



# The Yukon Legislative Assembly

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Number 1

1st Session

26th Legislature

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## **HANSARD**

**Monday, July 15, 1985 — 3:00 p.m.**

Speaker: The Honourable Sam Johnston

# Yukon Legislative Assembly

SPEAKER — Honourable Sam Johnston, MLA, Campbell

DEPUTY SPEAKER — Art Webster, MLA, Klondike

## CABINET MINISTERS

NAME	CONSTITUENCY	PORTFOLIO
Hon. Tony Penikett	Whitehorse West	Government Leader. Minister responsible for: Executive Council Office; Finance; Economic Development, Mines and Small Business; Public Service Commission
Hon. Dave Porter	Watson Lake	Government House Leader. Minister responsible for: Tourism; Renewable Resources.
Hon. Roger Kimmerly	Whitehorse South Centre	Minister responsible for: Justice; Government Services.
Hon. Piers McDonald	Mayo	Minister responsible for: Education; Community and Transportation Services.
Hon. Margaret Joe	Whitehorse North Centre	Minister responsible for: Health and Human Resources; Women's Bureau.

## GOVERNMENT PRIVATE MEMBERS

### New Democratic Party

Sam Johnston	Campbell
Norma Kassi	Old Crow
Art Webster	Klondike

## OPPOSITION MEMBERS

### Progressive Conservative

Williard Phelps	Leader of the Official Opposition Hootalinqua/Kluane
Bill Brewster	Whitehorse Riverdale South
Bea Firth	Whitehorse Porter Creek East
Dan Lang	Whitehorse Porter Creek West
Andy Phillipsen	Whitehorse Riverdale North
Doug Phillips	

### Liberal

Roger Coles	Liberal Leader Tatchun
James McLachlan	Faro

## LEGISLATIVE STAFF

Clerk of the Assembly	Patrick L. Michael
Clerk Assistant (Legislative)	Missy Follwell
Clerk Assistant (Administrative)	Jane Steele
Sergeant-at-Arms	G.I. Cameron
Hansard Administrator	Dave Robertson

**01 Whitehorse, Yukon****Monday, July 15, 1985 — 3:00 p.m.****THE FIRST SESSION OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF YUKON CONVENED IN THE ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS AT 3:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, JULY 15, 1985****Proclamation**

**Mr. Clerk:** "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 Chambers, Territorial Administration Building, Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, on Monday, the fifteenth day of July A.D., 1985 at the hour of three o'clock in the afternoon.

All of which all persons concerned are required to take notice and govern themselves accordingly.

Given under my hand and seal of the said Territory, at Whitehorse, this 4th day of July A.D., 1985.

Doug Bell

Commissioner of Yukon"

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 13th day of May, 1985. These returns show that the following members were duly elected: Old Crow — Norma Kassi; Klondike — Art Webster; Mayo — Piers McDonald; Tatchun — Roger Coles; Faro — James R. McLachlan; Kluane — Bill Brewster; Whitehorse Porter Creek West — Andy Philipsen; Whitehorse Porter Creek East — Dan Lang; Whitehorse North Centre — Margaret Joe; Whitehorse South Centre — Roger Kimmerly; Whitehorse West — Tony Penikett; Whitehorse Riverdale North — Doug Phillips; Whitehorse Riverdale South — Bea Firth; Hootalinqua — Willard Phelps; Campbell — Sam Johnston; Watson Lake — David P. Porter. Signed by Patrick L. Michael, Clerk of the Yukon Legislative Assembly.

**Commissioner Doug Bell enters the Chambers accompanied by his Aides-de-Camp**

**02 Mr. Clerk:** I am commanded by the Commissioner, in his capacity as Lieutenant-Governor, to state that he 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 he will declare the causes of the calling of this Assembly.

**Commissioner Bell withdraws from the Chambers**

**Mr. Clerk:** Would you care to proceed at this time with the election of the Speaker?

**Motion No. 1**

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** I move, seconded by the leader of the official opposition and the hon. member for Tatchun; That Sam Johnston, member for Campbell, take the Chair of this Assembly as Speaker.

**Mr. Clerk:** It has been moved by the government leader, seconded by the leader of the official opposition and the hon. member for Tatchun; That Sam Johnston, member for Campbell, do take the Chair of this Assembly as Speaker. Those in favor of the motion, please say aye.

Those of the contrary opinion, please say no.

*Motion agreed to*

**Mr. Clerk:** I think the ayes have it, and by direction of the Assembly, declare that Sam Johnston is duly elected as Speaker of this Assembly.

