

One Hundred and Twenty-first Session
Northwest Territories Council
Thursday, 23rd January, 1941,
11:30 a.m.

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TO BE DEALT WITH AT LATER SESSION

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Minutes of One Hundred and Twenty-first Session of Northwest Territories Council held in the office of the Commissioner on Thursday the 23rd January, 1941, at 11:30 a.m.

PRESENT -

Dr. Charles Camsell (In the Chair)	- Commissioner
Mr. R. A. Gibson	- Deputy Commissioner
Mr. A. L. Cumming	- Member of Council
Mr. K. R. Daly	- " " "
Dr. H. W. McGill	- " " "

IN ATTENDANCE -

Mr. Hoyes Lloyd	- Superintendent of Wild Life Protection, National Parks Bureau.
Dr. H. F. Lewis	- Chief Migratory Bird Officer for Ontario and Quebec, National Parks Bureau.

1. Confirmation of Minutes -

- (i) One Hundred and Twentieth Session -
7th January, 1941 483

On a motion of Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Daly, the minutes were approved.

2. Mackenzie District Matters -

- (i) Yellowknife Bay - Ptarmigan Mine Road 20895

The Secretary reported that an agreement was entered into with the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada Limited for the construction of a road from Yellowknife Bay to Ptarmigan Mine, the Department agreeing to pay one-half the cost but not to exceed the sum of \$6,164.76. This amount was to be a charge against the allotment provided for mining development under the Mining Roads Vote for work in the Northwest Territories.

It was moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Mr. Cumming, that payment be made as provided by the agreement. Carried.

- (ii) Minutes of meeting of Local Trustee Board, Yellowknife, dated 17th December, 1940, and By-Law No. 11 10710

Noted.

3. Development of Natural Resources -

- (i) Aids to prospecting 11059

Mr. Gibson reminded Council of the discussion at the last session. He said the results of the conference of the 13th January, 1941, with the provincial representatives would not become apparent until the Provincial Ministers of Mines had studied the notes taken at the conference and submitted definite recommendations to the Minister. Stand.

4. Reindeer Matters -

- (i) Draft minutes of Interdepartmental Reindeer Committee 8275

The Secretary tabled a copy of the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting held on the 14th January, 1941. Noted.

(ii) Native herds

8275

The Deputy Commissioner referred to the meeting of the Interdepartmental Reindeer Committee and mentioned some of the difficulties brought to his attention by Mr. W. E. Hogan now in Ottawa on furlough after four years service as Assistant Foreman at the reindeer station. He pointed out that Mr. Hogan was the only member of the staff at the reindeer station having technical knowledge and he thought the Commissioner might set a date for a special meeting when Messrs. Porsild and Hogan could be present and give their views on the reindeer industry. Some of the matters which must be considered included selection of future grazing areas, development of Indian as well as Eskimo herders, encouraging decentralization, employment of Eskimos as instructors in reindeer herding and related subjects.

The Chairman referred briefly to the disaster experienced by the Department in the attempt to introduce reindeer in the forested area near Fort Smith. Mr. Gibson explained that the proposed grazing area in the vicinity of Great Bear Lake is not forested country but on the edge of the timber-line. He thought if reindeer could be herded successfully near Great Bear Lake, reindeer products could be shipped out by water at cheaper rates than from the Mackenzie Delta. He referred to the successful handling of the first native herd under Eskimo Rufus and thought future herders should be recruited from areas to the east rather than become dependent on the natives of the Mackenzie Delta.

Dr. McGill expressed the view that three generations were required before stockmen could be made out of native hunters.

In reply to a question Mr. Gibson said reindeer meat is chiefly used for the schools and hospitals at Aklavik but a few carcasses are sold for about \$25 each. He said that the herders used fawn skins only for clothing and the adult skins had been of little value to the Eskimos of the Mackenzie Delta although every possible encouragement is being given for their use.

After some further consideration of these matters it was suggested that the Commissioner set a time for further discussion when Messrs. Hogan and Porsild could be present.

