



# **16<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories**

## **Standing Committee on Government Operations**

Report on the Review of the  
Human Rights Commission  
2007-2008 Annual Report

Chair: Mr. Kevin Menicoche

## **MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

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Committee Clerk

Doris McCann  
Committee Researcher

October 29, 2009

SPEAKER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mr. Speaker:

Your Standing Committee on Government Operations is pleased to provide its Report on the Review of the Human Rights Commission 2007-2008 Annual Report and commends it to the House.

Kevin Menicoche, MLA  
Chairperson

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

**INTRODUCTION**

The Standing Committee on Government Operations reviewed the 2007-2008 Report of the Human Rights Commission. The Committee would like to thank Ms. Mary Pat Short, Chair of the Human Rights Commission, and Ms. Thérèse Boullard, Director of Human Rights, for their appearance before the Committee.

**2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT**

The 2007-2008 Annual Report was the fourth report of the Human Rights Commission since its establishment on July 1, 2004. There were no recommendations in the report.

The Committee was pleased with the level of activity that occurred in 2007-2008. The Human Rights Commission hosted a national human rights conference in Yellowknife in June, 2006 with 150 delegates attending. Experts presented on Aboriginal rights, duty to accommodate family obligations, drug and alcohol testing, and other topics. In addition, the Commission visited seven communities to give presentations, and sponsored audio conferences on human rights in four communities.

The Human Rights Commission received 317 inquiries and 33 new complaints in 2007-2008. The most common type of alleged discrimination was disability.

The Committee is very pleased with the Commission's efforts to provide education and awareness workshops on Human Rights and the *NWT Human Rights Act*. We look forward to seeing continued outreach to communities and encourage you to pursue opportunities to reach people throughout the NWT.

**CONCLUSION**

The Committee commends the Commission's work and achievements to date and looks forward to monitoring the continued advancement of human rights in the Northwest Territories.