

This week's Sudoku puzzle

Solution to this week's puzzle in next week's *The Hub*

3		9			6			
	5			4				2
6		7				8		
							7	3
1	7	3						
			4	5				
				1	5		2	7
9								8
					3	6	1	5

Solution to last week's puzzle

3	6	2	4	5	9	8	1	7
8	1	5	7	6	3	2	9	4
7	9	4	8	1	2	3	5	6
4	7	1	2	8	6	5	3	9
6	8	3	9	7	5	4	2	1
2	5	9	3	4	1	6	7	8
1	4	8	5	3	7	9	6	2
5	2	7	6	9	4	1	8	3
9	3	6	1	2	8	7	4	5

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1	2	3	4			5	6	7	8
9				10		11			12
13				14		15			
16			17			18			
19		20		21				22	
23		24		25				26	
	27			28			30		
	31			32		33			
	34			35		36		37	
38			39		40	41		42	
43			44		45		46		47
48		49	50			51		52	
53					54		55		
56					57				
	58					59			

- CLUES ACROSS**
- One-time Levi's CEO
 - Emperor of Russia
 - Islamic theology scholar
 - Hammer with a large, wooden head
 - Food
 - Can be combined
 - Midway between east and southeast
 - Governs a noun or pronoun
 - Gorilla
 - Type of trap
 - "Unforgettable" singer
 - Atomic #10
 - Practice fight
 - US gov't branch
 - Female deer
 - Remarks meant for the audience
 - Undergarments
 - Prevent from seeing
 - Masked
 - "A Suitable Boy" novelist
 - Invisible gaseous substance
 - Sour
 - County in New Mexico
 - No seats available
 - Pulitzer-winning composer
 - Fit or irritation
 - The ability to move objects through thought
 - Skywalker mentor —Wan Kenobi
 - Herbal medicine seed
 - "Zero Dark Thirty" director Bigelow
 - Preferences
 - Soundly
 - One precedes another
 - Au revoirs
- CLUES DOWN**
- Famed explorer
 - Transferred property to
 - Clerical vestment
 - Free-swimming marine invertebrate
 - Cab
 - Thin piece of wood
 - Persons without pigment in their skin
 - Fill again
 - Submissive
 - His and ___
 - Sources of stress
 - Shelter
 - French commune
 - Boggy ground
 - Old man
 - Peanut
 - Michael Corleone's personal enforcer
 - Geological formations
 - Wages
 - Insect repellent
 - Unit of time
 - Musician
 - Not good
 - Esteemed one
 - Structures
 - Where workers sit
 - Women who foretell the future
 - Quantitative fact
 - Missing soldiers
 - Diminutive
 - This (Spanish)
 - Hold on to
 - Thrust a knife into
 - Hengyang Bajialing Airport

Solution to last week's puzzle

T	O	P	E	M	A	R	P	U	S	H	
S	K	A	N	E	A	R	I	N	K	A	
I	N	A	N	T	E	R	A	N	C	A	P
L	V	G	O	N	E	O	L	A	S	O	A
E	V	E	R	V	H	E	R	E	R		
L	A	N	A	R	E	S	N	X	C	A	
P	R	A	N	D	E	R	V	H			
M	E	T	A	L		H	E	A	D	E	
E	W	S	C	R	A	P	T	I	C		
P	A	S	S	O	R	A	C	T	E		
P	A	C	E	T	I	E	R	A	N	O	S
H	U	I	L	H	E	L	A	D	I	S	T
A	L	F	A	O	T						
T	O	S									

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MLAs gather views

Public meeting focuses on barriers faced by females



Jane Groenewegen, the former MLA for Hay River South, addresses a Jan. 9 public meeting held in Hay River by the Special Committee on Increasing the Representation of Women in the Legislative Assembly.

PAUL BICKFORD
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A committee of MLAs stopped in Hay River last week to hear ideas on getting more women elected to the Legislative Assembly.

"Of course, what we are looking for is something that is closer to equality," said Yellowknife Centre MLA Julie Green as the meeting was beginning.

Green is the chair of the Special Committee on Increasing the Representation of Women in the Legislative Assembly, which visited on Jan. 9.

Currently, there are just two women in the Legislative Assembly out of 19 MLAs. The most ever were the three women in the 16th Assembly.

Green said the statistics are pretty dismal. Generally, nine or 10 women run in territorial elections, compared to about 60 men, she noted. "So women tend not to run. When they do run, they win at about the same rate as men."

The special committee is seeking opinions on how to overcome barriers that prevent more women from running in territorial elections.

Green noted that MLAs passed a resolution last March setting a goal of having four women in the Legislative Assembly by the 2023 election and six by the 2027 election.

"Those are relatively modest goals, but they were ones that we thought could be achieved," she said.

The special committee was established in the fall of 2018 to identify barriers against women seeking election to the Legislative Assembly and to find incentives to increase the number of female candidates and MLAs.

"What kinds of things stand in their way?" asked Green. "What kinds of things might be useful to help them change their minds about running?"

The Jan. 9 meeting attracted 11 people — seven women and four men.

Jane Groenewegen, who was the MLA for Hay River South for 20 years, talked of her experience serving in Yellowknife as initially being a shock to the system, especially being away from her family for the first time.

She suggested the Legislative Assembly might somehow relax the rules to make it easier for families to accompany MLAs while in Yellowknife.

Groenewegen also questioned whether there is any way to create an interest in serving as an MLA if a woman didn't already have it.

"Everybody has a different take on it," she said. "I think you have to have a natural interest in politics and leadership and I don't know how you generate that. It's

like entrepreneurship."

Vince McKay — while stressing that he is not against women's rights — asked Green what is stopping women from being elected to the Legislative Assembly.

The MLA replied that some women don't see themselves as politicians and don't think they're qualified.

"So it's a confidence issue," she said.

Green noted that another common issue is some women don't want to be away from home when they're the primary caregiver for children or parents.

And she added that some women don't think they can round up enough money for a campaign, or don't like the idea of being a public figure and subjected to scrutiny by the news media and on social media.

Green also noted she has read that some women think they need to have post-secondary education in political science or something similar to run for elected office.

"Some of my colleagues didn't finish high school," she said.

McKay questioned if there are really barriers.

"In this day and age in the world of equality and equal rights, I don't know of any barriers that would ever be put up for anybody to run," he said, pointing to the number of female mayors in the NWT.

"That goes to show right there there's no barriers," he said, noting he personally votes for someone with a good platform.

"I appreciate that you don't see those barriers," Green responded. "But women see them and they're telling us that's why they're not running."

The special committee has a discussion paper about a possible quota system under which a goal would be set for how many seats women should occupy. If women aren't elected to fill those seats, they would be assigned after an election to unsuccessful female candidates.

Green said the special committee is not necessarily promoting the idea, just offering it for discussion.

While in favour of making it easier for women to seek election, Brian Willows questioned the idea of a quota.

"When we're talking about assigning seats for someone who doesn't win an election, that gives me some issues," he said. "I mean, now we're striking at the core of democracy."

Along with Green, members of the special committee at the Jan. 9 meeting included Thebacha MLA Louis Seberr, Deh Cho MLA Michael Naddi and Tu Nedhe-Wiilidhe MLA Tom Beaulieu.

The special committee has a budget of about \$30,000 to conduct public meetings.



Yellowknife Centre MLA Julie Green, left, addresses a Jan. 9 public meeting in Hay River held by the Special Committee on Increasing the Representation of Women in the Legislative Assembly. Deh Cho MLA Michael Naddi is another member of the special committee.

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