

COUNCIL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

- AGENDA -

Wednesday, 11th May, 1932.

2:30 p.m.

1. Confirmation of Minutes -

Thirty-second Session - 14th April, 1932.

2. Matters of Urgent Importance -

- (a) Hudson's Bay Company Transport -
Eastern Arctic Patrol 1932.
- (b) Prospectors, etc., taking game for food
(Northwest Game Regulations -
Sections 31 and 40).
- (c) Circular on liquor laws.
- (d) Fritz Schurer - "Kobvello".
- (e) Appointment of Notaries Public -
Egbert Owen,
G. D. Murphy.
- (f) Beaver Pelts -
August Echternach.
- (g) Prospecting Thelon Game Sanctuary.
- (h) Possibility of supplying additional
Medical Officers without in-
creasing personnel.
- (i) Bills of Sale Ordinance.
- (j) Issue of Sales Slips.

3. Business arising out of Minutes -

- (a) General Welfare of Inhabitants -
Quarantine.
- (b) Keewatin Game Preserve.
- (c) Williams North Magnetic Pole Expedition.
- (d) Northern Waterways Limited.
- (e) Coroners' fees.
- (f) Fort Smith - Fitzgerald Portage Road.
- (g) Medical Profession Ordinance.
- (h) Telephone -
Murphy Services Limited.

4. To be dealt with at Autumn Session -

- (a) Relief Expedition for Dr. H.K.E. Krueger.
- (b) Northwest Game Regulations -
Petition from residents Reliance
District.
- (c) Petition to the Minister for change in
administration Mackenzie District.
- (d) Petition to the Minister for Game Pre-
serves - Mackenzie Delta and Arctic
Coast.
- (e) Petition from Eskimo.

COUNCIL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Minutes of the Thirty-third Session of the Northwest Territories Council, held on Wednesday, the 11th day of May, 1932, in the office of the Commissioner, Mr. H. H. Rowatt, at Ottawa.

PRESENT -

Mr. H. H. Rowatt (In the Chair)	-	Commissioner
Mr. R. A. Gibson	-	Deputy Commissioner
Dr. Charles Camsell	-	Member of Council
Major General J. H. MacBrien	-	" " "
Mr. K. R. Daly	-	" " "
Major D. L. McKeand	-	Secretary.

IN ATTENDANCE -

Mr. H. E. Hume	-	Chairman, Dominion Lands Board
Mr. C. C. Parker	-	Inspector, Department of Indian Affairs.

1. Confirmation of Minutes - File 483-2

The Minutes of the Thirty-second Session of Council, held on Thursday, the 14th day of April, 1932, having been sent to all members of Council, it was moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by General MacBrien, that the Minutes be confirmed. Carried.

2. Matters of Urgent Importance -

(a) Hudson's Bay Company Transport - File 5031-7
Eastern Arctic Patrol 1932

It was reported that final arrangements had practically been completed for the transportation of passengers and freight to the Eastern Arctic. The freight is being shipped at the risk of the Departments concerned, which according to advice from the Marine Department is the general Government practice.

The Secretary said that Archdeacon Fleming had made application for the carrying of hospital freight to Pangnirtung. For the benefit of those present not familiar with the circumstances surrounding the establishment of the Pangnirtung hospital he said that a few years ago plans were made for the construction of a Government hospital at this point, but just before material was purchased it came to the Department's notice that Archdeacon Fleming was in the Old Country endeavouring to arrange for the financing of a Franklin Memorial Hospital to be established at Lake Harbour. The Department got in touch with Archdeacon Fleming and eventually induced him to establish the hospital at Pangnirtung.

The Secretary said that the cost of shipping freight to Pangnirtung was approximately \$40 per ton more than to Lake Harbour and that Archdeacon Fleming thought that this year the Government should assist. He said that the freight was entirely for hospital purposes and that a communication had been prepared to Mr. Parsons asking him to arrange for the shipment of this extra freight as Government freight without extra charge. x

The proposed letter was read and Mr. Gibson expressed the opinion that it might be advisable to adopt a slightly stronger attitude in the letter, simply notifying Mr. Parsons that we intend to include this hospital freight as part of the Government freight, inasmuch as the total will not exceed the original estimate.