5. Migratory Birds Convention Act -

(i) Waterfowl for food at mission hospitals and schools

741

The Deputy Commissioner referred to the discussion at the last session of Council and explained that while the mission school at Albany, Ontario, is the only mission school whose large purchases of wild geese are under consideration at present, whatever action is taken would likely affect other hospitals and schools in the James Bay area, as well as those in the Northwest Territories. He said there were two main points of view on the matter of Indians and Eskimos selling game birds in the open season to hospitals and residential schools for storage and consumption in the closed season; one opposes the practice, the other is in favour of regularizing it. Mr. Lloyd pointed out that migratory birds can be taken and sold in the Northwest Territories in the open season but that this regulation does not apply in the Province of Ontario. He said the Deputy Minister of Game and Fisheries for Ontario is opposed to any change in the regulations. Mr. Gibson pointed out that the missions are paid a per diem rate for patients in hospitals and an annual grant for children in residential schools and that these funds are supposed to be sufficient to provide shelter, food and clothing for the inmates of the institutions. In reply to the Chairman, Dr. McGill said full consideration had not been given to this matter by the Indian Affairs Branch but that his first reaction was to support the view of the Deputy Minister of Game and Fisheries for Ontario. He was not in favour of encouraging the sale of game birds to missions and schools. He knew that wild fowl is the staple meat supply for the Indians in the James Bay area, while fish and animals are the main diet in other parts of the country. He thought more geese in proportion to the human population are taken in the James

Bay area than elsewhere in Canada and Dr. Lewis confirmed this view, but remarked that as the beaver conservation scheme developed the meat supply from beaver would lead to a decrease in the number of waterfowl taken each autumn.

Mr. Gibson thought Council was reviewing a matter basically important to Northwest Territories Administration. He explained that education had been entrusted to the Anglican and Roman Catholic missions, with instructions to teach and train the Eskimo, Indian and half-breed children in a practical way so that they can earn their living from the natural resources of the country. He pointed out that furs and game are the only contributions natives can make for services rendered by the missions. Mr. Lloyd expressed the view that the present tendency would be for Indian parents to send their sick and their children to Roman Catholic missions rather than to Anglican missions because the former would accept birds in part payment. Dr. Lewis explained that Indians in the James Bay area, when not interfered with by the white man, are natural conservationists and the children follow the example of the parents but he did not think the missions in that area give practical instruction on hunting to parents or children. Mr. Gibson agreed with this view, adding that he had referred to the missions in the Mackenzie Delta especially. Dr. Lewis thought that Indians do not get the desired instruction by selling waterfowl to the missions for table use. He stated that the Roman Catholic Mission at Albany, Ontario, is prepared to purchase between 600 and 700 geese a year if the birds were obtainable. In reply to the Chairman's question, Dr. Lewis agreed that he had submitted a proposal that would allow the missions to purchase game birds provided the concurrence of the Province is first secured, but he did not wish to make any recommendation to the Northwest Territories, as that is a provincial administration governing an area outside his district. Mr. Gibson expressed the view that the responsibility should remain with the local governing bodies where it properly belongs.

In reply to a question Mr. Lloyd said that the question could be dealt with in the course of the usual annual revision of the Regulations under The Migratory Birds Convention Act. Mr. Gibson suggested that before any further action was taken, Dr. McGill should have an opportunity of discussing this particular case, as well as the general situation, with his officials. The question might, therefore, stand until the next meeting of Council. Agreed.

(ii) Migratory Bird Sanctuary -
Akimiski Island

8207-2
741-5

The Deputy Commissioner referred to the discussion at the last session of Council of the recommendations of the Advisory Board on Wild Life Protection for waterfowl sanctuaries in the James Bay area. A proposed sanctuary on part of Akimiski Island is the last one of a system of sanctuaries mentioned at the last meeting of Council. The Chairman then called upon Dr. Lewis to give the main reasons for the need of a sanctuary at Akimiski Island and a brief explanation of the area proposed. Dr. Lewis said that the Advisory Board on Wild Life Protection recommends that all that part of Akimiski Island east of 81° 30' West Long., together with all lands situated and being within five miles of the island and east of 81° 30' West Long.; and all waters overlying any portion of the described part of the island or additional lands, should be established as a sanctuary under the Migratory Birds Convention Act, as the western unit in the James Bay system of sanctuaries, planned for the benefit of the native population and of the waterfowl and other migratory birds that congregate in this region. He pointed out that this sanctuary was first discussed in 1931, as one of a system of sanctuaries in the James Bay area. These sanctuaries had received approval of all federal authorities concerned, but action had been delayed by the Ontario authorities.

