

NORTH WEST TERRITORIES COUNCIL

- AGENDA -

Wednesday, 7th January, 1931

11:00 a.m.

1. Confirmation of Minutes -
Twenty-first Session - 10th December, 1930.
2. Business arising out of Minutes -
 - (a) Committee on Legislation -
General Revision of Ordinances.
 - (b) North West Game Regulations -
Close season on beaver.
 - (c) Administration of civil matters in
North West Territories -
Scale of fees for Sheriff and Bailiff.
 - (d) Roman Catholic Hospital at Coppermine, N.W.T.
 - (e) Imperial Conference Committee on Polar Questions.
3. New Business -
 - (a) Aliens hunting and trapping in North West
Territories.
 - (b) Cumbergulf Trading Syndicate.
 - (c) North West Territories and Yukon Radio System.
 - (d) General Welfare of Inhabitants -
Quarantine.
 - (e) Air Mail Service -
North West Territories.

COUNCIL OF THE NORTH WEST TERRITORIES

Minutes of the Twenty-second Session of the North West Territories Council, held on Wednesday, the 7th of January, 1931, 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. Chas. Camsell	-	Member of Council,
Dr. D. C. Scott	-	" " "
Col. Cortlandt Starnes	-	" " "
Mr. O. S. Finnie	-	" " " and
		Director, N.W.T. & Y. Branch,
Major D.L. McKeand	-	Secretary.
	-	

IN ATTENDANCE -

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

The Minutes of the Twenty-first Session of Council, held on Wednesday, the 10th of December, 1930, having been sent to all the Members of Council and no amendments having been suggested, it was moved by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Dr. Scott, that the Minutes be confirmed. Carried.

2. Business arising out of Minutes -

- (a) Committee on Legislation -
General Revision of Ordinances

Discussion deferred.

- (b) North West Game Regulations -
To open season on beaver for Indians
and half-breeds between 15th January
and 15th May, 1931

Mr. Finnie reported that a draft Memorandum to Council designed to put into effect the recommendation of the North West Territories Council, had been prepared, and that copies of this draft had been sent to the Members of Council. No amendments being suggested, it was moved by Dr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Finnie, that the draft Memorandum to Council be submitted to the Minister of Interior for consideration. Carried.

- (c) Administration of Civil Matters in
North West Territories -
Scale of fees for Sheriff and Bailiff

Discussion deferred.

- (d) Roman Catholic Hospital at Coppermine, N.W.T. -

The Secretary read a communication received from Reverend Father Marcotte enquiring as to the special assistance that might be expected from the Federal Government in the event of a Roman Catholic Hospital being erected at Coppermine.

It was the opinion of the Members present that His Lordship Bishop Breynat was familiar with the approved policy of the Department in the matter of hospital grants. It was agreed that the first step to be taken in connection with Father Marotte's letter was to ask him what special assistance he had in mind beyond that granted in connection with the Aklavik hospital.

3. New Business -

(a) Aliens hunting and trapping in North West Territories -

The opinion was expressed that in view of the controversy over Canadians resident in Windsor working in Detroit it might be inadvisable for the time being to make it impossible for aliens to secure trapping permits for the North West Territories. The Members present disapproved of permits to trap (or trade) in the North West Territories being granted to aliens. However, before making any definite recommendation it was agreed that the Chairman should discuss the matter informally with the Minister of Interior, the matter to be brought up again at the next Session of Council.

(b) Cumbergulf Trading Syndicate -

The Secretary read for the information of Council recent communications received indicating that a trading vessel had already been dispatched for the Cumbergulf area. However, it was agreed that no action was required for the present.

(c) North West Territories and Yukon Radio System -

Following a brief discussion it was agreed that Mr. Finnie should prepare a memorandum to his Deputy Minister on the general question of the North West Territories and Yukon Territory radio system dealing particularly with the suggestion made by the Dominion Explorers that the Federal Government take over their abandoned wireless equipment, in order that the matter might be placed before the Minister of Interior.

(d) Quarantine and Medical Inspection of Ships -

The Secretary read a letter just received from Dr. Urquhart written from Edmonton (copy attached). The Members of Council appeared to agree with Dr. Urquhart and it was decided that Mr. Finnie should take the matter up with the Health Department and then submit a memorandum to Mr. Cory on which the matter might be placed before the Minister of Interior.

(e) Air Mail to Coppermine -

The Secretary reported that Commissioner Starnes had received certain data respecting the suggestion of Bishop Breynat that the air mail service be extended to Coppermine via Rae. It was pointed out that this matter was closed for the time being. However, it was agreed that the information should be noted and placed on file for future reference.

Council then adjourned.

A. J. Macdonald
.....
Secretary.

A. J. Macdonald
.....
Commissioner.
Macdonald

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
CANADA

NORTH WEST TERRITORIES AND YUKON

Edmonton, December 1st, 1930.

O. S. Finnie, Esq.,
Director of North West Territories & Yukon,
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Sir -

Your file 21-2.