The Secretary also mentioned that the Hudson's Bay Company would like to have the privilege of calling at Godhavn, Greenland. In answer to an enquiry he said that the call would be strictly a courtesy call and that no trading would be carried on.

The Secretary also pointed out that the ship carrying the Eastern Arctic Patrol would be the "Ungava", a foreign built vessel of British register, and that the Canadian Customs duty had never been paid. He said that the Department was taking the matter up with the Customs Department on the same basis as in past years with a view to securing a remission of the duties and that no difficulty was anticipated; also that it was being suggested to the Hudson's Bay Company that they communicate with the Department of Marine in connection with the inspection of the ship.

It was moved by Mr. Gibeon, seconded by Mr. Daly, that the proposed arrangements be approved. Carried.

- (b) (i) Prospectors, etc., taking game for food
(Northwest Game Regulations -
Sections 31 and 40) - Files 4515 & 7332.

The Secretary read the remarks of Senator McRae as reported in the Ottawa Citizen, relative to miners going into the Northwest Territories without adequate equipment. Mr. Gibson stated that the Minister had written General McRae telling him of the arrangements already made, which were briefly as follows -

General MacBrien reported on the 26th March, 1932, that instructions had been issued to the Officer Commanding at Edmonton to get in touch with the various transportation companies, rail, steamboat and air, and report the number of parties, full details of names of persons, etc. Detachments, particularly Fort Norman, were instructed to keep track of all persons and parties going into the Great Bear Lake area, either by water or by other means, reporting the names, ages, home addresses, etc. Further, transportation companies were to be asked to endeavour to persuade all persons to take sufficient supplies and make arrangements for the return journey.

The Agent of Dominion Lands, Edmonton, reported on the 4th April, 1932, that from personal contact, all prospectors might be termed "hard boiled" and well aware of the need for sufficient supplies and ample provision for the return journey.

Reported rumour that mining outfits had cached supplies at Charlie Lake, near Fort St. John, B.C., intending to reach Fort Simpson via Conroy Creek, Nelson and Liard Rivers.

General MacBrien reported on the 13th April, 1932, that having no detachment at Fort St. John, instructions were issued to the Liard detachment.

Department of the Interior wrote Mr. W. W. Ross, Fort St. John, pointing out that it was imperative that all parties entering the North be warned that they must take sufficient supplies for the period of their stay.

The Northwest Territories Council resolved that no new licenses be issued to white trappers for the next permit year pending a thorough investigation. Trading companies and others concerned to be notified by mail and through the Minister's News Bulletin.

Reports of officials administering game regulations indicate that, with few exceptions, laws are very satisfactory and much appreciated by the residents. Missionary authorities generally satisfied with present enforcement of game and other laws in the Territories.

Dr. Camsell mentioned that his attention had been drawn to

the fact that an American concern was sending five prospecting parties into the Territories and asked whether the Department of the Interior had any information on the subject. Mr. Hume said that they were daily receiving enquiries from the States but he could not recall having had this particular matter brought to his attention.

(ii) It was reported that an enquiry had been received from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police as to whether it was the intention that the Order respecting the non-issue of hunting and trapping permits for the year 1932-33 should apply to new employees of trading companies being sent into the Territories to replace others who had previously held such permits. This question is tied up indirectly with the privilege afforded Government employees in the Territories to take a limited number of pelts for their own use and the following information as to the number of pelts taken by the Government employees during the license year 1930-31 was furnished -

Department.	No. licenses issued and returned.	Total value fur taken.	Average value taken by one employee.
R. C. M. P.	43	\$ 2,960.10	\$ 68.84
R. C. Signals	8	20.80	2.60
Marine	8	104.94	13.12
Interior	3	456.84	152.28
Indian Affairs	2	Nil	Nil
Totals.....	64	\$ 3,542.68	\$ 55.35

The Secretary said that in a telephone conversation with Mr. Parsons the latter informed him that the Hudson's Bay Company was not sending any new apprentices into the Territories this year.

