during intersessional periods;

THAT the said Committee review, as necessary, such Standing Orders as it may decide upon;

THAT the said Committee, following the conduct of any such review, report any recommendations for amendment to the Assembly; and

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

9. Motion #20 – Hon. Mr. Jenkins, Government House Leader
 Debated March 25, 2003
 Carried March 25, 2003

THAT the honourable Members Brad Cathers, Hon. Peter Jenkins, Lorraine Peter and Pat Duncan be appointed to the Standing Committee on Statutory Instruments;

THAT the said Committee have the power to call for persons, papers and records and to sit during intersessional periods;

THAT the said Committee review such new regulations as it may decide upon;

THAT the said Committee review such other existing or proposed regulations as are referred to it by the Assembly; and

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

10. Motion #20 – Hon. Mr. Jenkins, Government House Leader
 Debated March 25, 2003
 Carried March 25, 2003

THAT the honourable Members Todd Hardy, Hon. Dennis Fentie, Hon. Peter Jenkins, Patrick Rouble, Eric Fairclough and Pat Duncan be appointed to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts established pursuant to Standing Order 45(3);

THAT the said Committee have the power to call for persons, papers and records and to sit during intersessional periods; and

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

11. Motion #22 – Hon. Mr. Jenkins, Government House Leader
 Debated March 25, 2003
 Carried, March 25, 2003

THAT the Honourable Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 45(2), be appointed Chair of the Members' Services Board;

THAT Hon. Dennis Fentie, Todd Hardy, Pat Duncan and Hon. Peter Jenkins be appointed to the Members' Services Board;

THAT the Board consider:

- (1) budget submissions for the following Votes:
 - (a) Legislative Assembly,
 - (b) Ombudsman (including Information and Privacy Commissioner),
 - (c) Conflicts Commission, and
 - (d) Elections Office,
- and
- (2) policy questions concerning matters such as:
 - (a) space allocation,
 - (b) staffing,
 - (c) caucus funding,
 - (d) Media Gallery House rules, and
 - (e) Hansard,
- and

THAT the Board fulfill its statutory responsibilities including those in the *Ombudsman Act*, the *Conflict of Interest (Members and Ministers) Act*, and the *Legislative Assembly Retirement Allowances Act*.

12. Motion #67 – Mr. Hardy, Leader of the Official Opposition
 Debated March 26, 2003
 Carried March 26, 2003

THAT it is the opinion of this House that:

- (1) non-profit community organizations provide a wide range of necessary services to Yukon people on behalf of the Yukon and federal Governments,
 - (2) effective planning and delivery of services requires stable, long-term funding agreements between the Yukon and federal Governments and the non-profit organizations that act on their behalf, and
 - (3) arbitrary funding cuts by the federal government not only jeopardize programs and services directly, they also jeopardize the ability of non-profit organizations to attract and retain both the professional staff and the voluntary board members they need;
- and

THAT this House urges the Yukon and federal Governments to enter into stable, long-term and binding funding agreements subject to annual appropriations with the non-government agencies that provide services to Yukon people on their behalf.

Amended

13. Motion #12 – Mr. Rouble, Member for Southern Lakes
 Debated April 2, 2003
 Carried April 2, 2003

THAT this House recognizes that the Government has:

- (1) committed to a “co-operative and inclusive” approach in making First Nations full partners in the economic development of the territory, and
- (2) made a priority of establishing government relationships with First Nations based on mutual respect, consultation and collaboration with the objectives of reducing barriers and providing more cost effective services for all Yukon citizens; and

THAT this House urges the Government to ensure this approach extends to all areas of governance including the economy, education, health, justice, social and community services.

Amended

14. Motion #59 – Mr. Rouble, Member for Southern Lakes
 Debated April 2, 2003
 Carried April 2, 2003

THAT it is the opinion of this House that:

- (1) the economy of the Yukon is highly dependent upon natural resources and tourism,
- (2) getting resources to markets has, in the past, been most efficiently achieved through the use of the White Pass and Yukon Route Railway with port and tidewater access at Skagway, Alaska, and
- (3) tourism travel into the Yukon along this route has increased significantly for many years; and

THAT this House urges the Government of Yukon to work co-operatively with all First Nations and communities along the route, the State of Alaska, the Province of British Columbia and the White Pass and Yukon Route Railway to preserve the White Pass and Yukon Route Railway right-of-way as an access corridor for Yukon.

