

No. 1

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Monday, June 5, 2000

This being the day appointed for the opening of the First Session of the Thirtieth Wholly-Elected Legislative Assembly of Yukon for the dispatch of business and the oaths having been already administered to the Members of the Legislative Assembly, the Members took their seats in the House.

Proclamation

The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Patrick L. Michael, read the Proclamation as follows:

“TO ALL TO WHOM these presents shall come or whom the same may in any wise concern

GREETINGS

A PROCLAMATION

KNOW YE THAT under and by virtue of the power and authority vested in the Commissioner of the Yukon Territory, the Assembly of the said Territory is summoned to meet for dispatch of business in the Yukon Legislative Assembly Chamber, Territorial Administration Building, Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, on Monday, the fifth day of June, A.D., 2000 at the hour of one-thirty o'clock in the afternoon.

ALL OF WHICH all persons concerned are required to take notice and to govern themselves accordingly.

GIVEN UNDER my hand and seal of the said Territory, at Whitehorse, Yukon, this 18th day of May, 2000.

Judy Gingell
Commissioner of the Yukon”

Clerk Reports on Members Elected

The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly reported on the Members elected to the Yukon Legislative Assembly as follows:

“Pursuant to the provisions of the *Elections Act* the Commissioner has been informed of the receipt of Returns to Writs for the General Election conducted on the seventeenth day of April, 2000. These Returns show that the following Members were duly elected:

Faro	Trevor Harding
Klondike	Peter Jenkins
Kluane	Gary McRobb
Lake Laberge	Pam Buckway
McIntyre-Takhini	Wayne Jim
Mayo-Tatchun	Eric Fairclough
Mount Lorne	Cynthia Tucker
Porter Creek North	Don Roberts
Porter Creek South	Pat Duncan
Riverdale North	Dale Eftoda
Riverdale South	Sue Edelman
Riverside	Scott Kent
Ross River-Southern Lakes	Dave Keenan
Vuntut Gwitchin	Lorraine Netro
Watson Lake	Dennis Fentie
Whitehorse Centre	Mike McLarnon
Whitehorse West	Dennis Schneider

Patrick L. Michael
Clerk of the Yukon
Legislative Assembly”

Clerk advises House that Commissioner will not deliver Speech until Speaker is elected

The Commissioner, the Hon. Judy Gingell, entered the Chamber and took the Chair.

The Clerk of the Legislative Assembly then stated:

“I am commanded by the Commissioner, in her capacity as Lieutenant-Governor, to state that she does not see fit to declare the causes of the summoning of the present Assembly of this Territory until a Speaker of this Assembly shall have been chosen according to law, but today at a subsequent hour she will declare the causes of the calling of this Assembly.”

The Commissioner then retired from the Chamber.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The Clerk addressed the House:

“Honourable Members, nominations are invited for the office of Speaker of this Assembly.”

It was moved by the Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier, and seconded by Mr. Harding, Leader of the Official Opposition, and Mr. Jenkins, Leader of the Third Party:

“THAT Dennis Schneider, Member for Whitehorse West, do take the Chair of this Assembly as Speaker.” **(Motion #1)**

The Clerk, having scanned the House for further nominations, repeated the motion and called for a vote. He then stated:

“The ayes have it, and Dennis Schneider, Member for Whitehorse West, is, by direction of this Assembly, duly elected as Speaker of the Yukon Legislative Assembly.”

SPEAKER’S ADDRESS TO THE ASSEMBLY

The Speaker retired, donned his robe and re-entered the Chamber.

The Premier, the Leader of the Official Opposition and the Leader of the Third Party shook hands with the newly-elected Speaker and offered their congratulations.

Standing on the Dais, the Speaker thanked the Assembly as follows:

“I would like to express my thanks to the Assembly for the great honour it has given me by electing me to be its Speaker.

As I take responsibility of the Chair, I first wish to publicly acknowledge my predecessor, Robert Bruce, the former Member for Vuntut Gwitchin whom I have known for many years and who served this Assembly and the people of the Yukon. On behalf of the Assembly and all Yukoners, I thank him and say to him and his family, may health and happiness be yours.

I also wish to thank my constituents in Whitehorse West for having elected me to represent them as their Member of this Legislative Assembly.

As well, I’d like, at this time, to extend my personal gratitude to the Table Officers, as well as the staff of the Legislative Assembly for their support.

As your Speaker, I welcome all Members of the Thirtieth Legislature. Eight are new this Assembly. Elected public offices place incredible demands upon both individuals and their families. Each of us represents all of our constituents, regardless of their political affiliations, cultural or linguistic backgrounds.

We have been elected to serve not only our constituents but all the people of this magnificent Yukon Territory. We have pledged ourselves to that service, and I in turn, as your new Speaker, pledge myself to the service of this Assembly. Thank you.”

The Speaker then took his seat and addressed the Clerk as follows:

“Mr. Clerk, will you please advise the Commissioner, in her capacity as Lieutenant-Governor, that the Assembly is now prepared to hear the Speech from the Throne?”

The Commissioner returned to the Chamber and took the Chair.

SPEAKER’S ADDRESS TO THE COMMISSIONER

The Speaker then said:

“Madam Commissioner:

The Members of the Legislative Assembly have elected me to be their Speaker and I recognize the important duties now given to me. If, in the performance of those duties, I should at any time make a mistake, the fault is mine and not that of the Assembly, whose servant I am. At this time, so that all Members of the Assembly can best carry out their duty to the Yukon, to their country and to the Queen, I would claim for them their undoubted rights and privileges, especially freedom of speech in their debates, access to your person when necessary, and your favourable consideration of their proceedings.”

RESPONSE BY THE COMMISSIONER

The Commissioner then said:

“Mr. Speaker:

I am pleased to declare to you that I believe in the duty of the Assembly and, not doubting that the Assembly’s proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper and care, I grant and allow the Assembly’s constitutional privileges. I assure you that the Assembly shall have ready access to me and that the Assembly’s proceedings, words and actions will receive from me favourable consideration.”

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

The Commissioner then delivered the Speech from the Throne as follows:

“Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly, honoured guests and visitors, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the opening of the First Session of the Thirtieth Legislature.

Honourable Members, on April 17, 2000, Yukon people bestowed upon you the privilege of representing them in this Legislature for the next four years.

On behalf of all Yukon people, from Beaver Creek to Watson Lake and from Old Crow to Carcross, I would like to thank each of you for the commitment you have made to serve the public.

For those of you who are joining the Legislature for the first time, I would like to extend a special welcome. As your more experienced colleagues may have informed you, in recent years the Yukon Legislative Assembly has begun each day with a prayer that asks that you may make: ‘only sound, fair and wise decisions on behalf of all the people you represent throughout Yukon’. It is to be hoped that this will continue to be the guiding principle of all Members.

In the months ahead, the new government will undertake a comprehensive review of spending priorities. That review will result in a second supplementary budget which will be

introduced in the Fall Sitting of the Legislature. That session will begin with a Speech from the Throne that will outline in far greater detail the priorities of this government.

As an interim measure, this Session of the Legislature has been called to obtain spending authority for the current fiscal year. This will be accomplished with the ratification of a first appropriation Bill for 2000-01.

Further, Members will also be asked to approve a separate piece of legislation that amends the *Income Tax Act*. The result will be a two-percent reduction in territorial income tax for the 2000 taxation year.

In addition, a supplementary appropriation Bill will be introduced that targets some immediate priorities of the new government.

Members of the new Legislature will also be asked to approve the Bill that amends the *Assessment and Taxation Act*.

