



NORTHWEST TERRITORIES LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

2nd Session

Day *

12th Assembly

HANSARD

K 98B9G85M, FEBRUARY 1- , 1992

Pages * & + %
Pagination reflects print edition

The Honourable Michael Ballantyne, Speaker

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1992

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MEMBERS PRESENT

Hon. Titus Allooloo, Mr. Antoine, Mr. Arngna'naaq, Hon. Michael Ballantyne, Mr. Bernhardt, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Mr. Dent, Hon. Stephen Kakfwi, Mr. Koe, Mr. Lewis, Mrs. Marie-Jewell, Ms. Mike, Hon. Don Morin, Hon. John Ningark, Hon. Dennis Patterson, Hon. John Pollard, Mr. Pudlat, Mr. Pudluk, Mr. Todd, Hon. Tony Whitford

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Michael Ballantyne): Good afternoon. Orders of the day for Wednesday, February 19, 1992. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Madam Government Leader.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 8-12(2): Reshaping Northern Government

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, the need to change government in a way that makes more sense at both the territorial and community levels is long overdue. It is time to put more people to work in jobs that give them greater control over capital projects and programs and services delivered in their home communities. That is what Members of the Legislative Assembly have been talking about. That is the message we want to give to all residents of the Northwest Territories.

Government in the Northwest Territories has an excellent opportunity to be different and unique in the way it responds to the needs of the people who elected us to office. There is no other part of Canada that has the opportunity we have. Their structures of government and their political party systems are too firmly established. I was reminded of this during last week's First Ministers' Conference on the Economy.

In order to achieve our goal of reshaping northern government, we have to work together and make sure that our special form of consensus government works to the benefit of all people in the Northwest Territories. With a shared vision and co-operation, we will be successful in reshaping the way government does business in the North. With confidence and resourcefulness, we will solve our financial difficulties.

With determination and creativity, we will find ways to address our economic differences and get people back to work or into the work force for the first time.

Mr. Speaker, there are many important issues facing all of us. They include defining a new way of managing government in the Northwest Territories. The current system does not work properly. It is burdensome, and it costs too much money.

We have to give communities greater responsibility and the resources to deal with basic matters such as education, economic development and social services. Unless we place these responsibilities at the community level, our constituents will continue to rely on others to solve their problems for them.

The issues also include making better use of our money and human resources while finding new sources of revenue from increased economic activity. That means we must encourage all forms of investment in the Northwest Territories, in both renewable and non-renewable sectors.

Job creation, social programs, education and training must remain top priorities. Recognizing the economic and social well-being of our communities must be the starting point of all our decision-making. Those are the messages presented in a speech to Members three months ago, just before you elected me to the position of Government Leader. They have not changed. Later today, I will be tabling a document that proposes the first steps we can take to reorganize government and transfer responsibilities to community-level governments.

Mr. Speaker, our implementation plan on reshaping northern government identifies the various jobs involved in reshaping government, a process in which this can take place, and a time frame for getting things done. The first step must be to soften the effects of the government's deficit position. The Minister of Finance has already spoken about new budget processes. He spoke about our desire and commitment to work with Members in returning to a balanced budget within two years. Of particular importance is his recommendation of presenting our capital budget in the fall of each year in order to meet the summer transportation and construction season. By taking this approach, we can make sure that projects are planned well in advance and that construction activity in any one year does not exceed what the local labour force can handle.

The Minister of Public Works will speak later in the session about a plan to equip northern people to build northern projects. We may have less money, but that is no reason why we cannot find ways to get more people back to work.

Like other jurisdictions in Canada, we must make sure that government is organized so that it does business and delivers programs and services in the most efficient manner possible. Overlap and duplication must be avoided to make sure that our most important services are maintained. All boards and agencies must be reviewed to determine if they are still needed.

A commitment to strong, effective government management and cost efficiencies and controls at both the territorial and local levels is essential. Senior management of our government is committed to this task, Mr. Speaker. We have had many meetings with them since early December, and I can tell you that they are anxious to get on with the job. So are the communities. Reports we are receiving tell us quite clearly that it is about time government transferred more control to the local levels.

