



FOR RELEASE
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Proposed Elections Act amendments tabled

WHITEHORSE—The Government of Yukon tabled amendments to the *Elections Act* in the Yukon Legislative Assembly today.

"The proposed changes to Yukon's *Elections Act* will help modernize the legislation and make it easier for Yukoners to vote," Premier Darrell Pasloski said. "Updating the act will allow for a more streamlined, clear and consistent experience for voters in Yukon's territorial elections."

The proposed amendments include:

- more accessible and efficient voter registration, including a permanent register of electors;
- a simplified special ballot process that allows absentee electors and others with special circumstances an extended opportunity to vote; and
- enabling the creation of an independent Elections Yukon office.

"I'm happy to see the legislature's all-party Member Services Board come to an agreement on some of the chief electoral officer's recommendations from her last review of the *Elections Act*," Yukon NDP Leader Liz Hanson said. "These proposed changes are a good first step in modernizing Yukon's election laws."

Several of these amendments stem from recommendations made in the Chief Electoral Officer of Yukon's December 2014 report 'Recommendations for amendments to the *Elections Act*'.

"I want to thank Elections Yukon staff for the work they have done to make these improvements to our *Elections Act* possible," Yukon Liberal Leader Sandy Silver said. "The amendments address concerns raised by voters in the last territorial election and modernize our legislation."

Elections Yukon is responsible for ensuring members of the Yukon Legislative Assembly are elected through transparent, fair and open elections.

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