The legislative agenda for this Session has been designed to deal with pressing matters, namely the spending authority for the government. As I previously indicated, the government will be bringing forward a comprehensive legislative and fiscal package during the Fall Sitting.

Honourable Members, thank you, and I wish you well in your deliberations."

The Commissioner then retired from the Chamber.

The Speaker resumed the Chair and called the House to order.

INTRODUCTION OF PAGES

The Speaker informed the Assembly that Stephanie Beasley, Dino Rudniski and Wade Stewart from F.H. Collins Secondary School and Rowan Hall, Tara Martin and Darcie Profeit from Porter Creek Secondary School would be serving as Pages during the Summer Sitting. Stephanie Beasley and Wade Stewart were welcomed to the House.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Speaker Schneider introduced a former Speaker of the Legislature, John Devries, who represented the constituency of Watson Lake from 1989 to 1996.

PRO FORMA BILL

Bill #1 - An Act to Perpetuate a Certain Ancient Right
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

TABLING SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

The Speaker informed the Assembly that he had received a copy of the Speech from the Throne which he tabled. **(Sessional Paper #1)**

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE CONSIDERED ON DAY FOLLOWING:

On motion of the Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier:

RESOLVED THAT the Speech from the Throne be considered on a day following.

MOTIONS RESPECTING APPOINTMENTS OF PRESIDING OFFICERS

Election of Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committee of the Whole

On motion of Ms. Tucker, Government House Leader:

RESOLVED THAT Mike McLarnon, Member for Whitehorse Centre, be appointed Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committee of the Whole.

(Motion #2)

Election of Deputy Chair of Committee of the Whole

On motion of Ms. Tucker, Government House Leader:

RESOLVED THAT Scott Kent, Member for Riverside, be appointed Deputy Chair of Committee of the Whole.

(Motion #3)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

Bill #3 - Second Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

Bill #21 - An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

Bill #22 - An Act to Amend the Assessment and Taxation Act
-Hon. Ms. Buckway

MONEY MESSAGE

Bill #2, *First Appropriation Act, 2000-01*, and Bill #3, *Second Appropriation Act, 2000-01*, were accompanied by a money message.

GOVERNMENT BILLS - BUDGET SPEECH

Pursuant to Standing Order 55(3), the following Bill was called for Second Reading:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

Thereupon, the Hon. Ms. Duncan delivered the 2000-2001 Budget Speech.

Point of Order (regarding format of Estimates)

After the Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier, had concluded her remarks, Mr. Jenkins, Leader of the Third Party, rose on a Point of Order with regard to the format of the Estimates presented with Bill #2, *First Appropriation Act, 2000-01*.

The Speaker took the Point of Order under advisement.

Motion to Adjourn Debate on Second Reading of Bill #2

Moved by Mr. Harding, Leader of the Official Opposition:

THAT debate be now adjourned.

The question being put on the motion to adjourn debate on the Second Reading of Bill #2, it was agreed to.

The Assembly adjourned at 2:02 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 6, 2000.

No. 2

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Tuesday, June 6, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TRIBUTES

In remembrance of Kathy Kushniruk

Mr. McRobb, Member for Kluane, and the Hon. Mr. Jim, Minister of Government Services, paid tribute to Kathy Kushniruk, a member of the Crow clan of the Champagne-Aishihik First Nation, who passed away on May 1, 2000. Ms. Kushniruk was a founding member of the Dakwakada Dancers and recently received the Commissioner's Award for Public Service.

In remembrance of Catholic Bishop Thomas Lobsinger and Brother Hoby Spruyt

The Hon. Mr. Roberts, Minister of Health and Social Services, paid tribute, on behalf of all Members, to Catholic Bishop Thomas Lobsinger and Brother Hoby Spruyt, who died in an airplane crash on April 15, 2000.

In remembrance of Henry Broeren

The Hon. Mr. Jim, Minister of Government Services, and Mr. Keenan, Member for Ross River-Southern Lakes, paid tribute to Henry Broeren, a much-respected elder of the Ta'an Kwach'an First Nation, who passed away on May 28, 2000.

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Mr. Schneider, Speaker

- Deductions from the indemnities of Members of the Legislative Assembly made pursuant to subsection 39(6) of the *Legislative Assembly Act*: Report of the Clerk of the Yukon Legislative Assembly (dated June 5, 2000) **(Sessional Paper #2)**
- Contributions to Political Parties during 1999: Report of the Chief Electoral Officer (dated March, 2000) **(Sessional Paper #3)**

Hon. Mr. Jim, Minister of Government Services

- Government Contracting Summary Report by Department (April 1, 1999 - March 31, 2000) **(Sessional Paper #4)**

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Hon. Mr. Eftoda, Minister responsible for the Public Service Commission

- Yukon Teachers' Association: Memorandum of Agreement

SPEAKER'S RULING (re Point of Order respecting Estimates)

"Before proceeding to the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne, the Chair will provide the House with a ruling on the Point of Order raised by the Member for Klondike on June 5, 2000.

The Member for Klondike noted that the Estimates accompanying Bill #2, *First Appropriation Act, 2000-2001*, contain the names of Ministers of the previous government. He referenced subsection 6(2) of the *Financial Administration Act* which states:

'Each Member of the Executive Council is responsible for the management of the financial affairs of his department under the general direction of the Executive Council Member and the Management Board.'

The Member for Klondike posed the question 'How can a previous Minister, who is no longer a Minister or even a Member of this House, be held responsible and accountable for the budget that was tabled in this House today?'

The answer to that question is that former Ministers cannot be held responsible or accountable for Bill #2 or the estimates presented with that Bill. The current Government has placed Bill #2 before the House and the Ministers of this Government are, collectively, responsible for answering to the House for its contents.

It is not the place of the Speaker of this Assembly to provide judgement on legal questions; rather, the Speaker is to rule on whether the rules established by the Assembly are being adhered to. There is no rule of this House which addresses the question raised by the Member for Klondike.

A review of the Assembly's working papers indicates that a precedent occurred in July, 1985 when a new Government introduced year-end supplementary estimates that included the names of the Ministers of the previous Government. That was a different situation from the one the House faces today in that all of the expenditures had already taken place under the previous Government. It is, however, worthy of note because, as is the case with Bill #2, the new Government in power had to accept responsibility for bringing those estimates to the House, for making the argument for their adoption and for being ultimately accountable for them.

The Chair would also point out that there is a great deal of supplementary information contained in the estimates books which is provided to assist Members in their deliberations. This includes forecast expenditures of the previous year, actual expenditures from the year prior to that one, revenue summaries, organization charts and a variety of statistical information. The names of Ministers fall into this category of supplementary information.

When the estimates for each department or corporation are considered in the Committee of the Whole, the procedure is for the programs and activities in operation and maintenance and the projects in capital to be cleared. Then, in each case, the total of the operation and maintenance estimates and of the capital

estimates are voted on. The remainder of the information may be referenced and discussed but it is not voted on by the Committee.

The Chair must, therefore, find that it is only the estimates associated with each department or corporation that are essential elements of the estimates books. Mistakes or inaccuracies in the other information provided will not lead to findings of Points of Order.

In conclusion, the Chair finds that the Member for Klondike does not have a Point of Order and that the House may continue with its consideration of Bill #2 at such time as it may be called for debate.

The Chair thanks Members for their attention and the House will now proceed to the next order of business.”

ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Moved by Mr. McLarnon, Member for Whitehorse Centre:

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 which you have addressed to the House.

(Motion #14)

A debate arising on the motion and the time approaching 5:30 p.m., it was moved by the Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier:

THAT debate be now adjourned.