The time frame we have to make the changes we want is very limited. But a stronger, more confident Northwest Territories, doing more with less, is well within our reach if everyone is prepared to work for it. Government, the Legislative Assembly and its committees have to co-ordinate their efforts and start the process right now if we want to obtain results during the four-year term of our mandate.

Decisions to carry out significant changes during the term of the government will have to be made during the first 18 months of our term. This is a window of opportunity based on budget cycles and administrative capability. How we make these changes is up to all of us, but when we make them is no longer a matter of choice.

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Mr. Speaker, our initial proposals for reshaping government and its programs and services were announced in December. Since our last session, we have been identifying the various steps involved, a process in which changes can take place, and a time frame for getting things done.

As a result of this review, we are proposing to take several immediate steps:

1) To improve co-ordination and efficiency in responding to the user-driven health and social service needs of northern residents, we are proposing a phased consolidation of the Department of Health and the Department of Social Services;

2) to provide better co-ordination of matters dealing with the sentencing and confinement of offenders at territorial and community levels, responsibility for corrections will be moved into the Department of Justice;

3) to provide a renewed emphasis on the important links between education, employment and culture, we are proposing that all programs dealing with education, employment and culture be moved, in phases, into one department. The initial consolidation would involve cultural and educational programs;

4) to gain greater efficiencies in the delivery of petroleum products and their use, we are proposing to move responsibility for the petroleum, oils and lubricants program under the NWT Power Corporation;

5) to provide improved co-ordination and gain administrative efficiencies, we are proposing to consolidate other programs and services of Government Services under the Department of Public Works; and

6) to assist the decision-making process and to eliminate unnecessary committee structures, we are proposing to restructure the Department of the Executive and its central agencies.

Mr. Speaker, still under consideration are consolidations that may affect regulatory functions; environmental responsibilities; design, engineering, construction and maintenance of houses; transportation and municipal and public works facilities; economic development responsibilities; and social housing policy.

In these areas, we have to decide whether consolidation is desired and in what time frame they should occur. It is desirable that decisions on these outstanding questions be made during 1992 to allow consolidations to occur during the term of the current Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, consolidation of departments and changing the way government programs and services are delivered is only the first step toward developing new structures of government in the Northwest

Territories. As I mentioned earlier, we are determined that government must also recognize the local way of getting things done. We need to encourage greater community self-sufficiency with strong community governments making their own decisions on behalf of the people who elected them. This means community ownership of programs and services controlled by local people who know the community and who can set their own funding priorities. Proposals on the approaches and arrangements designed to provide for local control and to set the stage for community transfer agreements are also set out in the implementation plan.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, getting this job done will require strong leadership, a common purpose and a willingness to make hard choices. In reshaping northern government, all of us will have to revise our expectations of government's capacity to meet everyone's needs. Mr. Speaker, we must plan and manage better, to do what matters most. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Ministers' statements. Mr. Kakfwi.

Ministers' Statement 9-12(2): Public Service

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All of us have heard a great deal over the last few days about the need to save money and our commitment to develop more effective forms of government. We have not heard much about government employees who are already doing their best to provide programs and services to the people of the Northwest Territories, despite budget limitations and impossible deadlines.

Over the past few years our public service has been asked to respond to increasing demands for expansion of services without a corresponding increase in the resources to deliver them. I believe they have done an excellent job, and it will be important to maintain these work habits as we deal with consolidating departments, transferring responsibilities to community governments, and streamlining our decision-making processes.

Maintaining a stable and professional public service is essential if we want to meet the challenges facing us over the next four years, and I want to assure staff at all levels of the organization that their abilities and their ideas are needed.

We intend to provide our employees with many opportunities to contribute to decision-making. They will be involved and consulted in each phase of implementation within their own departments. They will also be asked to share their ideas for change affecting other departments. Our employee suggestion awards program will be expanded to provide awards to employees who make positive suggestions resulting in more effective and efficient programs, services and organizational structures. Some of our staff will also have the chance of working on project teams that will make recommendations directly to senior management. This will provide them with experience to advance their careers. We need their skills to get this job done.