Amended

15. Motion #65 – Ms. Duncan, Leader of the Third Party
 Debated March 26, 2003, April 9, 2003
 Carried April 9, 2003

THAT this House recognizes that:

- (1) the Child Welfare League of Canada conducted a Review of Services to Children in Care and prepared a report to the Liberal Government in June of 2002 which resulted in 15 recommendations,
- (2) the Child Welfare League of Canada recommended as first priority that government address social worker and supervisor staffing shortfalls,
- (3) the Child Welfare League of Canada recommended that government hire child welfare policy staff as a second priority, and
- (4) that the Yukon Liberal Government publicly agreed with these two recommendations and was working toward their implementation;
- (5) the recommendations of the Child Welfare League of Canada respecting staffing do not take into account the services required for children in government care who are afflicted with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder; and

THAT this House urges the Yukon Government, when determining its response to the recommendations of the Child Welfare League of Canada respecting staffing, to give full consideration to:

- (1) the advantages of
 - (a) the family-centered approach to children in government care, and
 - (b) the establishment of a system of special foster homes as recommended in both the review of the Child Welfare League of Canada and the Anglin Report, and
- (2) the needs of all children in government care including those afflicted with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

Amended

16. Motion #8 – Ms. Duncan, Leader of the Third Party
 Debated April 9, 2003
 Carried April 9, 2003

THAT this House recognizes that the Village of Mayo will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary this summer; and

THAT this House urges the Government and the Yukon Legislative Assembly to celebrate this anniversary by holding a special sitting of the Yukon Legislative Assembly in Mayo during the 2003 centennial year.

17. Motion #46 – Mr. Hardy, Leader of the Official Opposition
 Debated April 9, 2003
 Carried April 9, 2003

THAT it is the opinion of this House that:

- (1) the unilateral decision by the federal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to phase out the Yukon Placer Authorization has created a great deal of economic uncertainty and social anxiety in the Yukon,
- (2) this House unanimously passed a motion calling on the Minister to conduct a proper consultation on this issue, and
- (3) one of the most important advisory bodies available to the Minister is the House of Commons all-party Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans, which has the power to hold hearings and invite information, opinions and advice related to fisheries matters; and,

THAT this House urges the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans to visit the Yukon and conduct public hearings into the future of fish habitat protection in the territory, in order to provide the Minister with relevant advice that reflects Yukon values and concerns.

18. Motion #49 – Hon. Ms. Taylor, Minister of Justice
 Debated April 10, 2003
 Carried April 10, 2003

THAT the Yukon Legislative Assembly, pursuant to 16(1) of the *Human Rights Act*, appoint Edith Fraser and John McCormick and reappoint Eleanor O'Donovan to be members of the Yukon Human Rights Commission.

19. Motion #80 – Mr. Hardy, Leader of the Official Opposition
 Debated April 23, 2003
 Carried April 23, 2003

THAT it is the opinion of this House that:

- (1) during the past election campaign and since, the Yukon Party Government promised to adopt an approach to governing based on consensus, co-operation and compromise, and
- (2) a more co-operative approach to governing should include co-operating with elected representatives of the Yukon people who sit on the opposition side of this House in their attempts to get the information they need to examine government policies and spending priorities; and

THAT this House urges the Yukon Party Government to respect both its election commitments and the proper role of this House by providing information related to government policies and spending priorities in a co-operative, thorough and timely manner, as requested both orally and in written form by opposition MLAs.

20. Motion #100 – Mr. Fairclough, Member for Mayo-Tatchun
 Debated June 12, 2003
 Carried June 12, 2003

THAT the Speaker of the Yukon Legislative Assembly, through the Mayor of the Village of Mayo and the Chief of the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun, forward the following address to the people of Mayo:

WHEREAS the people of Mayo celebrated the 100th anniversary of the creation of the Village of Mayo on June 3, 2003;

WHEREAS the history and heritage of Mayo, including both its land and its people, should be recognized and valued; and

WHEREAS the lives, traditions and cultures of the people of the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and of all others who have come to this land deserve honour and respect;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Yukon Legislative Assembly, on behalf of all Yukoners, congratulates the people of Mayo on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the creation of the Village of Mayo.

Committee of the Whole Motions

1. C/W Motion #1 – Hon. Mr. Jenkins, Government House Leader
Debated April 24, 2003
Carried April 24, 2003

THAT Craig Tuton, Chair of the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board, and Tony Armstrong, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board, appear as witnesses before Committee of the Whole from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 24, 2003, to discuss matters relating to the Yukon Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board.

2. C/W Motion #2 – Hon. Mr. Jenkins, Government House Leader
Debated April 24, 2003
Carried April 24, 2003

THAT Lorne Austring, Chair of Yukon Development Corporation, and Duncan Sinclair, Chief Executive Officer of the Yukon Development Corporation, appear as witnesses before Committee of the Whole from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Monday, April 28, 2003, to discuss matters related to the Yukon Development Corporation.