



Yukon Legislative Assembly Office

Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6 • Telephone (867)667-5494 • Fax (867)393-6280

Guidelines for the Use of the Legislative Assembly Chamber

Adopted by the Members' Services Board on November 13, 2015

Principles

The Legislative Assembly Chamber (the Chamber) is primarily a venue for the MLAs to meet and transact their business when the House is in session. Another primary, though less common, use of the Chamber is as a venue for public proceedings and hearings of standing, select and special committees of the Legislative Assembly.

All other uses of the Chamber are secondary and should only be permitted in ways that:

1. Do not compromise the ability of the Legislative Assembly to use the Chamber for its primary purposes,
2. Maintain the dignity and security of the Chamber and the Legislative Assembly, including its Members and staff, and
3. Do not, in any way, promote the partisan or political goals and interests of parties, caucuses and individual MLAs, be they in government or opposition.

Guidelines

1. Access to the Chamber is to be granted by the Speaker or by Legislative Assembly Office staff, as designated by the Speaker, for permitted secondary uses in accordance with these guidelines.
2. The Speaker, or Legislative Assembly Office staff, as designated by the Speaker, may, in a specific instance, deny use of a secondary use otherwise permitted by these guidelines.
3. Individuals and groups wishing to have access to the Chamber should provide the Speaker or the Legislative Assembly Office with as much advance notice as possible.
4. Still photography is permitted, except as prohibited below.
5. Neither food nor beverages are to be brought into the Chamber.
6. As a rule, persons other than Members of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Assembly Office staff are to be kept outside the Bar of the House;

exceptions may be granted in specific circumstances. Exceptions may be based on the size and composition of the group, and the purpose of the group's visit to the Assembly.

Permitted uses of the Chamber include:

1. Sittings of the Legislative Assembly,
2. Public proceedings or public hearings of standing, special and select committees of the Legislative Assembly,
3. Meetings, conferences and professional development seminars of a parliamentary nature,
4. Briefings and tours for groups and individuals, including cabinet and caucus staff, and government employees, on subjects related to the history and functioning of parliamentary government in Yukon,
5. *In camera* briefings for MLAs provided by the Auditor General of Canada, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, the Chief Electoral Officer, the Ombudsman, the Conflict of Interest Commissioner, or the Child and Youth Advocate,
6. Photographs of MLAs and caucuses, including for use on the Government of Yukon website, the Legislative Assembly website, or party or caucus websites,
7. Swearing in ceremonies for Members of the Legislative Assembly, the Ombudsman, or the Child and Youth Advocate.

Prohibited uses of the Chamber include:

1. Cabinet, caucus or party events for purposes of the election of MLAs, fundraising, membership recruitment, or promoting the policy positions of the cabinet, a caucus or party,
2. As a backdrop for a 'photo op' (video or still) designed to accompany government, caucus, party or MLA news releases or other forms of communication for the purposes of the election of MLAs, fundraising, membership recruitment or the promotion or dissemination of policy positions or announcements of the government (cabinet), a caucus, party or MLA,
3. Media interviews of MLAs, cabinet, caucus or party personnel including photography (still or video).

Note: The list of prohibited uses is not exhaustive. Any use of the Chamber not specifically authorized by these guidelines is not permitted. Any use not authorized by these guidelines may, on a case-by-case basis, be approved by the Speaker.