Mr. Speaker, I know there is a lot of anxiety among our staff about how the changes we are considering will affect them personally. Cabinet and senior management recognizes this fact. As a result, we are now finalizing a work force adjustment strategy to provide options for workers who are affected by departmental consolidations. This strategy will help employees find other opportunities when certain jobs become redundant because of organizational change. Hiring preference, retraining, counselling and placement assistance will be the main elements of the strategy. The processes used will be explained through personal contact and in a staff publication dedicated to providing updates on the progress of implementation along with information on human resource issues in general. By taking this approach we will contribute to a reasonably secure public service with all the necessary tools to get the job done. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Ministers' statements. Mr. Alloo.oo.

Ministers' Statement 10-12(2): Education Dispute

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There have been a number of questions this week about a request by teachers at Sir Alexander Mackenzie Elementary School in Inuvik for additional days to take more in-service training and

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to handle administrative duties. Mr. Speaker, the teachers' request to the community education council was turned down last November. As a result, the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association is supporting a work-to-rule situation. This means that teachers are not participating in school activities that

take place outside of normal classes until they get what they want.

This is unfortunate, Mr. Speaker. Under our Education Act, teachers are required to spend 190 days -- or just a little more than six months each year -- teaching our students. The collective agreement provides them with an additional five paid professional development days each year. Now the teachers at Sir Alexander Mackenzie School want an additional one and a half in-service days and one more day at the end of the year for administrative purposes. School would be closed on these days.

Mr. Speaker, there is a public process for establishing the school year in each jurisdiction. School calendars and schedules are developed by divisional boards of education and are based on our criteria of 190 teaching days. The development of the schedules involves consultation with parents through community education councils. That is the way it should be done, and I do not see any reason to change this practice.

As a result, I was pleased to learn yesterday that the Beaufort/Delta Divisional Board of Education will be reviewing this matter. Once the review has been completed, the board will be presenting a recommendation to my office.

MR. SPEAKER: Ministers' statements. Mr. Kakfwi.

Ministers' Statement 11-12(2): Plebiscite Question

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I would like to clarify information about the plebiscite question and the process for developing that question. This government is moving forward on a process and commitments made by a succession of Legislative Assemblies, including specific directions provided by the last Assembly in their spring session.

The Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories over the last 10 years has continuously indicated its support for the creation of Nunavut. A plebiscite was held in 1982 showing popular support for division. Residents over the years have also been involved in discussions about division, through processes such as the Western Constitutional Forum and Nunavut Constitutional Forum, which resulted in the 1987 Iqaluit Agreement. As Members of this Assembly will remember, Mr. Speaker, agreement was achieved through the work of the constitutional forum on certain principles, and it was agreed that the political boundary for division should be the same as the land claim boundaries.

Article 4 of the TFN final agreement requires that a Territories-wide plebiscite be held on the boundary between the eastern and western territories. This is not a vote on division, only a vote on the boundary. I have maps here that show the boundary which will be the subject of that plebiscite vote. It corresponds to the land claims' boundaries separating the Inuvialuit and Dene/Metis areas from the Eastern Arctic Inuit claim. If this boundary is accepted by the residents of the NWT, it will be the political boundary dividing the future western and eastern territories.

Agreement was also reached, as a result of Article 4, on a process for the creation of Nunavut and for the development of a constitution for the western territory.

Mr. Speaker, Members of the previous Legislative Assembly, in the spring session, discussed division, the plebiscite date and the plebiscite question. Directions were provided to government, and three motions were passed by the Assembly:

- 1) to establish a Western Constitutional Commission;
- 2) to develop, with TFN, a public consultation process for the East;
- 3) to amend the Plebiscite Act to hold the plebiscite vote.

Because the proposed timing for the plebiscite did not allow for a full discussion again in the Legislative Assembly, the caucus as a whole assigned responsibility to the Executive Council to set the date for the plebiscite vote and to finalize the plebiscite question.

Mr. Speaker, I want to clarify for the Members of the Legislative Assembly and for residents of the Northwest Territories that if we are to divide, it will not happen the day after the plebiscite votes are counted. The process and commitments for division of the Northwest Territories will allow some seven years for the elected leaders and residents of the East and West to work out their concerns and to shape the framework for the two new governments. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Iqaluit's Toonik Tyme

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very happy to announce today that

Iqaluit's Toonik Tyme has been chosen as one of the top 100 events in North America for 1992, by the prestigious American Bus Association...

