

## Motion

### **Strengthening Municipal Enforcement of Liquor Laws**

WHEREAS alcohol abuse is a prevalent problem in NWT communities and is evident on Yellowknife streets and in the downtown core;

AND WHEREAS in 2011 Yellowknife ranked third out of 238 Canadian cities with a population of over 10,000 people for the severity of its crime;

AND WHEREAS alcohol abuse is one of the biggest challenges to policing in communities across the Northwest Territories;

AND WHEREAS the enforcement of liquor laws can help to curb instances of open liquor, public drunkenness, underage drinking, the use of alcohol while operating a motor vehicle, and infractions under the *Liquor Act* by licensed establishments;

AND WHEREAS the enhanced enforcement of liquor laws help to ensure increased public safety;

AND WHEREAS municipal enforcement officers currently have the authority to inspect licensed premises and to make liquor-related traffic stops, but do not have the authority to enforce liquor laws regarding public drunkenness, open liquor and underage drinking;

AND WHEREAS strengthening the ability of municipal enforcement officers to enforce liquor infractions would, in NWT communities that have a municipal enforcement presence, address a perceived shortfall in policing;

AND WHEREAS giving municipal enforcement officers the authority to fully enforce NWT liquor laws would enable a municipality to take on this enhanced responsibility *only* if the municipality chooses to do so;



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Date of Notice:	November 6, 2013	Moved by:	Mr. Dolynny
Date of Introduction:	November 7, 2013	Seconded by:	Mr. Moses
Disposition:	Carried RV		
Carried:	November 7, 2013	Ruled Out of Order:	

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik Boot Lake, that this Legislative Assembly recommends that the Minister of Finance undertake discussion and amendments to the *Liquor Act* or other legislation, as required, to provide municipal enforcement officers with the authority to enforce liquor infractions;

AND FURTHER that the Government of the Northwest Territories provide a comprehensive response to this motion within 120 days.