In 1938 the proposal was renewed as a separate sanctuary unit, but was allowed to stand in the minutes of The Advisory Board on Wild Life Protection, pending local investigation. Dr. Lewis said he

spent two or three days on Akimiski Island in September, 1940, and discussed the matter with Mr. A. H. Michel, Manager of the Hudson's Bay Company post at Attawapiskat. Before visiting the island, Dr. Lewis had consulted the late Dr. Tyrer at Moose Factory. In discussing the proposed sanctuary with Mr. Michel he was told there were only nineteen Indians that spend the winter on the island. According to Mr. Michel these Indians are members of five families and cross to the west end of the island about the 1st October for goose hunting. Although the island is a beaver preserve, the Indians trap other kinds of fur there. After taking their winter supply of geese on the north-west part of the island, the Indians scatter over the entire island to trap fur bearers. In reply to a question of the Chairman, Dr. Lewis said Akimiski Island is very low and flat, the greatest known elevation not exceeding 100 feet. It exhibits a series of ridges of sand and boulders, overlying limestone, which is said to be exposed on the north-east side of the island. There are many small lakes and brooks, as well as wet savannahs, sloughs and ponds, while the sedges and other vegetation make excellent food for geese and other waterfowl. The southeastern shore of Akimiski Island is one of the few places in James Bay where brant congregate.

Mr. Lloyd explained that some years ago the Hudson's Bay Company which has leased Akimiski Island as a beaver preserve, agreed that the whole of the island could be set aside as a bird sanctuary and, therefore, no difficulty would arise now in setting aside part of the area. Dr. Lewis pointed out that no suitable topographical feature could be used to describe the boundary and it was agreed in discussion with Mr. Michell that the Meridian of 81° 30' West Long. would form a suitable western boundary for the proposed sanctuary. With the assistance of a map, markers could be erected by the local officer of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

In reply to a question, Dr. Lewis said he thought any necessary policing in connection with the sanctuary could be done by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

After some further general discussion it was moved by Mr. Daly and seconded by Mr. Gibson, that the establishment of this sanctuary be approved and the recommendation of Council be placed before the Minister. Carried.

6. Medical Services -

(i) Medical Officer for northern Quebec 8276

The Deputy Commissioner advised Council that the Superintendent of the Eastern Arctic would explain the reasons for the appointment of a resident medical officer in northern Quebec. Major McKeand pointed out that the situation had become complicated because of two reasons: first, it was not known whether Dr. Bildfell, appointed for one year at Pangnirtung, wished to return or remain for a further period of service; second, Dr. Orford, now on furlough, was being transferred to the Indian Affairs Branch and, therefore, his services were no longer available in Eskimo territory. If Dr. Bildfell wished to adhere to one year's service, a full-time medical officer would be required to replace him. The newly appointed medical officer would act as ship's doctor on the "Nascopie" from Montreal to Pangnirtung and Dr. Bildfell could serve in that capacity from Pangnirtung to Montreal.

Major McKeand pointed out that the Eastern Arctic Patrol has never called at any post in the Ungava Bay area. Furthermore, no medical attention has been given to the 800 Eskimos and Indians in that area. In 1935 Dr. A. L. Richard left the "Nascopie" for the M/S "Fort Garry" to make a medical inspection of Ungava Bay. At the time he reported that a medical officer was urgently required but no action has been taken to implement this recommendation.