---Laughter

---Applause

...which has 700 bus companies and 2000 travel organization members. This ranks Iqaluit's Toonik Tyme alongside such important Canadian events as the Quebec Winter Carnival, Klondike Days in Edmonton, Discovery Days in the Yukon, the Stratford Festival in Ontario, and Canada's 125th anniversary in Ottawa.

Iqaluit's Toonik Tyme was picked by travel industry professionals from among hundreds of submissions from all across North America. The events or festivals considered must celebrate ethnic diversity and/or historic moments and are ranked on amount of community support, uniqueness and national reputation. The top 100 events were announced on December 3 in Nashville, Tennessee, at the ABA's Marketplace, a premier travel industry tourism show. The winning events have been listed in a full colour brochure distributed by the ABA to its 2700 members.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the community of Iqaluit and their very hard-working Toonik Tyme organizing committee, who helped make last year's Toonik Tyme a great success. The special feature last year, and a highlight, was the northern entertainment night, which featured entertainers from across the Northwest Territories and northern

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Quebec. The first Toonik Tyme was held in 1965. Bryan Pearson, then mayor of Iqaluit, and Abe Okpik, a holder of the Order of Canada, were the prime organizers. From the beginning, Toonik Tyme was a springtime festival designed to promote tourism and celebrate the traditional games and skills of the Inuit, with a modern flavour. Consistent features over the years have been dog-team races, a long distance skidoo race to Lake Harbour and back, igloo building, seal skinning contests, and such modern northern sports as the honey-bag fling. Over the years many prominent Canadians have been conferred the title and accompanying scroll of "Honorary Tooniks," the first being Prime Minister John Diefenbaker.

I would like to invite you all to Toonik Tyme '92, April 19 to 25, to attend this wonderful event in the spring

sun of Baffin Island. Now all we have to do is figure out how to get the buses up there! Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: I think all Members share in your joy, Mr. Patterson.

---Laughter

Members' statements. Mr. Todd.

Member's Statement On Protection From Spread Of Communicable Diseases

MR. TODD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, on January 27, 1992, the Keewatin Regional Health Board issued a news release indicating that a dentist who provided dental services to patients in the Keewatin Region had died three days earlier as a result of an AIDS related disease. This was confirmed by information from the office of the government's press secretary in Yellowknife.

As I understand it, Mr. Speaker, all available scientific evidence suggests that the risk of a dentist or, indeed, any health care professional, infecting patients with the HIV condition is extremely slight. The risk is further reduced when appropriate infection control procedures, such as the ones used by the Canadian Dental Association, are used.

It is my understanding, Mr. Speaker, that the dentist, the late Dr. Ian Carmichael, was diligent in using these infection control procedures. I am also aware that the acting chief medical health officer for the Northwest Territories has assured the public that risk to patients who received dental care from Dr. Carmichael is very low. At the same time, Mr. Speaker, anyone who knows the history of epidemics in the Keewatin Region or, for that matter, the vast devastation caused by disease at certain times in our history, in all regions of the Northwest Territories, will surely understand the utter dread that exists at the very thought of widespread HIV infection in our small northern communities.

I believe there are certain questions which should be asked about the situation, not from an alarmist perspective but in the interest of accountability. It is important to ensure that the statutory and procedural mechanisms that this government has put into place to protect our northern communities from the spread of communicable disease are equal to the task and will safeguard our people adequately. It is for this reason -- and definitely not the reason, or any sort of reason, to raise unwanted alarm -- that I will be asking

some questions in the House today, of the Minister of Health. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Members' statements. Members' statements. Mr. Lewis.

Member's Statement On Plebiscite Question

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was concerned yesterday about the way we were being asked to advance toward the plebiscite in May. It was not with any sense of being awkward or disruptive that I denied the unanimous consent to deal with the whole plebiscite issue yesterday. The concern I have is that we are continually being told that this is a plebiscite simply to do with the boundary, and yet, despite those allegations, time and time again when you look at the plebiscite question, there are all kinds of preambles of what is going to happen in the Beaufort Sea, what is going to happen in the Mackenzie Valley, what is going to happen with employment, and so on. It seems to me that if it is just simply a matter of a boundary, then it should be made clear in the plebiscite question that that is all we are talking about, without having all these additions that tend to obscure what we are trying to do.

