

SPEC

SPECIAL SESSION

COUNCIL OF THE NORTH WEST TERRITORIES

Minutes of a Special Session of the North West Territories Council held on Wednesday, the 3rd September, 1930, in the office of the Commissioner, Mr. W. W. Cory, C.M.G., at Ottawa.

PRESENT:

Mr. W. W. Cory (in the chair)	-	Commissioner
Mr. R. A. Gibson	-	Deputy Commissioner
Dr. Charles Camsell	-	Member of Council.
Mr. O. S. Finnie	-	Member of Council and Director N.W.T. & Y. Br.
Mr. H. H. Rowatt	-	Member of Council.
Dr. D. C. Scott	-	" " "
Colonel Cortlandt Starnes	-	" " "
Major D. L. McKeand	-	Secretary.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. W. M. Cory	-	Legal Adviser.
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1. Confirmation of Executive Orders -

On the motion of Dr. Scott, seconded by Colonel Starnes, the Executive Order of the 25th June, 1930, appointing the Reverend Arnold Cuthbert Herbert an Issuer of Marriage Licenses for the North West Territories was confirmed.

2. Cumbergulf Syndicate Limited -

The Secretary was asked to read the correspondence from the Office of the High Commissioner in London, dealing with the application of the Cumbergulf Syndicate Limited for a license to trade in Baffin island, and the cablegram reply of the 26th August, 1930; also the cablegram of the 29th August from Captain Henry Toke Munn. After a very full discussion of the subject it was moved by Dr. Scott and seconded by Colonel Starnes that Council approve the Commissioner's recommendation of the 2nd September, 1930, as submitted to the Minister. (Copy attached).

3. Floating Dock at Fort Smith -

The Secretary was requested to read the exchange of correspondence between the Acting Deputy Minister, Department of the Interior, and the Deputy Minister, Department of Public Works, relative to the representations made to the District Agent at Fort Smith on behalf of the Commercial Airways Limited and the Western Canada Airways Limited for better facilities in landing mail, passengers and freight during the summer months. It was moved by Mr. Gibson and seconded by Mr. Finnie that the interested parties be acquainted with the result of the correspondence with the Department of Public Works, and that they be told that we have not discussed the subject with the Civil Branch of the Royal Canadian Air Force, but that insofar as the North West Territories Branch is concerned, there are no funds available for any such purpose.

4. Application for road - Bear River -

The letter from the Dominion Explorers, Limited, of August 18th, 1930, and also a letter of August 12th, 1930, from Mr. Austin L. Cumming, dealing with the need for an eight-mile road to facilitate portaging on the Bear river were read by the Secretary. The suggestion that the North West Territories and Yukon Branch undertake the construction of this road was discussed and on the motion of Dr. Scott, seconded by Dr. Camsell, it was decided to refer the whole matter to the Department of Public Works with a statement that insofar as the North West Territories Branch is concerned, there are no funds available for any such purpose.

5. Adjournment -

Following a general discussion of two or three departmental matters the session adjourned.

D. J. Macdonald
.....
Secretary.

A. C. Camsell
.....
Commissioner.

Office of
THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR
Ottawa

2nd September, 1930.

Memorandum:

- Re-Cumbergulf Syndicate Limited -

Before the Company's application is discussed by the North West Territories Council I am taking this opportunity of asking whether you have any wishes in the matter.

My personal view is that no permit should be granted until the officer in charge of our Northern patrols, Mr. George P. Mackenzie, returns in October, and is able to report fully on the present situation. In the meantime the Company should be asked to satisfy the Department on the following points:

1. That they are in possession of a Dominion Charter.
2. That they have a suitable ship in which they can satisfactorily supply and reprovision their posts each year.
3. That they will build proper and adequate trading posts.
4. That they are otherwise financially able to carry on trading in Baffin Island.
5. That they employ competent traders who have had a wide experience in northern latitudes.
6. That they are prepared to assist the natives in every way and to treat them with consideration.

We do not wish to stand in the way of any bona fide and beneficial development. On the other hand the activities of the Trading Company intimately affect the welfare of our Arctic population, and all reasonable safeguard must be taken.

B.O.M.
W.W.C. (Sgd.)

Respectfully submitted,
(Sgd.) W. W. Cory,
Deputy Minister.

The Honourable Thomas G. Murphy,
Minister of the Interior,
OTTAWA.

CANADIAN NATIONAL TELEGRAPHS
CABLEGRAM

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.
26th August, 1930.