The question being put on the motion to adjourn debate, it was agreed to.

The Assembly adjourned at 5:31 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 7, 2000.

No. 3

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Wednesday, June 7, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TRIBUTES

Year 2000 graduating class of Yukon Native Teachers Education Program

The Hon. Mr. Jim, Minister of Government Services, congratulated the eight students of the Yukon Native Teachers Education Program who will be participating in their graduation ceremony on June 10, 2000.

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Mr. Jenkins, Leader of the Third Party

- Tombstone Park: matters relating to

(Filed Document #1)

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE (regarding remarks made by Minister of Education)

Mr. Jenkins, Leader of the Third Party, rose on a Question of Privilege relating to remarks made by the Hon. Mr. Eftoda, Minister of Education, in his reply to Members' responses to the Ministerial Statement given on June 6, 2000, regarding the Memorandum of Agreement concluded with the Yukon Teachers' Association.

SPEAKER'S RULING ON THE QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

The Speaker ruled on the Question of Privilege raised by Mr. Jenkins, Leader of the Third Party, as follows;

"Order, please. I believe the Minister of Education, with his remarks, has resolved the problem raised by the Member for Klondike.

For future reference, the Chair will provide Members with a statement on Questions of Privilege such as this one.

A review of the Member for Klondike's concern indicates that it is not 'privilege' in that the essential element of privilege is the right of free speech in this House. The complaint, while serious, more properly should have been raised, at the time, as a Point of Order.

The Chair is not now able to deal with it as a Point of Order as the proper time to raise such a Point of Order is when the offending words are used.

The Chair would, however, like to ask all Members to give careful consideration to the remarks they make, both on the record and off the record. The Chair would ask all Members to use language appropriate to the decorum of this House.”

POINT OF ORDER (regarding Private Members’ Business)

Mr. Fentie, Official Opposition House Leader, rose on a Point of Order regarding Private Members’ Business being superseded by the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.

SPEAKER’S RULING ON THE POINT OF ORDER

The Speaker ruled on the Point of Order raised by Mr. Fentie, Official Opposition House Leader, as follows:

“The Opposition House Leader has raised a Point of Order in which he questions the order of the business today. According to our Standing Orders and practice, the call of the Motion for an Address in Reply will take precedence over other business. The Government has exercised its right under the rules to do that.

The fact that the Private Members' Business is not called on a day when the Address in Reply is debated was a purposeful decision of the Assembly when it made these rules. It was not felt that it would be fair to Private Members, including those in the Official Opposition, if the Address in Reply could take up a good portion of their day. Instead, it was decided to allow the Private Members to have a full day to debate their motions on the following Wednesday.

Accordingly, there is no Point of Order, and the House will proceed with the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne.”

ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Moved by Mr. McLarnon, Member for Whitehorse Centre:

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 which you have addressed to the House.

(Motion #14)

The debate continuing on Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne and the question being put, it was agreed to.

Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne Engrossed

Moved by Ms. Tucker, Government House Leader:

THAT the Address in Reply to the Speech from the Throne be engrossed and presented to the Commissioner in her capacity as Lieutenant-Governor.

The question being put, it was agreed to.

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The following Bill was called for Second Reading:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The debate continuing on the motion for Second Reading and the question being put, it was agreed to on the following recorded Division:

YEA			
Duncan	Buckway	Fairclough	
Eftoda	Tucker	Keenan	
Jim	McLarnon	McRobb	13
Edelman	Harding	Fentie	
Roberts			
NAY			
Jenkins			1

The Assembly adjourned at 9:25 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Thursday, June 8, 2000.

No. 4

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Thursday, June 8, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TRIBUTES

Yukon Seniors and Elders Week

The Hon. Mr. Roberts, Minister of Health and Social Services, Mr. Harding, Leader of the Official Opposition, and Mr. Jenkins, Leader of the Third Party, paid tribute to Yukon Seniors and Elders.

SPEAKER'S STATEMENT (regarding Tabling Returns and Documents)

"Before calling for Tabling, the Chair notes that the Member for Klondike, when tabling documents yesterday, gave a description of those documents that did not conform with the practices of this House. Members should be aware that they are to inform the House, only in the most straightforward way, about the documents being tabled. They are not to comment on the contents of those documents. If Members wish to debate the subject or content of Tabled Documents, there are other opportunities provided in the proceedings of the House to do so."

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Mr. Eftoda, Minister of Renewable Resources

- State of the Environment Report (Yukon) 1999 (dated May 2000)

(Sessional Paper #5)

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier

- Western Premiers' Conference: report on

Hon. Mr. Eftoda, Minister of Renewable Resources

- Yukon State of the Environment, 1999

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The following Bill was called for Second Reading:

Bill #3 - Second Appropriation Act, 2000-01

-Hon. Ms. Duncan

A debate arising on the motion for Second Reading of Bill #3, entitled *Second Appropriation Act, 2000-01*, and the question being put, it was agreed to on the following recorded Division:

YEA			
Duncan	Edelman	Tucker	
Eftoda	Roberts	McLarnon	8
Jim	Buckway		
NAY			
Harding	McRobb	Jenkins	5
Keenan	Fentie		

The Assembly adjourned at 5:31 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Monday, June 12, 2000.

No. 5

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Monday, June 12, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TRIBUTES

In remembrance of Bessie John

Mr. McRobb, Member for Kluane, paid tribute, on behalf of all Members, to elder Bessie John, who passed away on June 3, 2000. Ms. John produced the *Upper Tanana-Scottie Dialect Glossary* and was well-known for her participation in the Yukon International Storytelling Festival.

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier

- Tombstone Park and mineral interests within park area: letter (dated June 6, 2000) to Hon. Robert Nault, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Canada), from the Hon. Pat Duncan, Premier (Yukon), requesting meeting between officials **(Sessional Paper #6)**

TABLED DOCUMENT

During Question Period, Mr. Harding, Leader of the Official Opposition, tabled the following document:

- Management Board document showing projected unconsolidated financial position of Government of Yukon at April 25, 2000 **(Sessional Paper #7)**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 9:29 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 13, 2000.

No. 6

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
of the
YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TRIBUTES

Yukon Day: Yukon's One Hundred and Second Birthday

Mr. Kent, Member for Riverside, recognized Yukon Day and, on behalf of all Members, paid tribute to the Yukon Territory on the occasion of its one hundred and second birthday.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01

-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5:28 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 14, 2000.

No. 7

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS (Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms)

The Hon. Dennis Schneider, Speaker of the Assembly, introduced to the House, Mr. Bob Munroe, who was seated in the Gallery, and mentioned that Mr. Munroe would be serving the Legislature as the Deputy Sergeant-at-Arms.