With reference to quarantine of boats, etc., going into the Arctic, I have given this matter a good deal of consideration and would like to make the following suggestions.

First, with regard to the boats going down the Mackenzie river, it is doubtful if any special measures with relation to these boats would be of any great value. Various medical officers at Smith, Resolution and Simpson might, however, be instructed that in the event of any boat going down the river and leaving behind it a trail of sickness such as has occurred in the past, they advise the medical officer next farther down. This would give the individual men the opportunity of making whatever arrangements they saw fit and these would naturally vary according to the circumstances and according to the infection that was being carried.

Second, with regard to the boats going into Herschel Island, I would suggest that an ordinance be brought out which would require the examination of crews before leaving Vancouver, this with particular reference to venereal disease, and it be further required that an inspection be again made upon the arrival of these boats at Herschel Island. This would insure preventing any venereal disease getting among the Eskimo in the Western Arctic, and at the same time would have the tendency to eliminate the possibility of Influenza being introduced by that route. To carry this into effect, it would be necessary for the medical officer at Aklavik to go to Herschel Island and be prepared to inspect the boats on arrival. This would entail practically no extra work as in the ordinary course of events he would be making that patrol.

Thirdly, with regard to the boats going into the Eastern Arctic, there would be no difficulty with the Beothic as she normally carried a Government medical officer and part of his duty should be to examine the crew prior to leaving North Sydney. And with regard to people being left in the Country - they should again be re-examined prior to being left behind at any given point. The two Hudson Bay boats, I understand, also carry doctors and it could be arranged by an ordinance that they be held responsible for the same examination. The question of penalties in connection with having left any infection, venereal or otherwise, at any given point might well be taken into consideration.

In dealing with this situation and in connection with the possible drafting of further health ordinances in connection with the North West Territories, a guide might be

obtained from the various Provincial Acts relating to venereal diseases which are now in existence, and individual penalties for the transmission of venereal disease should be made moderately severe. The above outline, I think, embodies all of the necessary action that would require to be taken and could be drafted into an order-in-council with comparatively little difficulty.

Yours truly,

(Sgd.) J. A. Urquhart

Medical Officer of Health,

Aklavik.

File 737, N.W.T.

AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE AT OTTAWA

WEDNESDAY, the 14th day of January, 1931.

PRESENT:

THE DEPUTY OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL
IN COUNCIL

P.C. No. 51

Whereas the Minister of the Interior reports:

That under Section 4, Subsection 2, Chapter 141, R.S.C., 1927, "North West Game Act", the Governor in Council is authorized to alter the times fixed for close seasons on game in the North West Territories;

That P.C. 277, dated 20th February, 1928, authorized the declaration of a close season on beaver in the Mackenzie District for a period of three years, from the 1st October, 1928, and in pursuance of said authority a close season was so declared on the 27th March, 1928;

That because of a serious epidemic of influenza which broke out among the natives in 1928, making it difficult to secure food, Treaty Indians and half-breeds were permitted under the authority of P.C. 2146, dated 28th November, 1928, to take a limited number of beaver;

That representations have now been made that because of the scarcity of fur-bearing animals in the Mackenzie District the natives have not been able to secure adequate returns from their trapping operations to enable them to purchase sufficient food for themselves and their families:

Therefore, the Deputy of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of the Interior, is pleased to order that the terms of P.C. 277, above mentioned, be and they are hereby modified to provide that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police as game officers and representatives of the Department of the Interior, in consultation with the local Indian Agent, be empowered to issue a permit to one member of each Indian family or each half-breed family leading the life of Indians, authorizing him to trap in the Mackenzie District but not in the Wood Buffalo Park, not more than fifteen beaver between the 15th day of January and the 15th day of May, 1931, where the needs of such family warrant such an exception being made. Provided that if he be responsible for the support of two or more needy families he may be granted a permit to take fifteen beaver for each additional family. In districts where there are no Indian Agents the Royal Canadian Mounted Police shall act independently in the matter of issuing permits. It is provided further that the provisions of this Order in Council shall apply to residents of the North West Territories only.

The Deputy of His Excellency in Council is further pleased to order that the possession and sale of beaver pelts taken under this authority be subject to the following regulations,—

1. The pelt may be sold to a trader who is licensed to trade under the regulations for the protection of game in the North West Territories.

2. No person in the Mackenzie District other than such trader shall have the pelt of any beaver in his possession except under a permit issued under the provisions of this Order in Council.

3. Licensed traders in the Mackenzie District may purchase or acquire beaver pelts only from persons holding permits under this authority.

4. Every trader who purchases beaver pelts under this authority shall on the 1st July next, or as soon as practicable thereafter, submit a return to the Department of the Interior, through the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, giving the names of the persons from whom the pelts were obtained and the number of pelts purchased.

5. The holder of a permit to take beaver under the provisions of this Order in Council shall, as soon as practicable after the expiration of the permit, make a return to the Department of the Interior, through the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, showing the number of beaver taken under such permit and the disposition made of the same.

(Signed) E. J. LEMAIRE,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

To the Honourable
The Minister of the Interior.

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