It appeared to be the opinion of Council that there was no reason why the privilege enjoyed by Government employees in the Territories should be interfered with, inasmuch as only a small amount of trapping was carried on and they were prohibited under the Regulations to traffic in these furs and limited in their annual catch to five pelts.

After discussion it was moved by Mr. Daly, seconded by Dr. Camsell, that the present practice with respect to trapping by Government employees be continued and that the instructions already issued stand, insofar as employees of trading companies who are not residents and who have not previously held hunting and trapping permits are concerned, they are not to be granted permits.

(c) Circular on Liquor Laws - File 563.

The Secretary read a draft circular letter prepared by Mr. H. E. Hume to be sent to trading companies, etc., with a view to drawing to the attention of newcomers to the Northwest Territories not familiar with the liquor laws, the present restrictions with respect to the importation and manufacture of intoxicating liquor. He also read a letter just received from the Department of Indian Affairs, to which a copy of the draft circular had been sent, in which the suggestion was made that another clause be added drawing attention to the fact that under the Indian Act a vessel might be seized and forfeited should the owner be found guilty of trafficking in liquor with the Indians.

It was moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Dr. Camsell, that the draft circular with the additional clause suggested, be sent out.
Carried.

(d) Fritz Schurer - "Kobvello" - File 7297.

The Secretary read, for the information of Council, a brief statement that had been prepared relative to the shooting of Fritz Schurer, a naturalized citizen of the United States, by the Eskimo woman "Kobvello". "Kobvello" was committed for trial and the Minister of Justice ruled that the charge be dropped on the understanding that the woman should be kept in detention for a time and an effort made to impress on her the seriousness of her crime. General MacBrien said that the reason the matter was dealt with as it was was in order to save the expense of sending in a Court.

Mr. Gibson mentioned that a newspaper account of the case stated that in accordance with the common practice in Eskimo territory Schurer had conscripted the Eskimo woman and that the reason she had killed him was that he had threatened her life after he had no further need of her services.

Mr. Gibson asked whether Council might have some responsibility in connection with the prevention of the practice referred to and after a brief discussion it was agreed that copies of the clipping in question should be sent to General MacBrien in order that he might secure opinions from his men in the North.

(e) Appointment of Notaries Public - File 6720.
Egbert Owen
G. D. Murphy

It was reported that the District Agent at Fort Smith had recommended the appointment of Mr. Gerald D. Murphy, a former employee of the Interior Department, as Notary; also that it was proposed to appoint Egbert Owen, Public Administrator for the Mackenzie District a Notary, inasmuch as Mr. H. Milton Martin, former Public Administrator, was a Notary, and his duties might necessitate him having the same authority.

It was moved by Mr. Daly, seconded by Dr. Camsell, that both appointments as recommended be approved. Carried.

(f) Beaver Pelts - File 6560.
August Echternach

It was reported that a communication had been received from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to the effect that in the summer of 1931 Mr. Echternach, a trader in the Husky Lakes area, had visited Herschel Island and had been informed that the close season on beaver would expire on the 31st October following: that advice was not received by the Police in the district until September that the close season had been extended; and that Echternach had accepted ten beaver pelts from Indians. When Echternach became aware of the fact that the close season had been extended he made a trip of about ten days during the winter to turn the pelts over to the Police.

The Secretary read a memorandum submitted to the Deputy Minister of the Interior by Mr. Hume, in which it was recommended that Echternach be authorized to hold and dispose of these ten beaver pelts and that no penalty be imposed.