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Mr. Schneider, Speaker

- Travel Expenses of Members of the Yukon Legislative Assembly 1999-2000 (dated April 2000) **(Sessional Paper #8)**

Hon. Mrs. Edelman, Minister of Tourism

- Argus Development Project Agreement between Government of Yukon, City of Whitehorse and Argus Properties Ltd. (dated October 30, 1999) **(Filed Document #2)**
- Yukon Visitor Exit Survey - preliminary results (1999) (dated May 2000) **(Sessional Paper #9)**
- Vision for the development of tourism in the Yukon: a consultation report (dated June 2000) **(Sessional Paper #10)**

OPPOSITION PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

MOTIONS OTHER THAN GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

Moved by Mr. Harding, Leader of the Official Opposition:

THAT it is the opinion of this House that:

- (1) Yukon seniors and elders are entitled to a high quality of health care and other social support so that they can continue to live a life of dignity in the society to which they have contributed; and
- (2) the Yukon Liberals have made a number of specific commitments to Yukon seniors and elders which are not reflected in either the main estimates or the supplementary budget tabled in this sitting; and

- (3) these commitments include maintaining stable funding for the Whitehorse General Hospital, expanding the number of nursing care beds for the elderly to ensure there are not waiting lists for our seniors, improving respite services; constructing independent living accommodations for the elderly in those communities where the need exists, ensuring that the existing home program is funded to adequate levels to support seniors in their own homes, and working to ensure that each community is staffed with adequate numbers of doctors and nurse practitioners; and
- (4) the operating surplus of approximately \$60 million the current government inherited from the previous administration is sufficient to support many of these commitments; and

THAT this House urges the Yukon Liberal Government to put adequate funding in its fall supplementary budget to meet these specific commitments to Yukon seniors and elders. **(Motion #23)**

A debate arising on the motion, it was moved by Ms. Tucker, Member for Mount Lorne, in amendment thereto:

THAT Motion #23 be amended by deleting paragraph (4) and by deleting the expression "its fall supplementary budget" and substituting for it the expression "future budgets".

Debate started on the amendment. The time reaching 5:30 p.m. just after the Hon. Mr. Roberts had finished speaking to the amendment, the Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 2(2), recessed the House and debate on the amendment and on Motion #23 was accordingly adjourned.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 9:28 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Thursday, June 15, 2000.

No. 8

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Thursday, June 15, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Mrs. Edelman, Acting Premier

- Yukon Liberal Party (Election 2000) Platform: "it's all about the Future"
(Sessional Paper #11)

Mr. Jenkins, Leader of the Third Party

- Yukon Party (Election 2000) Platform and Commitments: "Now More Than Ever"
(Sessional Paper #12)

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Hon. Ms. Buckway, Minister of Justice

- *Firearms* (gun control) Act (Federal Bill C-68): Supreme Court decision

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Quorum Count

At 4:20 p.m., Mr. Keenan, Member for Ross River-Southern Lakes, rose on a Point of Order to state that there did not appear to be a quorum present. Pursuant to Standing Order 3(4), the Chair of Committee of the Whole rang the bells and then did a count. A quorum was present for the count.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Monday, June 19, 2000.

No. 9

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Monday, June 19, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TRIBUTES

In remembrance of Robina (Nicky) Harrison

The Hon. Mr. Roberts, Minister of Health and Social Services, paid tribute, on behalf of all Members, to Nicky Harrison, who passed away on March 21, 2000. Mrs. Harrison was well-known for her pioneering work in founding the Yukon kindergarten program. Condolences were extended to her husband, Ted Harrison, her son Charles, and Charles' partner, Kate, who were sitting in the Gallery.

In remembrance of Pushinder (Bobby) Brar

Mr. Harding, Member for Faro, paid tribute, on behalf of all Members, to Pushinder (Bobby) Brar, who passed away on June 14, 2000. Mr. Brar, was active with Faro's food bank and was President of Local 1051 of the Steel Workers Union.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

Just as the Speaker called "Ministerial Statements", Mr. Fentie, Official Opposition House Leader, rose on a Point of Order respecting the rules regarding Ministerial Statements.

Speaker's Statement

The Speaker stated that, as the Ministerial Statement had not yet been given, he would allow the Premier to proceed.

Ms. Duncan, Premier, started to deliver her Ministerial Statement.

Mr. Harding, Leader of the Official Opposition, rose on a further Point of Order respecting the rules regarding Ministerial Statement.

Speaker's Ruling

"Speaker Robert Bruce provided the House with a ruling on November 24, 1999, on Ministerial Statements. To assist the House at this time, I'm going to quote a portion of that ruling:

'The ruling covering Ministerial Statements is to be found in Standing Order 11(3), which, in part, states: 'On Ministerial Statements...a Minister may make a short factual statement of government policy.' The Standing Committee on Rules,

Elections and Privileges recommended, in October of 1979, 'That Ministerial Statements be made only on subjects of significance and primarily for the purpose of announcing new government policies.' The House concurred in that recommendation.

A review of the Ministerial Statements made in this and previous legislatures reveals the obvious point that they are not always on government policy. For example, on November 22, 1999, the Government Leader provided the House with information on the timing of devolution. He did not provide a statement of new government policy but he did quite properly and appropriately use a Ministerial Statement to provide the House with important information about the devolution process.

It is not necessary for the Chair to spend the time of the House outlining the variety of legitimate purposes Ministerial Statements have been put to. The point is that they have been used in many ways that have not been objected to and which have expanded their use beyond statements of government policy.

The issue of whether Ministerial Statements have been used primarily for the purpose of announcing something new is not so easily determined. Ministerial Statements of the past can, of course, be found in *Hansard*. A simple review of those statements, however, does not reveal whether they were new or whether they might have been re-announcements of something already known.

An important point about the issue of 'newness', which was identified in the ruling of November 8, 1999, is the difficulty when Points of Order are raised questioning whether a Ministerial Statement contains enough that is new to justify its being given. Such Points of Order can only be raised after the Ministerial Statement has been given. Therefore, if the Chair were to rule a Ministerial Statement out of order after the fact, it would not be possible to let proceedings continue and Opposition Members would be denied a chance to respond.

As Members will be aware from the ruling of November 8, 1999, Yukon legislatures since 1979 have chosen not to develop what Deputy Speaker McRobb described as 'a more definite and helpful description of the purpose of Ministerial Statements.' The Chair, therefore, has given consideration to practices found in this House and in other legislatures across Canada and has found the following to be generally accepted guidelines for Ministerial Statements and for responses to those statements:

- (1) Ministerial Statements are to be used to allow a Minister to provide the Assembly with information of interest and urgency on government policy or administration when no other proceeding offers a suitable opportunity.
- (2) Ministerial Statements and the responses to them should be brief, factual and specific.
- (3) Ministerial Statements and the responses to them should not refer too directly to previous debate in an argumentative manner.
- (4) Ministerial Statements take place when no motion is before the House and the statements and responses to them, therefore, should not contain partisan debate or argument.

- (5) The purpose of ministerial statements, as is set out in Annotation 350 of Beauchesne's *Parliamentary Rules and Forms*, Sixth Edition, is to 'convey information, not to encourage debate.'

In conclusion, the Chair has found, from a review of the general practices in Yukon and other jurisdictions, that the central feature of Ministerial Statements is that they should be brief, factual and specific, and that neither the statements nor the responses to them should contain partisan debate or argument. Secondly, it is clear that this and other Houses have accepted that there are legitimate uses of Ministerial Statements that go beyond the wording of Standing Order 11.

Therefore, the Chair will permit the Premier to continue with this Ministerial Statement."

Ministerial Statement delivered

Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier

- Investment in the Yukon: meetings to promote

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The following Bill was called for Second Reading:

- Bill #21 - An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

A debate arising on the motion for Second Reading and the question being put, it was agreed to on the following recorded Division:

YEA		
Duncan	Buckway	Fairclough
Eftoda	Tucker	Keenan
Jim	McLarnon	McRobb
Edelman	Kent	Fentie
Roberts	Harding	Netro
NAY		
Jenkins		1

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

- Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 9:29 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 20, 2000.

No. 10

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Tuesday, June 20, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF PAGE

The Speaker informed the House that Taryn Hill, a student from Porter Creek Secondary School, would be serving as a Page for the remainder of the summer session. Taryn was introduced and welcomed to the House.