**03 Speaker:** I beg to express my grateful thanks and humble acknowledgement of the high honour the Assembly has been pleased to confer on me.

**Mr. Clerk:** will you please advise the Commissioner, in his capacity as Lieutenant-Governor, that the Assembly is now prepared to hear the Speech from the Throne.

**04 Speaker:** We will now receive the Speech from the Throne.

**Commissioner Bell enters the Chambers accompanied by his Aides-de-Camp**

**Speaker:** Sir, the Legislative Assembly has elected me as their Speaker, although I am but little able to fulfill the important duties thus assigned me. If, in the performance of these duties, I should at any time fall in error, I pray the fault may be imputed to me and not to the Assembly, whose servant I am and who, through me, the better to enable them to discharge their duty to their Queen and country, hereby claim all their undoubted rights and privileges, especially that they may have freedom of speech in their debates, access to your person at all reasonable times and that their proceedings may receive from you the most favourable construction.

**Commissioner Bell:** Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to declare to you that I freely confide in the duty and attachment of the Assembly, and not doubting that the Assembly's proceedings will be conducted with wisdom, temper and prudence, I grant, and upon all occasions will recognize and allow the Assembly's constitutional privileges. I assure you that the Assembly shall have ready access to me upon all reasonable occasions and that the Assembly's proceedings, words and actions will constantly receive from me the most favourable construction.

Please be seated.

**05 SPEECH FROM THE THRONE**

**Commissioner Bell:** Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly, I welcome you in the name of our most gracious sovereign, Queen Elizabeth II, to the opening of the first session of the twenty-sixth Legislative Assembly.

On May 13th Yukoners went to the polls to bestow upon you the privilege of representing them in this territorial Legislature.

I speak of your sitting here in terms of a "privilege", yet at the same time I would like to thank all of you on behalf of the residents of the Yukon for dedicating your time and energy to public office.

To those who are sitting here for the first time, I extend a special welcome. You will enjoy success in meeting the mandate before you. Your experienced colleagues will testify to the demands of the task before you, but I am sure they will speak in glowing terms of the satisfaction that comes from meeting the challenges of public office.

My government will be reviewing the present administration to determine how we can most effectively respond to the needs of Yukoners for greater employment opportunities. We will work for the increased participation of Yukoners in their own economy and job creation in local communities.

In the months ahead we will conduct a thorough budget assessment and review of the operation and maintenance and capital costs of this government. We will prepare an annual budget for the latter half of the 1985-86 fiscal year for presentation in the fall sitting of the Legislature. In this session, we will present a Throne Speech addressing the full economic and social programs we will embark upon.

In the interim, we have called this brief session of the Legislature to formalize government financial spending. We will ask members of the Legislature to approve a 1985-86 Operations and Maintenance Interim Supply bill. This bill is necessary to ratify the expenditure of public funds for the period April 1st to October 31st, 1985.

For purposes of increasing the total appropriation amount, a Fifth

Appropriation Act for the 1984-85 fiscal year requires amendment.

The members will be asked to approve two additional bills. The first, *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act*, makes drinking liquor while driving a car illegal and also provides means for severely intoxicated persons to be taken into custody until sober. Furthermore, the *Municipal Act* will be amended to increase the term of office of members of a municipal council to three years.

The legislative agenda for this sitting of the House is designed to accommodate pressing matters. A comprehensive agenda will be brought forward in the fall for approval by this Assembly.

May the members of this Assembly serve in mind of the diverse needs of all those whom they represent, and may divine providence attend them in their deliberations.

I thank you in our Sovereign's name,  
God bless Canada.

**Speaker:** I will now call the House to order.

#### Prayers

**Speaker:** Oh Great Spirit, creator and leader of all people. We are thankful to be gathered here today.

Oh Great Spirit, I ask that you touch and bless each and every one in this House.

Grant that we the elected members will make only strong, fair and sound decisions on behalf of the peoples we represent throughout Yukon.

#### Introduction of Pages

**Speaker:** It gives me great pleasure to introduce to the House the pages who will be serving during this session. They are Paula Loewen and Kim Kapty and I would invite them to join us at this time.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

##### Bill No. 1: First reading

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** Mr. Speaker, I move that a bill entitled *An Act To Perpetuate A Certain Ancient Right* be now introduced and read a first time.

**Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. government leader that a bill entitled *An Act to Perpetuate a Certain Ancient Right* be now introduced and read a first time.

*Motion agreed to*

#### TABLING SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

**Speaker:** I would like to inform the Assembly at this time that in order to prevent mistakes I have obtained a copy of the Speech from the Throne which I would now lay on the table.