Since the removal of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police from Port Burwell and Port Harrison the managers of fur trading posts have issued relief to needy Eskimos in Ungava Bay and the Eastern Arctic Patrol gives the only medical attention and supervision of relief to the Eskimos of northern Quebec scattered along the coast from Ungava Bay to Great Whale River. A statement showing the

native population of northern Quebec together with the cost of Eskimo relief in the last three years was given as follows:-

Ungava Bay	597 Eskimos (197 Indians)
Hudson Strait and Bay	857 " None
Great Whale Riv. and James Bay	233 " 1,145 Indians
	<u>1,687</u> <u>1,342</u>
(Exclusive of islands in Hudson Bay and Strait)	

The cost of Eskimo relief in the last three years was as follows:-

<u>1937-38</u>	<u>1938-39</u>	<u>1939-40</u>
\$9,783.94	\$14,993.67	\$21,578.49

Major McKeand estimated the first year's cost of a medical officer for Ungava Bay would be \$6,000 exclusive of living quarters and the annual cost thereafter between \$4,500 and \$5,500. Temporary quarters for the doctor are now available in the Hudson's Bay Company buildings at Leaf River or the radio station at Cape Hopes Advance and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police barracks at Port Harrison are vacant and might be used if necessary. Major McKeand admitted that it was difficult to find experienced doctors in war time and as an alternative to the appointment of a medical officer suggested that the Eastern Arctic Patrol be extended to cover the three or four calls in Ungava Bay. He thought this was the best scheme in the circumstances as it would provide a reasonable amount of medical attention, control the issue of relief and provide transportation for the incapacitated to hospitals and industrial homes thereby relieving the hunters of the responsibility for their care and enabling them to provide for the remaining members of the families.

In reply to a question of the Chairman, Major McKeand said the trading posts in Ungava Bay were serviced by the "Fort Garry" a 200 ton auxiliary schooner from Halifax. There was no passenger accommodation.

Mr. Gibson explained there were two points to be considered: first, medical care and second, relief, and while there was a certain amount of overlapping it was necessary that some action be taken to prevent the situation getting out of hand. He pointed out that Bishop Fleming wished to build a hospital at Lake Harbour on Baffin Island to care for the sick of Southern Baffin Island and to take a few patients from northern Quebec but nothing had been done because neither the Administration nor Bishop Fleming could raise the necessary funds. He thought it would be difficult to secure the services of two or more doctors in war time and as an alternative suggested that a young doctor be employed to sail on the "Fort Garry" from Newfoundland, investigate the medical and relief requirements in Ungava Bay and submit a report for the information of Council. He frankly admitted this suggestion was only a make-shift but might meet the situation for the present. The Chairman agreed that the suggestion should be explored. Agreed.

7. Hospitals -

(i) Farand Hospital - Rae

9168

The Secretary reported that the Hospitals Amendment Ordinance assented to 1st June, 1933, reads as follows:-

"Such hospitals in the Territories as the Commissioner may designate upon complying with the provisions of this Ordinance, and all regulations made thereunder, shall receive such public aid as the Commissioner may from time to time fix and determine."

Although the Rae hospital has been the subject of discussion at meetings of the Northwest Territories Council and was considered an essential link in the medical facilities yet it has not actually been designated a hospital under the Hospitals Amendment Ordinance.

It was moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Dr. McGill that Farand Hospital at Rae be designated and the account be paid. Carried.

8. Geographic Board -

(i) Snyder Range 655

The Chairman briefly reviewed the discussions at previous sessions pointing out that the requirements of the Geographic Board had been substantially met by Colonel Snyder. He referred to the several expeditions organized by Colonel Snyder at his own expense and thought he was entitled to some recognition for this outstanding public service. The Deputy Commissioner inquired if it would be possible to secure a statement from Mr. H. F. Lambart, D.L.S., the technical member of Colonel Snyder's expedition before making any recommendation. The Chairman agreed with this suggestion and further consideration of the item was deferred until Mr. Lambart was heard from.

9. Greenland Matters -

(i) Recent news release by U.S. authorities 3904

The Secretary tabled a recent news release by the U.S. authorities on the defence of Greenland, copy attached.