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier

- World Petroleum Congress/National Petroleum Show (Calgary, June 13-15, 2000): Premier Duncan's itinerary **(Filed Document #3)**
- Development in Yukon: newspaper articles related to **(Filed Document #4)**
- Speech given to mining executives in Vancouver, B.C., by Premier Pat Duncan at a "Welcome Back" luncheon (June 15, 2000) **(Sessional Paper #13)**

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS (First Reading)

Bill #4 - Interim Supply Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

MONEY MESSAGE

Bill #4, *Interim Supply Appropriation Act, 2000-01*, was accompanied by a money message.

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The following Bill was called for Second Reading:

Bill #22 - An Act to Amend the Assessment and Taxation Act
-Hon. Ms. Buckway

A debate arising on the motion for Second Reading and the question being put, it was agreed to on the following recorded Division:

YEA		
Duncan	Tucker	Keenan
Eftoda	McLarnon	McRobb
Jim	Kent	Fentie
Edelman	Harding	Netro
Roberts	Fairclough	Jenkins
Buckway		

NAY		
		0

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5:28 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 21, 2000.

No. 11

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Wednesday, June 21, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TRIBUTES

National Aboriginal Day

The Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier, Mr. Keenan, Member for Ross River-Southern Lakes, and Mr. Jenkins, Leader of the Third Party, paid tribute to National Aboriginal Day.

SPEAKER'S STATEMENT (regarding **Tabling Returns and Documents**)

"Before calling for Tabling Returns and Documents, the Chair notes the Premier, when tabling documents yesterday, made a statement about documents which would not be tabled. Members are to restrict themselves to a straightforward description of documents being tabled. If Members wish to explain why certain documents are not being tabled, there are other opportunities in the proceedings of this House to do that."

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier

- Dempster Link Agreement renewal: letter (dated May 30, 2000) to Hon. Ralph Goodale, Minister of Natural Resources (Canada) from Hon. Pat Duncan, Minister of Economic Development, supporting extension of agreement
(Sessional Paper #14)
- Yukon's offshore jurisdiction in the Beaufort Sea: briefing note
(Legislative Return #1)
- Oil and gas land disposition: consultation process with First Nations; land sale disposition process timeframes
(Legislative Return #2)

Mr. Keenan, Member for Ross River-Southern Lakes

- CRTC Regional Hearing regarding the future of telecommunications (June 13, 2000, Whitehorse, Yukon): Yukon Government presentation by the Hon. Mr. Jim, Minister of Government Services
(Filed Document #5)
- CRTC Regional Hearing (June 13, 2000) Whitehorse, Yukon: Official Opposition presentation by Gary McRobb, Member for Kluane
(Filed Document #6)

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The following Bill was read a second time and referred to Committee of the Whole:

Bill #4 - Interim Supply Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

The following Bills were reported without amendment:

Bill #4 - Interim Supply Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

Bill #21 - An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

Bill #22 - An Act to Amend the Assessment and Taxation act
-Hon. Ms. Buckway

GOVERNMENT BILLS

Based on an agreement between the House Leaders, unanimous consent was requested by Ms. Tucker, Government House Leader, and granted to proceed with Third Reading of Bill #4, pursuant to Standing Order 55(2), allowing a Bill to be advanced two or more stages in one day.

The following Bill was read a third time and passed:

Bill #4 - Interim Supply Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The following Bill was called for Third Reading:

Bill #21 - An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The question being put on the motion for Third Reading, it was agreed to on the following recorded Division:

YEA			
Duncan	Buckway	Fairclough	
Eftoda	Tucker	Keenan	15
Jim	McLarnon	McRobb	
Edelman	Kent	Fentie	
Roberts	Harding	Netro	
NAY			
Jenkins			1

The following Bill was called for Third Reading:

Bill #22 - An Act to Amend the Assessment and Taxation act
-Hon. Ms. Buckway

The question being put on the motion for Third Reading, it was agreed to on the following recorded Division:

YEA		
Duncan	Tucker	Keenan
Eftoda	McLarnon	McRobb
Jim	Kent	Fentie
Edelman	Harding	Netro
Roberts	Fairclough	Jenkins
Buckway		

NAY		
		0

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 9:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Thursday, June 22, 2000.

No. 12

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Thursday, June 22, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TRIBUTES

Quilts Under the Midnight Sun

The Hon. Mrs. Edelman, Minister of Tourism, paid tribute, on behalf of all Members, to "Quilts Under the Midnight Sun", a display of quilts throughout Whitehorse. The display was organized by the Kluane Quilters' Guild.

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier

- Canada Jobs Fund: letter (dated June 22, 2000) to Prime Minister Chrétien from Premier Duncan urging the federal Government to initiate discussions with the Yukon Government regarding this matter

(Sessional Paper #15)

Hon. Mr. Jim, Minister of Government Services

- Property Management Agency: 2000/2001 Business Plan

(Sessional Paper #16)

- Fleet Vehicle Agency: 2000/2001 Business Plan

(Sessional Paper #17)

- Queen's Printer Agency: 2000/2001 Business Plan

(Sessional Paper #18)

SPEAKER'S STATEMENT (regarding Notices of Motion)

Prior to calling Notices of Motion, the Speaker made the following statement:

"Before proceeding with Notices of Motion, the Chair notes that yesterday, prior to giving a Notice of Motion, the Leader of the Official Opposition made a comment on a previous Notice of Motion. That is not permitted. Members are to state only that they are giving Notice of Motion and then read the text of the Notice of Motion to the House."

ASSENT TO BILLS

The Assembly received the Commissioner, the Hon. Judy Gingell, in her capacity as Lieutenant-Governor, to give Assent to certain Bills passed by the House.

The Commissioner, having entered the Chamber, took her seat in the Speaker's Chair.

The Speaker, the Hon. Mr. Schneider, addressed the Commissioner:

"Madam Commissioner, the Assembly has, at its present Session, passed certain Bills to which, in the name and on behalf of the Assembly, I respectfully request your Assent."

The Clerk of the Assembly, Patrick L. Michael, then read the titles of the Bills which had been passed severally as follows:

Bill #4 - Interim Supply Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

Bill #21 - An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

Bill #22 - An Act to Amend the Assessment and Taxation act
-Hon. Ms. Buckway

The Commissioner assented the Bills:

"I give Assent to the Bills as enumerated by the Clerk."

The Commissioner then retired from the Chamber.

GOVERNMENT MOTIONS

Moved by the Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier:

THAT it is the recommendation of this Assembly that the honourable Members Pat Duncan, Sue Edelman, and Pam Buckway be appointed to the Advisory Committee on Finance and that the honourable Members Dale Eftoda, Wayne Jim and Don Roberts be appointed as alternate members of the same committee. **(Motion #18)**

The question being put on the motion, it was agreed to.

Moved by the Hon. Mrs. Edelman, Minister of Tourism:

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

THAT Hon. Pat Duncan, Trevor Harding, Peter Jenkins and Cynthia Tucker 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,
 - (e) seating in the Assembly, and
 - (f) 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, 1991*. **(Motion #19)**

The question being put on the motion, it was agreed to.

Moved by the Hon. Mrs. Edelman, Minister of Tourism:

THAT the honourable Members Trevor Harding, Eric Fairclough, Peter Jenkins, Scott Kent, Mike McLarnon, and Cynthia Tucker be appointed to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts;

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. **(Motion #20)**

The question being put on the motion, it was agreed to.

Moved by the Hon. Mrs. Edelman, Minister of Tourism:

THAT the honourable Members Mike McLarnon, Trevor Harding, Peter Jenkins and Cynthia Tucker 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. **(Motion #21)**

The question being put on the motion, it was agreed to.