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** Mr. Speaker, I move that the Speech from the Throne be considered on a day following.

**Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. government leader that the Speech from the Throne be considered on a day following.

*Motion agreed to*

#### MOTIONS

##### Motion No. 2

**Speaker:** I would now ask whether the House is prepared to elect a deputy speaker.

**Hon. Mr. Porter:** Mr. Speaker, I move that Art Webster, member for Klondike, be appointed Deputy Speaker and Chairman of the Committee of the Whole.

**Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. government house leader that Art Webster, member for Klondike, be appointed Deputy Speaker and Chairman of the Committee of the Whole. Any discussion?

*Motion agreed to*

##### Motion No. 3

**Speaker:** I would now ask whether the House is prepared to elect a Deputy Chairman of Committee of the Whole?

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** Mr. Speaker, I move that James R.

McLachlan, member for Faro, be appointed Deputy Chairman of Committee of the Whole.

**Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. Minister of Education that James R. McLachlan, member for Faro, be appointed Deputy Chairman of Committee of the Whole. Any discussion?

*Motion agreed to*

**Speaker:** What is your further pleasure?

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

##### Bill No. 4: First reading

**Mr. Kimmerly:** Mr. Speaker, I move that a bill entitled *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act* be now introduced and read a first time.

**Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. Minister of Justice that a bill entitled *An Act to Amend the Liquor Act* be now introduced and read a first time.

*Motion agreed to*

##### Bill No. 5: First Reading

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** Mr. Speaker, I move that a bill entitled *An Act to Amend the Municipal Act* be now introduced and read a first time.

**Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. Minister of Community and Transportation Services that a bill entitled *An Act to Amend the Municipal Act* be now introduced and read a first time.

*Motion agreed to*

##### Bill No. 2: First Reading

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** Mr. Speaker, I move that a bill entitled *Fifth Appropriation Act, 1984-85* be now introduced and read a first time.

**Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. government leader that a bill entitled *Fifth Appropriation Act, 1984-85* be now introduced and read the first time.

*Motion agreed to*

##### Bill No. 3: First Reading

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** I move that a bill entitled *Interim Supply Appropriation Act, 1985-86* be now introduced and read a first time.

**Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. government leader that a bill entitled *Interim Supply Appropriation Act, 1985-86* be now introduced and read a first time.

*Motion agreed to*

**Speaker:** What is your further pleasure?

#### NOTICES OF MOTION

**Hon. Mr. Porter:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice of three motions. The first is with regard to amendments to the standing orders. The second is with regard to Members Services Board, and the third is with regard to the Standing Committee on the Statutory Instruments.

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice of three motions. The first is with regard to the Advisory Committee on Finance. The second is with regard to the Standing Committee on Rules, Elections and Privileges, and the third is with regard to the Standing Committee on Public Accounts.

**Hon. Mr. McDonald:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice of a motion with regard to the Northern Canada Power Commission.

**Mr. Phelps:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice of six motions. The first is with regard to the salary of executive assistants. The second is with regard to the government's breach of the Yukon Native Courtworker agreement. The third is with regard to local hire of executive assistants. The fourth is with regard to certain inconsistencies on the part of the government leader. The fifth is with regard to the trapping industry, and the sixth is with regard to reinstating mileposts.

**Mr. Coles:** I would like to give notice of a motion with regard

to residency requirements.

**Mr. McLachlan:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice of a motion with regard to Yukon Government casual employees.

**Mr. Phillipsen:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice of motion with regards to the residency criteria regarding territorial elections.

**Mr. Brewster:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice of two motions. The first is that the House urges the government to introduce legislation covering agriculture inspections. The second is that the government consider giving full branch status to the agriculture sector of the Department of Renewable Resources.

**Mr. Phillips:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice of motion with regard to northern Yukon so proposals can proceed and provide jobs for Yukoners.

**Mr. Lang:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to give notice of motion for the program industry government cooperative marketing program, *vis-a-vis* the tourism industry.

## GOVERNMENT BILLS

### Bill No. 3: Second Reading

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** Mr. Speaker, I would like to move that Bill No. 3 entitled *Interim Supply Appropriation Act, 1985-86* be now read a second time.

**Speaker:** It has been moved by the hon. government leader that Bill No. 3, entitled *Interim Supply Appropriation Act, 1985-86*, be now read a second time.

**Hon. Mr. Penikett:** Mr. Speaker and hon. members, I am pleased to introduce the *Interim Supply Appropriation Act, 1985-86*; however, before I speak to the act itself, I would like to spend a few moments discussing the general economic situation that currently faces Yukon.