10. Northwest Game Act and Regulations -

(i) G.C.F. Dalziel 9456-2

The Deputy Commissioner explained some of the circumstances which led to the prohibition of Mr. Dalziel operating aircraft in the Northwest Territories and Yukon Territory. The Controller of Civil Aviation wrote on the 17th January, 1941, to say that Mr. Dalziel was operating aircraft in a legitimate business in northern British Columbia and now asked for permission to extend his business. Mr. Gibson gave the following extract from the letter:-

"Insofar as this Department (Department of Transport) is concerned, no objection can be seen to Mr. Dalziel's request for the lifting of restrictions on his activities, but we agree that a restriction should be still maintained in any federal game reserve. It is also agreed that this restriction should extend to any other area which you consider it undesirable that he should enter."

Replying to the Chairman's question, the Deputy Commissioner pointed out that the Northwest Territories Administration is not responsible for the issue of licences to pilots or those operating aircraft. On the other hand the Controller of Civil Aviation has consistently made it clear to Mr. Dalziel and to all his friends that the Department of Transport would be willing to issue a licence to operate in the Northwest Territories provided Council would approve. The Deputy Commissioner reiterated his stand in the matter and explained the nature of the reply drafted (copy attached) and suggested that Council insist on the Controller of Civil Aviation accepting the responsibility for the issue of a licence to Mr. Dalziel if it was desired to authorize him to operate aircraft in the Northwest Territories.

Council agreed to this policy.

11. Arctic Matters -

(i) Miss Louise A. Boyd Expedition 1941 5099

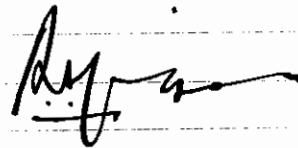
The Secretary reported that the Department of External Affairs had received an inquiry from the Canadian Legation at Washington, D.C., as to whether any objection would be taken to

- 7 -

Miss Louise A. Boyd and associates chartering the M/S "Effie M. Morrissey" (Captain Robert A. Bartlett) to enter the Territories for the purpose of making observations on the ionized regions of the upper atmosphere by means of transmission and reception of radio signals in the vicinity of the North Magnetic Pole. He referred to another inquiry from the United States Legation in Ottawa asking if the expedition would be granted permission to carry firearms for protection purposes.

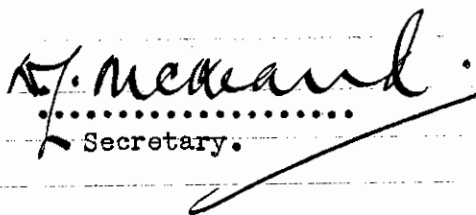
The Department of External Affairs had been advised that no objection would be taken to the expedition, provided the usual assurances required by Council were given and the provisions of the Scientists and Explorers Ordinance were complied with, and also that it would be necessary for the expedition to carry a representative of the Canadian Government. Mr. Gibson thought the Canadian representative should be a scientist and mentioned the name of Mr. Max J. Dunbar, who had been a member of the Eastern Arctic Patrol for the past two years. He suggested that Mr. Dunbar did not have the qualifications preferred by those sponsoring the expedition and that the appointment of a scientist might be made as on former occasions by the National Research Council. He recommended that the Acting President be communicated with, mentioning the name of Mr. Dunbar in this connection in case no more suitable scientist was available. Approved.

Council then adjourned.



.....
Commissioner.

D. J. ...


.....
Secretary.

CANADIAN LEGATION
WASHINGTON

No. 36.

January 9, 1941.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to previous correspondence concerning Greenland, and to enclose five copies of a Department of State press release of January 9 denying that the United States has sent troops to Greenland or that it has established any air or naval bases in that Danish colony.

2. You will note that, according to the press release, "the Government of the United States has facilitated the purchase in the United States by Greenland authorities of a quantity of arms for the use of the small number of policemen employed by the Greenland authorities to patrol the cryolite mine at Ivigtut which is Greenland's major economic asset."