Moved by the Hon. Mrs. Edelman, Minister of Tourism:

THAT the honourable Members Scott Kent, Hon. Sue Edelman, Dennis Fentie, Peter Jenkins, Mike McLarnon, Gary McRobb, and Cynthia Tucker 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. **(Motion #22)**

The question being put on the motion, it was agreed to.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5:28 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Monday, June 26, 2000.

No. 13

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Monday, June 26, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier

- Minto Explorations, Finlayson Lake area and anticipated mineral exploration: information pertaining to **(Legislative Return #3)**

MOTION OF URGENT AND PRESSING NECESSITY (Standing Order 28)

Pursuant to Standing Order 28, Mr. Jenkins, Leader of the Third Party, requested unanimous consent to move the following motion:

THAT it is the opinion of this House that the forestry industry in southeast Yukon has reached a crisis stage because lumber mill operators in that region have been unable to obtain secure long-term access to timber and one of the major mill operations in Watson Lake is scheduled to close on Friday, June 30, 2000 with the subsequent loss of many much-needed jobs in that community; and

THAT this House urges the Government of Yukon to immediately contact the Government of Canada to ensure lumber mill operators in Watson Lake are able to obtain long-term access to timber through Timber Harvesting Agreements by Friday, June 30, 2000 in order to preserve jobs in the forestry industry in Watson Lake.

The Speaker informed Members of the provisions of Standing Order 28 and asked if the Leader of the Third Party had the unanimous consent of the House to proceed. Unanimous consent was denied and this matter was not proceeded with.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01

-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.



The Assembly adjourned at 9:28 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 27, 2000.

No. 14

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Tuesday, June 27, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Mr. Schneider, Speaker

- Conflict of Interest Commission Annual Report July 1999 – June 2000 (dated June 22, 2000) **(Sessional Paper #19)**

Ms. Netro, Member for Vuntut Gwitchin

- Community and Transportation Services technical budget briefing note prepared for Opposition caucuses (June 12, 2000) **(Filed Document #7)**

FILED DOCUMENT

During Question Period, Mr. Fentie, Member for Watson Lake, filed the following document:

- Forest industry: letter dated May 12, 2000 to Hon. Pat Duncan, Minister of Economic Development, from Dennis Fentie, MLA for Watson Lake **(Filed Document #8)**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

At 3:10 p.m., the Committee recessed until 3:50 p.m. so that a decision could be reached as to the business before Committee.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5:29 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 28, 2000.

No. 16

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Thursday, June 29, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TRIBUTES

Canada Day

The Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier, recognized Canada's one hundred and thirty-third birthday to be celebrated on Saturday, July 1, 2000.

Erika Popyk and YTG cafeteria staff

The Hon. Mrs. Edelman, Minister of Tourism, recognized Erika Popyk, Lynda Ellerton and the staff of the YTG cafeteria. Mrs. Popyk had provided over twenty-three years of service.

SPEAKER'S RULING (re Ministerial Statements)

Prior to calling Ministerial Statements, the Speaker gave the following ruling:

"Before calling Ministerial Statements today the Chair will provide a ruling on the Point of Order raised by the Official Opposition House Leader on June 28, 2000.

The Official Opposition House Leader raised the Point of Order while the Minister of Health and Social Services was replying to the comments made by opposition members to his Ministerial Statement on the process for reviewing alcohol and drug services.

The Official Opposition House Leader stated that the Minister was not addressing the subject matter of the Ministerial Statement. The Member for Whitehorse Centre, on the Point of Order, stated that he felt the Minister was making a "general rebuttal" to comments that were made by Opposition Members.

In reviewing the matter, the Chair has returned to a ruling given by Speaker Bruce on November 24, 1999 and which was extensively quoted in a ruling given by this Chair on June 19, 2000. Members will recall that Speaker Bruce gave consideration to the practices of the Yukon Legislative Assembly and of other

Canadian Legislatures and outlined five guidelines to be applied to Ministerial Statements.

One of those guidelines was that Ministerial Statements and the responses to them should be brief, factual and specific. The Chair notes the direction that the statements and responses should be specific meaning that the Member speaking should adhere to the subject matter of the statement.

The Chair has reviewed the comments made by the Minister of Health and Social Services and found that the Minister was speaking to diverse issues including mining incentives, oil and gas development, pipelines, student grants, youth leadership, tourism, an 'older worker' pilot project and a government web site. These cannot be viewed as being specific to the subject matter of the Ministerial Statement which was on the process of reviewing alcohol and drug services.

The Chair took note of the comment by the Member for Whitehorse Centre that the Minister was rebutting remarks made by other Members. A review of the remarks of the Opposition Members reveals that the subjects outside the Ministerial Statement raised by the Minister were not mentioned.

The Chair, therefore, finds that the Point of Order was well-founded and that the Minister of Health and Social Services had made remarks that were not specific to the subject matter of the Ministerial Statement on the review of alcohol and drug services.

In the future, the Chair will place greater emphasis on enforcing the guidelines found by Speaker Bruce to be applicable to this House. In particular, the Chair will be watchful to ensure that statements and responses are specific to the subject matter at hand and that they do not contain partisan debate or argument.

I thank Members for their attention."

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

The following motion was passed by Committee of the Whole at 4:55 p.m.:

THAT Committee of the Whole and the Assembly be empowered to sit from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. for the purpose of continuing consideration of Bill #2, entitled *First Appropriation Act, 2000-01*.

Appeal to Chair's Ruling

At 5:25 p.m., Mr. Jenkins, Leader of the Third Party, rose on a Point of Order and stated that there was a procedural error in the way the motion to sit beyond the normal hour of adjournment was proceeded with. On the same Point of Order, Mr. Harding, Leader of the Official Opposition, concurred with the Leader of the Third Party. The Chair stated that the motion had been proceeded with according to the practices of the House. Mr. Jenkins, Leader of the Third Party, said he wished to appeal the ruling to the Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 42(4). The Chair heard several further Points of Order before calling in the Speaker.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The Chair of Committee of the Whole reported as follows:

“Mr. Speaker, the question is an appeal to the Speaker of a decision of the Chair of Committee of the Whole, under the provisions of Standing Order 42(4), as follows:

During consideration of Bill #2, entitled *First Appropriation Act, 2000-01*, the Government House Leader, at 4:55 p.m., moved a motion, pursuant to Standing Order 2(7), that the Committee and the Assembly be empowered to sit from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. tonight.

The Chair asked the Committee ‘Are you agreed?’ No Member stood up to debate the motion and it was agreed to.

At approximately 5:25 p.m., the Leader of the Third Party raised a Point of Order about the manner in which the motion to sit beyond the normal hour of adjournment was proceeded with. The Point of Order, as stated by the Leader of the Third Party and others, was that the Chair had not read the motion back to the House. The Chair stated that it was the understanding of the Chair that the practice in Committee was that such motions were not necessarily read back in full.

The Leader of the Official Opposition then asked, pursuant to Standing Order 42(4), that the Chair’s decision be appealed to the Speaker.”

Thereupon, the Speaker asked if any Members wished to offer any further comments. Having heard further comments, the Speaker recessed the House at 6:25 p.m. to prepare a ruling.

Speaker’s Ruling (re Appeal to Chair’s Ruling)

At 7:47 p.m., the Speaker resumed the Chair and ruled as follows:

“Order please. The Chair has given consideration to the appeal to the ruling of the Chair of the Committee of the Whole respecting sitting beyond the normal hour of adjournment this day.