DOMINION
LONDON

Companies must possess Dominion Charter before carrying on business North West Territories STOP No record application for charter in State Department here STOP Before issuing licenses and permits Department must also be informed exactly where it is intended to establish trading posts and receive assurance that permanent buildings will be constructed with experienced traders in charge also that Company will have suitable ship and that it is financially able to carry out obligations resting upon it by virtue of trading with natives

FINNIE

COLLECT.

CUMBERGULF SYNDICATE LIMITED

Directors:
P.F. Gleed,
L. Forcey,
P. Hickey.

53, New Broad Street,
London, E.C. 2,
15th August, 1930.

The Hon. the Minister of the Interior,
Ottawa, Canada.

Sir:

Further to my personal letter to you dated 8th August wherein I referred to the registration of this Company, I am now able to report that the registration has been completed, and I am therefore in a position to formally apply on the Company's behalf for the necessary licenses for trading and trafficking at three posts which will be situate at or near Durban Harbour, Bon Accord Harbour and Cyrus Field Bay in South Baffin Island.

It is anticipated that one of these posts will be under the control of Mr. Duval, who, as you are aware, has been resident in the country for a considerable number of years. Another of the posts will be under the management of Mr. Dines who acted in the same capacity for Captain Munn of the Arctic Gold Exploration Syndicate. Owing to the lack of intimate knowledge of conditions existing in the island it is impossible at this date to mention the exact personnel at each post, but it is the intention that as soon as definite decisions have been come to on these points a full report will be made to the police at Pangnirtung.

For your assurance I am able to inform you that ample moneys are available to the Company for the purpose of establishing the proposed stations, and that arrangements have been made and orders placed for the supply of stocks of suitable barter goods.

The gentlemen whose names appear above as Directors of the Company are all professional gentlemen of considerable standing in the city, and considerable care has been exercised in the selection of the personnel of the expedition in order to ensure that the business of the Company will be properly conducted, and that the Company's relations with the natives will be established and maintained upon a mutually satisfactory and amicable basis.

As requested in my previous letter I shall be glad if you will deal with this application through the offices of the High Commissioner in London by cable, for which purpose I have given his office the necessary undertaking.

It is the intention of the Company during the next few months to procure the registration of a subsidiary Company in the Commonwealth, but owing to the urgency of the matter there has not been time for this to be done before the departure of the Company's vessel.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) J. Groves.

John Groves
Chartered Accountants
53, New Broad Street,

London, E.C. 2,
8th August, 1930.

The Hon. the Minister of the Interior,
Ottawa, Canada.

Sir:

A Company to be called Cumbergulf Syndicate Limited is at present in course of registration, and I anticipate that this will be completed on Thursday next the 14th instant. The objects of the Company are to acquire M.V. "Watt", and to equip same for a voyage to Baffin Island for the purpose of establishing fur trading posts. You will appreciate that this vessel will have to leave by September 7th at the latest in order to ensure its arrival in the country before the freezing up.

The expedition will be led by Mr. V. E. Dines, who was manager of the station shewn in your map under the name of Oshaluk during 1921-1923 on behalf of Captain Mumof of the Arctic Gold Exploration Syndicate. The vessel will carry adequate materials and trading stock, etc., for the erection of at least three trading posts, which it is anticipated will be situate at or near Durban Harbour, Bon Accord Harbour and Cyrus Field Bay. The vessel will remain at one of these stations during the forthcoming winter, and arrangements have been made for the station to be re-furnished and equipped with stock, etc., during the summer of 1931, and at least one responsible official will be left in charge during the winter of 1931-32.

The proposed directors of the Company are gentlemen of considerable repute, and it is their intention to continue to operate the posts referred to, and should the results at the three stations already mentioned justify it the operations of the Company in Baffin Island will undoubtedly be considerably extended.

I am writing this letter before the incorporation of the Company in order that you may be in a position to consider the advisability of granting the necessary licenses to the Company. If they can be issued and forwarded to the offices of the High Commissioner to reach him by the 4th September against payment of the necessary fees I shall be glad if you will arrange this, but failing this being possible I should be glad to receive from you an assurance that the licenses will be available to the Company's officials at the Pangnirtung R.C.M.P. post.

I am forwarding this letter to the High Commissioner's office with a request that he will do all in his power to expedite its despatch and receipt by you, and I shall be glad if you will communicate through him by cable, to which end I am sending him the necessary undertaking.

As soon as the Company has been registered I will of course forward you the formal application.

Yours faithfully,
(Sgd.) J. Groves.