I have the honour, etc.,

M. M. Mahoney

Charge d'Affaires.

The Rt. Hon.
the Secretary of State for
External Affairs,
Ottawa, Canada.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FOR THE PRESS

January 9, 1941
No. 11

The United States has sent no troops to Greenland nor has it established any air or naval bases in that Danish Colony.

The facts are as follows:

In connection with the signature on August 4, 1916 of the Convention with Denmark for the cession of the Danish West Indies, a Declaration was made by the Secretary of State to the effect that the United States would not object to the extension by Denmark of her political and economic interests to the whole of Greenland. The United States has taken no action in Greenland which would impair the validity of this Declaration.

In 1920 the Government of the United States stated that it would not be disposed to recognize the right of a third government to acquire Greenland should the Danish Government desire to dispose of that territory. The occupation of Denmark by German troops in April 1940 carried with it the potentialities of a new situation with respect to Greenland which required consideration by this Government in the light of the position which it assumed in 1920 and which it has continued to maintain. The occupation of Denmark also led to an approach to the Government of the United States by the Greenland authorities who expressed their concern over the effect upon Greenland of the course of events in Denmark by which Greenland had been deprived of free communication with Copenhagen, of the possibility of obtaining food and other supplies from Denmark, and of facilities for placing Greenland exports on the Danish market.

In response to this approach and other requests made by the Greenland authorities on their own initiative, the Government of the United States with the full agreement of the Greenland authorities has taken the following steps, none of which has operated to the injury of any legitimate interests.

1. An American Consulate was provisionally established at Godthaab to facilitate the handling of the numerous questions which have arisen with respect to the purchase in the United States of food and other supplies for Greenland and of the sale of Greenland products in this country.

2. An American Red Cross representative was sent to Greenland to determine on the spot and in consultation with the Greenland authorities what relief was needed by the inhabitants of Greenland.

3. In view of the heavy demands from many parts of the world for arms and ammunition manufactured in this country, the Government of the United States has facilitated the purchase in the United States by the Greenland authorities of a quantity of arms for the use of the small number of policemen employed by the Greenland authorities to patrol the cryolite mine at Ivigtut which is Greenland's major economic asset.

2441

Office of the
Deputy Commissioner

ADMINISTRATION
OF THE
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
CANADA

Ottawa

January 23, 1941.

Dear Mr. Wilson,

Re - G.C.F. Dalziel

At a meeting of the Northwest Territories Council this morning we discussed the letter which you addressed to me under date of the 17th instant and that written by Mr. G.C.F. Dalziel to Mr. T.G. Stephens, Inspector of Civil Aviation, Edmonton.

The Council was of the opinion that we could hardly do more than remind you of the very full information which has been furnished from time to time in regard to the activities of Mr. Dalziel and to remark that neither the Northwest Territories Administration nor the R.C.M.P. is provided with sufficient funds to enable the engaging of commercial aircraft to check up promptly on the ground suspected infractions of the regulations. Consequently, our only recourse is to give you whatever information we have and rely on the measure of control which you are able to exercise. In short, there is small chance of the police overtaking a law-breaker who is equipped with an aeroplane and is known to be resourceful and willing to take more chances than any pilot operating in the north country.

The Northwest Territories Administration has no desire to prevent Mr. Dalziel from earning an honest livelihood in the occupation for which he has undoubtedly excellent qualifications, but it is not considered that it is wise to give him the right to fly in any hunting and trapping district in the Northwest Territories or Yukon, to say nothing of flying over the native game preserves.

If you wish to take the responsibility for enlarging Mr. Dalziel's sphere of operations it is suggested by the Northwest Territories Council that he be required to turn in an adequate record of his flights so that the Northwest Territories and Yukon Administration and the R.C.M.P. may be kept informed of his activities.

I am enclosing you two copies of the Northwest Territories Game Regulations.

Yours very truly,

J. A. Wilson, Esq.,
Controller, Civil Aviation,
Department of Transport,
O t t a w a.

(sgd) R. A. Gibson,
Deputy Commissioner.