The relevant events which led to the appeal are as follows:

1. At approximately 4:55 p.m., the Government House Leader moved a motion, pursuant to Standing Order 2(7), that the Committee of the Whole and the Assembly be empowered to sit from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. for the purpose of continuing consideration of Bill #2, *First Appropriation Act, 2000-01*.
2. The Blues do not indicate that any member rose to speak to the motion and the Chair put the question to the Committee by stating ‘Are you agreed?’; the Blues further indicate that the motion was carried by those who said ‘Agreed.’ and that no recorded division was called for.
3. Later on, at approximately 5:25 p.m., the Leader of the Third Party raised a Point of Order about the fact that the motion to sit beyond the normal hour of adjournment had not been repeated by the Chair.

4. The Chair stated that the Chair had followed the normal practice followed in the Committee of the Whole and that there was not a Point of Order.
5. The Leader of the Third Party then appealed the ruling of the Chair to the Speaker.

The Speaker appreciates the advice offered on this question by the Leader of the Official Opposition, the Leader of the Third Party and the Premier.

The Leader of the Official Opposition stated that motions to sit beyond the normal hour of adjournment were always read back to the House when they were being proposed without agreement having been reached between the House Leaders.

It has not been possible in such a short time to be sure that every precedent has been found but the Chair has reviewed a substantial number of motions to sit beyond the normal hour of adjournment, including all of those cited by Members, in speaking to the matter. From that review, the Chair has found:

1. When the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker are in the Chair, a motion to sit beyond the normal hour of adjournment has been repeated by the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker to the House. That occurred on December 15, 1997 and April 30, 1998 which were the two precedents cited by the Leader of the Official Opposition.
2. When the House has been in Committee of the Whole the practice has not been for the Chair of Committee to repeat a motion to sit beyond the normal hour of adjournment. Precedents of that, for Members who may wish to review them, may be found on May 2, 1995; December 18, 1996; May 13, 1997; May 5, 1998 and April 26, 1999.

The Chair, therefore, finds that the Chair of Committee of the Whole followed past practice in today's procedure.

The Chair, in reflecting on past practice and on today's events, would conclude that the Committee of the Whole has, in past Houses and continued on to this one, followed practices which do not meet the letter of the law in respect to our Standing Orders. It is clear that the civility and trust that led to the adoption of those practices is no longer always in evidence and that the Chair of the Committee of the Whole is now going to have to adopt a much stricter approach to following the rules and the established procedures, as opposed to past practice.

The difficulty, in making a finding on today's events, is that it is clear that the Chair did follow established past practice and that the Speaker will not overturn that decision.

However, the Speaker, by this ruling has to make clear to Committee that it has become obvious that the rules must now be followed much more strictly in Committee. The Speaker would recommend that the Chair review many of the practices of the Committee to determine whether they are in strict accordance with the Standing Orders and to take such action as is necessary to ensure compliance. The Chair and Committee should be aware that, in the future, rulings on appeals will be focused on the Standing Orders. The practices of the

Committee which fall beyond the bounds of those rules will have no influence on Speaker's rulings.

Again, to repeat, the Speaker does not find that the Chair went outside the established practice in the Committee of the Whole and will not overturn the decision of the Chair.

The Speaker will now leave the Chair and the House will revert to Committee of the Whole.”

The Assembly, according to Order, again resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 10:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 4, 2000.

No. 17

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Tuesday, July 4, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TRIBUTES

Canada Day

Mr. Fentie, Member for Watson Lake, and Mr. Jenkins, Leader of the Third Party, recognized Canada Day. Canada's one hundred and thirty-third birthday was celebrated on Saturday, July 1, 2000.

PETITIONS

Mr. Jenkins, Leader of the Third Party, presented the following petition:

- Bear Creek residents: please consult regarding an open-custody group home
(Petition #1)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5:29 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 5, 2000.

No. 18

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Wednesday, July 5, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

PETITIONS

The Clerk reported on Petition #1 as follows:

“Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members of the Assembly:

I have had the honour to review a petition, being Petition #1 of the First Session of the 30th Legislative Assembly, as presented by the Leader of the Third Party on July 4, 2000.

This petition meets the requirements as to form of the Standing Orders of the Yukon Legislative Assembly.”

Patrick L. Michael
Clerk of the Yukon
Legislative Assembly

The Speaker ruled that, accordingly, Petition #1 was deemed to be read and received.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01

-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 9:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Thursday, July 6, 2000.

No. 19

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Thursday, July 6, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TRIBUTES

In remembrance of Chris Guichon

The Hon. Ms. Duncan, paid tribute, on behalf of all Members, to Chris Guichon, a helicopter pilot, who died in a helicopter crash near Atlin, B.C., on June 22, 2000. Condolences were extended to his wife, Nancy, and the Guichon family.

Vuntut Gwitchin new administration building dedicated to Sarah Abel-Chitze.

Ms. Netro, on behalf of all Members, noted that the new Vuntut Gwitchin administration building in Old Crow was being dedicated to Sarah Abel-Chitze.

PETITIONS (Response to Petition #1)

The Hon. Mr. Roberts, Minister of Health and Social Services, gave an oral response to Petition #1 (received by the House on July 5, 2000) with regard to consultation regarding an open-custody group home in Bear Creek.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE (regarding a motion of which notice had been given by the Member for Whitehorse Centre)

Mr. Harding, Leader of the Official Opposition, rose on a Question of Privilege relating to a motion of which notice had been given by Mr. McLarnon, Member for Whitehorse Centre, on Wednesday, July 5, 2000.

The Speaker, after receiving comments from Mr. McLarnon, Member for Whitehorse Centre, took the Question of Privilege under advisement.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01

-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Monday, July 10, 2000.

No. 20

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Monday, July 10, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF PAGE

The Speaker informed the Assembly that Jason Small, a reporter for a local newspaper, would be serving as a Page for the afternoon. Jason was introduced and welcomed to the House.

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Mr. Roberts, Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board

- Workers' Compensation Health and Safety Board (Yukon) 1999 Annual Report
(Sessional Paper #20)

SPEAKER'S RULING (re Question of Privilege)

"Before proceeding to Orders of the Day, the Chair will provide a ruling on the Question of Privilege raised on July 6, 2000 by the Leader of the Official Opposition.

The Leader of the Official Opposition met the notice requirement found in Standing Order 7(1)(b) by submitting a written notice to the Office of the Speaker at 11:22 a.m. on July 6.

Standing Order 7(4) states that the Speaker must rule on (a) whether there appears, on the face of it, to be a case of breach of privilege, and (b) whether the matter has been raised at the earliest opportunity.

The normal practice of this House has been that, to meet the 'earliest opportunity' requirement, a Question of Privilege must be raised at the time the event occurred or on the next sitting day. In this matter, the event took place on Wednesday, July 5, 2000, and was raised as a Question of Privilege on the following sitting day. There are many precedents of this House where Members have raised Questions of Privilege on the next sitting day after the event being questioned has taken place. This allows Members time to review Hansard to give careful consideration to the matter before deciding whether they will raise it in the House. Also, the House indicated its intent that a matter could be raised

on a following sitting day when it adopted Standing Order 7(1)(b) and its requirement for written notice.

The question for the Chair to decide on, then, is whether the Leader of the Official Opposition has raised a question which, on the face of it, is a possible breach of privilege.