The past year has seen small and often negative growth in many areas of our economy. The variable indicators suggest that while the severe economic decline in 1982 and 1983 has begun to modify, economic recovery has been uneven and tenuous. Mineral exploration increased by some \$12 million in 1984 due largely to the precious metal sector. The base metal operations continue in a highly depressed state.

Record numbers of tourists came to Yukon in 1984 spending an estimated \$82 million, but per capita spending continued in a 10 year decline.

A stripping program at Cyprus Anvil, largely financed by the Federal Government, made a modest contribution to the territorial economy and offered a lifeline to Faro, but the intention to mothball the mine was announced this spring.

<sup>10</sup> Social and economic benefits for Yukoners from Beaufort Sea hydrocarbon developments, while significance for participating Yukon businesses and workers, remain disappointing. Less than one percent of total Beaufort related expenses for three major oil companies was spent in Yukon, and only five percent of Beaufort workers were Yukoners. The real tragedy for Yukon is reflected by the unemployment statistics. In March 1985 a record number of Yukoners, over 2900, were claiming unemployment insurance benefits. This compares to less than 2,700 a year earlier. In 1983, we experienced an official unemployment rate of 14.1 percent, more than two percentage points above the national average. While national figures are not yet available for 1984, the comparison is likely similar. Rates of unemployment of this magnitude are intolerable, and it is this government's intention to do everything within its power to increase employment for Yukon residents. It is our expectation that with better social and economic planning, 1985 and 1986 will see a marked improvement in Yukon's economic outlook.

With possible new ownership, the prospects for the reopening of the Cyprus Anvil mine in Faro are better than they have been since 1982, and we are prepared to cooperate to the extent we can to ensure this comes to pass in the near future. Again, with fair planning, we are anticipating increased economic benefits from tourism and hydrocarbon exploration activity in the Beaufort Sea. If gold prices rise as projected, there should also be an increase in precious metals exploration.

Taken together, these and other indicators point to a year of moderate growth for our economy. It is the government's intention to aid and accelerate this growth with specific emphasis on local employment, maximum use of local materials and enlarged opportunities for native Yukoners. Specifically, we intend to make it possible for native people to find employment and to participate more fully in the public service. We believe that the government has an important role to play in ensuring that the development of the economy is fostered according to the best interests of all the Yukon's people. Even though we are a small government and our financial resources are limited, I want to assure the House and the people of Yukon that those resources are going to be committed to the development of the Yukon and the betterment of the lives of our citizens. To this end I am today introducing an interim supply bill to cover our operation and maintenance expenditures for the period April 1 to October 31, 1985. This bill constitutes a holding action until such time as we are in a position to put a comprehensive budget before this House.

Mr. Speaker, I make no claim that we are the authors of the numbers that this bill is based upon. I think it is apparent to all members of this House that there has not been time, since the swearing in of our government, for us to carry out the detailed examination of the myriad of expenditure items contained in the estimates of the Government of Yukon. The bill before this House today is based on the first seven months of estimated expenditures contained in the budget prepared but never tabled by the previous government. The expenditures in this interim supply bill do not represent seven-twelfths of the total of the previous administration's budget. The government's operation and maintenance expenditures flow in an uneven pattern throughout the year, with the heaviest burden being in the summer months, when extra personnel are hired for information centres, campgrounds and student employment initiatives.

<sup>11</sup> Grant payments are also heavier in the first half of the year, an example being Home Owner Grants, which are virtually all paid out by the end of October. As a consequence of these factors, the bill before you represents approximately 66 percent, or almost two thirds, of the total O&M expenditures projected by the former government. Over the course of the next several months, my colleagues and I will be reviewing both the O&M and the capital expenditure programs of the government. Call letters have already gone out to the various departments asking for a review of their expenditures with special attention to be paid to the identification of employment creation and the local hire and purchase potential of various program initiatives. This will be the context in which we re-draft the budgetted spending of this government for the current and succeeding years.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this bill to the favourable attention of the House.

**Mr. Phelps:** Mr. Speaker I move that debate be now adjourned.  
*Motion agreed to*

**Mr. Speaker:** May I have your further pleasure?

**Mr. Porter:** Mr. Speaker, I move that this House do now adjourn.

*Motion agreed to*

**Mr. Speaker:** This House now stands adjourned until 1:30 p.m. tomorrow.

*The House adjourned at 3:40 p.m.*

The following Sessional Paper was tabled July 15, 1985:

Sessional Paper 85-1-1  
Speech from the Throne (Speaker)