Mr. Gibson said that while he agreed with the recommendation in this case there was the danger of creating the precedent of accepting a plea of ignorance of the Regulations as a sufficiently good reason for breaking the Regulations. However, it was taken for granted that the Police must be convinced of the bona fides of Echternach or else the return of the pelts would not have been recommended. Evidence of good faith was Echternach's winter trip to the depot for the purpose of turning over the pelts. It was agreed that there was not likely to be another similar case and it was moved by Dr. Camsell, seconded by Mr. Gibson, that August Echternach should not be prosecuted and further that he should be permitted to retain and dispose of the beaver pelts. Carried.

(g) Prospecting Thelon Game Sanctuary - Files 6738 & 5169

It was reported that a letter had been received from Colonel MacAlpine, who expressed agreement with the views of Dr. Camsell as to the mineral possibilities of the Thelon Game Sanctuary, but added that he thought parties should be permitted to look for minerals in the area.

The Secretary said that in a conversation with Mr. Geo. M. Douglas of Lakefield, Ontario, who is familiar with the country south and east of Great Slave Lake, he expressed approval of the action taken in creating the Thelon Game Sanctuary and maintaining it inviolate, pointing out that the area was a central breeding ground for caribou.

Mr. Hume said that he did not think anyone should be authorized unnecessarily to pass through the Sanctuary. If this permission were granted to prospectors they would look for minerals. If they located minerals they would want to stake a claim and if they staked a claim they would certainly want the privilege of developing it. He thought the present practice should be continued.

Mr. A. L. Cumming had been asked for a report and it was agreed that no action should be taken until this report had been received.

(h) Possibility of supplying additional
Medical Officers without increasing personnel - Files 5917 & 2562

Mr. Gibson said that this matter had been placed on the Agenda in order to afford an opportunity of discussing the advisability of placing more officers with medical qualifications in northern posts. He asked General MacBrien whether he considered that medical men might be given Police posts in the Northwest Territories. General MacBrien said that he had talked this matter over with some of his officers having considerable experience in the North and they were in universal agreement that such a practice would not work out smoothly.

In answer to Mr. Gibson's enquiry General MacBrien said he would prefer cutting down the number of Police in the Northwest Territories in order that additional medical officers might be placed in the Territories, but pointed out that the Police work would suffer. He added, however, that it was his intention to withdraw at least one detachment from the Northwest Territories.

It was agreed that this matter should be allowed to stand until the fall session.

(i) Bills of Sale Ordinance - File 603.

Mr. Daly said that a communication had been received from a firm of lawyers in Edmonton in connection with the registration of chattel mortgages in the Northwest Territories. He said that there was an old Bills of Sale Ordinance on the Statutes, but that it was altogether out of date and unworkable; that a new Ordinance had been drafted, but before going into the matter any further he thought that Council should decide whether it was desirable to establish machinery for the registration of chattel mortgages in the Territories.

Mr. Parker said that insofar as the Indians were concerned his Department was doing everything it could to discourage the establishment of credit.

Council seemed to be of the opinion that for the time being at least, it would be well to not take any action in this regard. However, it was agreed that a report should be secured from Government officials in the Territories.

(j) Issue of Sales Slips - File 7319.

It was reported that copies of Order in Council (P.C. 807), dated the 19th April, 1932, had been sent to the various trading companies and some replies have now been received, in one of which the question was asked as to the necessity for issuing sales slips to white men. The Secretary read a communication from the Hudson's Bay Company in which was quoted a circular sent out by Dr. Bourget, Indian Agent at Fort Resolution. Mr. Parker said that unfortunately Dr. Bourget had sent out a notice in advance of the passing of the Order in Council in exactly the words of the instructions issued to him.

The Secretary said that in a memorandum addressed to Mr. Rowatt by Mr. Hume it was suggested that the trading companies be advised that in the case of Indians, Eskimos and half-breeds a record was to be furnished of each sale and purchase, and itemized statements of account when demanded by these natives, or by any Royal Canadian Mounted Police officer or Indian Agent who may wish to investigate any matter affecting trade relations with the natives, brought to his attention; also that in the case of the letter in reply to the communication from the Hudson's Bay Company it should be stated that it is not the intention to control or regulate prices of commodities in the Northwest Territories. The proposed action was approved.