The foundation of the Question of Privilege raised by the Leader of the Official Opposition was that the Member for Whitehorse Centre, who is the Deputy Speaker and the Chair of the Committee of the Whole, had given notice of a motion that was critical of Opposition Members for their behaviour in this House. The Leader of the Official Opposition stated:

'[I]n bringing forward a partisan motion on Members' decorum, the Deputy Speaker is engaging in highly inappropriate behaviour. I submit that his action in tabling a motion of this type violates the trust placed in him as Deputy Speaker and Chair of Committee of the Whole, and thereby breaches the privilege of all Members of this Assembly.'

In researching the parliamentary authorities, the clearest statement on this matter is found on pages 300 and 301 of *House of Commons Procedure and Practice*:

'[T]here has been controversy from time to time over the extent to which the Chair occupants (other than the Speaker) should remain aloof from partisan politics.

'In 1931, when a question arose as to the propriety of the Deputy Speaker speaking in debate, it was generally felt that the actions of the Deputy Speaker must be governed by 'good taste and judgement'. Since then, and in the absence of any rule or guideline governing the political activities of Presiding Officers of the House or limiting their participation in debate or voting, the degree of participation has been an individual decision. In 1993, Deputy Speaker Champagne agreed to act as the co-Chair of her party's leadership convention. A Question of Privilege was raised in the House by a Member who argued that this decision affected the appearance of impartiality attached to the office of Deputy Speaker and that she was therefore guilty of a contempt of the House. Speaker Fraser ruled that, given the existing practice and the absence of clear direction from the House, Deputy Speakers have used varying degrees of discretion in terms of their party involvement. He clarified that they remain Members of their political parties and, unlike the Speaker, may attend caucus meetings, participate in debate and vote. The Speaker ruled that the Deputy Speaker is not 'cloaked with the same exigencies that are expected of the Speaker' and that the matter did not constitute a *prima facie* case of privilege.'

Further review of other authorities such as *Beauchesne* does not reveal a basis for finding that this matter constitutes a *prima facie* breach of privilege.

If a matter such as this is not found to be a Question of Privilege, the question arises as to what action is available to Members. The Leader of the Official Opposition suggested that this matter could be remedied by the Member for Whitehorse Centre withdrawing the motion, that the motion be stricken from the record and that the Premier appoint another Member as Deputy Speaker and Chair of the Committee of the Whole. The difficulties with those suggestions are that a Member cannot withdraw a motion without the unanimous consent of the

House, that this House has no history of striking anything from its records, and that the House, not the Premier or any other individual, appoints its Presiding Officers.

However, there are precedents which suggest the approach to be taken when Members wish to challenge a Presiding Officer. That approach is to bring forward a substantive motion which would have the effect of reversing a decision of a Presiding Officer or, if the concern is sufficient, which expresses a lack of confidence in the Presiding Officer named in the motion.

In this vein, the Chair would draw the House's attention to a ruling made by Speaker Bruce on March 10, 1999 when a Question of Privilege was raised that concerned the Chair of the Committee of the Whole of the 29th Legislature. In that ruling, Speaker Bruce said:

'On a final point, it should be understood that the Speaker's ruling in matters such as these is whether, on the face of it, there is a Question of Privilege. If the Speaker decides there is not, on the face of it, a Question of Privilege, the result is that a motion to deal with the matter will not be given priority of debate.

'However, the House itself may decide, through a substantive motion moved in the normal way, that something is a matter of privilege. That is the House's choice.

'Also, a decision by the Speaker that a matter is not, on the face of it, a Question of Privilege does not stop Members from bringing forward motions of censure against each other if that is their desire. Members themselves must make decisions about whether such motions are necessary to assist in furthering the interests of the House, including its order and decorum.'

This concludes the ruling. The House will now proceed to Orders of the Day."

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01

-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 9:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 11, 2000.

No. 21

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Tuesday, July 11, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier

- Beaufort Sea: information pertaining to offshore management and jurisdictional matters **(Legislative Return #4)**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5:29 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 12, 2000.

No. 22

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Wednesday, July 12, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TRIBUTES

Eightieth Birthday Greetings to Pierre Berton

The Hon. Ms. Buckway, Minister of Community and Transportation Services, paid tribute, on behalf of all Members, to Pierre Berton, author and former resident of Yukon, on his eightieth birthday.

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier

- Public Communications Services Branch: project list for 1998-99 fiscal year
(Legislative Return #5)
- Transition: Public Policy Forum contract cost and consultant's qualifications
(Legislative Return #6)
- Crown in right of Yukon: legal costs pertaining to
(Legislative Return #7)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

Progress was reported on the following Bill:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Chair was adopted.

The Assembly adjourned at 9:29 p.m. until 1:30 p.m., Thursday, July 13, 2000.

No. 23

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

of the

YUKON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

30th Legislative Assembly

First Session

Thursday, July 13, 2000

The Speaker took the Chair at 1:30 p.m.

TABLING RETURNS AND DOCUMENTS

Hon. Ms. Duncan, Premier

- Land claim and implementation recoverable funding: list of projects by department **(Legislative Return #8)**
- Oil and gas exploration in north Yukon: status of arrangements with Anderson Exploration **(Legislative Return #9)**
- Offshore jurisdictional matters: initiatives pursued **(Legislative Return #10)**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

According to Order, the Assembly resolved into Committee of the Whole.

The following Bills were reported without amendment:

Bill #3 - Second Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The report of the Deputy Chair was adopted.

GOVERNMENT BILLS

The following Bill was called for Third Reading:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The question being put on the motion for Third Reading of Bill #2, entitled *First Appropriation Act, 2000-01*, it was agreed to on the following recorded Division:

YEA

Duncan	Buckway	Keenan	
Eftoda	Tucker	McRobb	
Jim	Kent	Fentie	13
Edelman	Fairclough	Netro	
Roberts			

NAY

Jenkins			1
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The following Bill was called for Third Reading:

Bill #3 - Second Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The question being put on the motion for Third Reading of Bill #3 entitled *Second Appropriation Act, 2000-01*, it was agreed to on the following recorded Division:

YEA

Duncan	Edelman	Tucker	
Eftoda	Roberts	Kent	8
Jim	Buckway		

NAY

Fairclough	McRobb	Netro	6
Keenan	Fentie	Jenkins	

ASSENT TO BILLS

The Assembly received the Commissioner, the Hon. Judy Gingell, in her capacity as Lieutenant-Governor, to give Assent to certain Bills passed by the House.

The Commissioner, having entered the Chamber, took her seat in the Speaker's chair.

The Speaker, the Hon. Mr. Schneider, addressed the Commissioner:

"Madam Commissioner, the Assembly has, at its present Session, passed certain Bills to which, in the name and on behalf of the Assembly, I respectfully request your Assent."

The Clerk of the Assembly, Patrick L. Michael, then read the titles of the Bills which had been passed severally as follows:

Bill #2 - First Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

Bill #3 - Second Appropriation Act, 2000-01
-Hon. Ms. Duncan

The Commissioner assented the Bills:

"I hereby give assent to the Bills as enumerated by the Clerk."

The Commissioner then retired from the Chamber.

SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT MOTION

It was moved by Ms. Tucker, Government House Leader:

THAT the House, at its rising, do stand adjourned until it appears to the satisfaction of the Speaker, after consultation with the Premier, that the public interest requires that the House shall meet;

THAT the Speaker give notice that he is so satisfied, and thereupon the House shall meet at a time stated in such notice and shall transact its business as if it had been duly adjourned to that time; and

THAT, if the Speaker is unable to act owing to illness or other causes, the Deputy Speaker shall act in his stead for the purpose of this Order.

The question being put on the special adjournment motion, it was agreed to.

The Assembly adjourned at 4:05 p.m.