

COUNCIL OF THE NORTH WEST TERRITORIES

Minutes of the Twelfth Session of the Council held on Wednesday, the 11th December, 1929, in the office of the Commissioner, Mr. W. W. Cory, C.M.G., at
Ottawa.

PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

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| Mr. K. R. Daly | - Legal Adviser |
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1. Confirmation of Minutes -

Mr. Finnie suggested that the first paragraph of item (a) under 3. New Business, Eleventh Session, be changed to read as follows:-

"(a) Provision for the protection of orphans, demented or insane persons, illegitimate and neglected children:

"Mr. Finnie stated he was approached last summer by two members of the Roman Catholic clergy at Fort Smith in connection with the care of backward, orphaned or neglected children beyond the age of 15 years. The Department of the Interior makes a per capita grant for the maintenance of each orphan or destitute white or half-breed child (up to 16 years of age) admitted to residential schools at Resolution, Hay River and Providence, of \$180.00, and at Aklavik of \$200.00. The reverend gentlemen pointed out that many of these children were not fitted to take their places in the world at that age, and it was undesirable to permit them, particularly the girls, to leave the Missions at that time. The Church was prepared to continue caring for them, but required financial aid for the maintenance of these children until the age of 21 years was reached."

It was moved by Mr. Finnie, and seconded by Mr. Rowatt, that with this amendment the Minutes be confirmed.

2. Business arising out of Minutes.

(a) Fixing of Legal Time Zones in the North West Territories -

It was moved by Colonel Starnes, and seconded by Mr. Gibson, that copies of the draft Ordinance prepared by the Legal Adviser be sent to the different members of Council, and that discussion be deferred until the next regular meeting of Council

(b) Consideration of Recommendations submitted by Mr. O. S. Finnie following his inspection of the Mackenzie district during July and August, 1929 -

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(i) Game Regulations. It was reported that since the last session an Order of the Governor General in Council had been passed amending the Regulations for the Protection of Game in the North West Territories, as recommended by the North West Territories Council, and that copies of this Order in Council, together with an explanatory memorandum, had been sent to those responsible for the enforcement of the Game Regulations and published in the Minister of the Interior's News Bulletin, also through the press. Mr. Finnie stated that the comments received so far had all been favourable.

Colonel Starnes asked whether the Regulations should now be interpreted as giving authority to kill caribou or moose on a large commercial scale so long as the meat was to be used for food. He also queried whether food might be interpreted as dog food. A brief discussion ensued, and the opinion was expressed that the officers charged with the enforcement of the Regulations had been given sufficient discretionary power to look after the matter for the time being, but if it were found that the privilege of selling caribou and moose meat for food purposes was being abused, the Game Regulations in this regard could then be tightened.

It was moved by Dr. Camsell, seconded by Mr. Rowatt, that the Commissioner write Colonel Starnes in this connection so that he might apprise his field officers.

(ii) Game Wardens and Fire Rangers. It was reported by Mr. Finnie that an item had been included in the Estimates for the North West Territories to provide for the appointment of three Game Wardens to assist in the enforcement of the Game Regulations.

(iii) Use of Poison in the North West Territories. Mr. Finnie reported that official correspondence had been exchanged with Colonel Starnes regarding the check to be made on the sale of poison in Edmonton.

(c) Government Experimental Fur Farms -

The Secretary read a letter addressed to the Department of Agriculture by the Director of the North West Territories and Yukon Branch, and reported that word had been received from the Department that they would assume a friendly attitude towards the proposal. He added that further word would be received from the Department and the matter again reported to Council.

(d) Hospital Grants and Equipment -

It was recommended by Mr. Finnie and seconded by Mr. Gibson that discussion of this matter be again deferred until Dr. Scott is present.

(e) Maintenance of orphans, neglected and destitute children beyond 15 years of age -

(f) Legalizing process of adoption of Eskimo children -

(g) Miner's Lien Ordinance -

(h) Woodsman's Lien Ordinance -

Following a brief discussion, it was moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Rowatt, that a Sub-Committee consisting of Mr. Finnie as Chairman, Dr. Camsell, Colonel Starnes, Mr. Rowatt and Mr. Daly, consider these draft Ordinances and report to Council.

3. New Business.

(a) Hearing of Dr. Helen MacMurchy -
Deferred.

(b) Judicature Amendment Ordinance -

Mr. Finnie reported that Judge Dubuc, Stipendiary Magistrate of the North West Territories, and Mr. H. Milton Martin, Public Administrator of the Mackenzie District, had requested that steps be taken to fix the schedule of fees to be charged in connection with the administration of estates in the North West Territories. The matter was discussed in Council, and the opinion expressed was that the present arrangement was working out very satisfactorily and that it would be inadvisable at present to provide a fixed scale of fees. The Secretary read the representations of Judge Dubuc and Mr. Martin, and the reply made by the Commissioner of the North West Territories to Judge Dubuc on the 7th October, 1929.

It was moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Colonel Starnes, that the letter which had been sent out to Judge Dubuc be approved by Council and the matter allowed to drop.

(c) Status of the Eskimo -

Mr. Finnie reported that the question had come up as to the status of the Eskimo with respect to the issue of liquor permits. The Commissioner expressed the view that Eskimo should not be classed with Indians, who were wards of the nation, and that they really had the status of white men resident in the Territories. Council felt that it was not in the best interest of the Eskimo to issue liquor permits to them, but that any Eskimo who had established a permanent place of residence in the Territories could not very well be refused the privilege of buying liquor in his own right.

It was moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Colonel Starnes, that each case be considered on its individual merits.

The advisability of increasing the maximum quantity of liquor for medicinal purposes for which a permit might be granted was discussed, but as no complaints had been received that the quantity was not sufficiently large, it was felt by Council that no change should be made for the present.

4. Date of Next Meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Gibson, and seconded by Mr. Finnie, that the next session be held on the 15th January, 1930.

Council then adjourned.

J. Finnie
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Secretary.

[Signature]
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Commissioner.