3. Business arising out of Minutes -

(a) General Welfare of Inhabitants -
Quarantine. Files 21-2 & 298

Still before Department of Justice. Stand.

(b) Keewatin Game Preserve - File 6324.

Awaiting report from Sergeant Wight of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Stand.

(c) Williams North Magnetic Pole Expedition - File 7048

Dr. Skelton says that no further information has been received. Stand.

(d) Northern Waterways Limited - File 7146

Still before Department of Justice. Stand.

General MacBrien said that he understood the Department of Indian Affairs had given at least a portion of its freighting business to the Northern Waterways Limited. He expressed the opinion that it would be well for the Dominion Government to divide its freighting business to some extent so as to encourage the maintenance of competition. The opinion was expressed that this suggestion should be kept in mind.

(e) Coroners' fees - File 15.

General MacBrien said that he could not recall having been furnished with a copy of a draft memorandum prepared by Mr. K. R. Daly for the consideration of Council. It was agreed that a copy of this memorandum should be sent to General MacBrien in order that he might give the matter consideration before the next session.

(f) Fort Smith - Fitzgerald Portage Road - File 215

Stand.

(g) Medical Profession Ordinance - File 247

Mr. Daly said that he had consulted Dr. Heagerty of the Department of Pensions and National Health, that Dr. Heagerty had looked over the draft Ordinance and that it would probably be all right with a few changes, that he had agreed to make these changes but expressed the opinion that the passing of such an Ordinance was not really necessary. Stand.

(h)

Telephone -

File 7366.

Murphy Services Limited -

Await report from Department of Justice.

Council then adjourned.

H. H. Rowat
.....
Commissioner.

J. Macdonald
.....
Secretary.

Department of the Interior



Canada

Ottawa,

7th May, 1932.

The undersigned has the honour to report that under the provisions of the Notaries Public Ordinance the Commissioner in Council may appoint one or more Notaries Public for the Territories and every Commission so issued shall expire at the expiration of two years from the thirty-first day of December of the year in which it is passed.

The undersigned also reports that on the 21st September, 1931, the Commissioner in Council confirmed the appointment of Mr. Egbert Owen of Edmonton, Alberta, to be Public Administrator in and for the Mackenzie District, North West Territories, and it is in the public interest that he be appointed a Notary Public for the North West Territories.

Therefore, the undersigned begs to recommend that Mr. Egbert Owen be appointed a Notary Public in and for the North West Territories, with effect from the 21st September, 1931.

Respectfully submitted,

H. E. Hume,
Chairman,
Dominion Lands Board.

Approved

Commissioner,
North West Territories.

Confirmed in Council

Wednesday, 11th May, 1932.

Secretary.

256B

Department of the Interior



Canada

Ottawa,

2nd May, 1932.

The Undersigned has the honour to report that under the provisions of the Notaries Public Ordinance the Commissioner in Council may appoint one or more Notaries Public for the Territories and every Commission so issued shall expire at the expiration of two years from the thirty-first day of December of the year in which it is passed.

The undersigned also reports that the District Agent for Mackenzie District recommends that Mr. Gerald George Dunlop Murphy of Fort Smith be appointed a Notary Public for the North West Territories to assist the mining community in the development of the Great Bear Lake mineral area.

The undersigned begs to concur in the recommendation and submits the name of Mr. Gerald George Dunlop Murphy for appointment as a Notary Public in and for the North West Territories, with effect from the 29th April, 1932.

Respectfully submitted,

H. E. Hume,
Chairman,
Dominion Lands Board.

Approved

Commissioner,
North West Territories.

Confirmed in Council
Wednesday, 11th May, 1932.

Secretary.