The other concern I have, again related to the plebiscite question, is the way in which we are trying to adjust ages, so that you can be this age to vote for that and another age to vote for something else. It is becoming an issue which I feel is becoming crowded and will make it very difficult for the people of the NWT to deal with something which, according to the statement Mr. Kakfwi made this morning, has been delegated to the Executive Council to deal with, without the input of the other Members of this House. I am very concerned about it.

MR. SPEAKER: Members' statements.

Item 4, returns to oral questions. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Pudlat.

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question O79-12(2): Lake Harbour School

MR. PUDLAT: (Translation) Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister of Education. I am not sure if he will be able to answer me at this time, but for a long time now we have been requesting a school. I am wondering what progress has been made since the request was put in. I asked about this during the last session, and at that time he indicated

that he would be more able to respond to me within a month or so concerning the school in Lake Harbour.

MR. SPEAKER: Minister of Education, Mr. Alloofoo.

Return To Question O79-12(2): Lake Harbour School

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we come to the capital items in the budget, I will be bringing up the matter of the request for a school in Lake Harbour. Once we get approval and it becomes concrete, we will find out from that point on whether we will be giving you a school in Lake Harbour.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Pudluk.

Question O80-12(2): Cultural Training For Newly Hired Teachers

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is also directed to the Minister of Education. When new teachers are hired to reside in the NWT, and seeing the traditions and cultures are different from the southern styles and cultures, are the teachers orientated about the unique culture before they are hired?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

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Return To Question O80-12(2): Cultural Training For Newly Hired Teachers

HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When we offer positions to the teachers, the hiring is done by the divisional boards of education; they are interviewed by the territorial government as well as the divisional board members. Cross-cultural workshops can be provided and acknowledgement of our culture can be provided through those workshops. For instance, they hold them in the Denendeh region and the Inuvialuit regions, and they are usually given cross-cultural workshops by their divisional boards of education to improve cross-cultural awareness and the differences between these cultures; however, if they are actually provided long-term education concerning cross-cultural awareness, that is something that I am not certain about. That probably falls under the jurisdiction of the divisional boards, and the regional centres take care of things like that. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Question O81-I2(2): Ordinary Members' Involvement In Formulating Working Document Re Beatty Report

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Government Leader. Mr. Speaker, back in December before we concluded our session, we did indicate that the Beatty report, or the Strength at Two Levels report done by Mr. Beatty, was not discussed in committee of the whole to develop ideas or to formulate a plan, and also Members were not allowed to discuss this report with the government as to how we intend to address our concerns on it. Mr. Speaker, since the government has formulated a working document, I would like to ask the Government Leader, when is the intention of the government to allow participation of the ordinary Members in formulating this document that has since been developed? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Government Leader, Ms. Cournoyea.

Return To Question O81-I2(2): Ordinary Members' Involvement In Formulating Working Document Re Beatty Report

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, if my memory serves me correctly, I believe the Strength at Two Levels document was tabled at the last session and, to my recollection, was moved into committee of the whole but was not discussed, at the choice of the Members here. As I said in my presentation today, I will be tabling the document today. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Supplementary. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question O81-I2(2): Ordinary Members' Involvement In Formulating Working Document Re Beatty Report

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just rechecking Hansard, I recall that the process for discussion was not taken during committee of the whole. These are basically the comments that I made at the time, and I quote: "Since the government has agreed to consider allowing the three ordinary Members on the implementation team for the Beatty report, as a result of our motion that we passed yesterday, the Members being selected were Jim Antoine, James Arvaluk and Fred Koe. As an ordinary Member caucus we had decided that we will conclude the debate on the 'Strength at Two Levels' and both of the Ministers statements and we will be

willing to introduce 'Strength at Two Levels' back into the February session."

Knowing that we have not reintroduced it and this implementation plan is in place, and there were three Members that were suggested to help the government develop this plan, we would like to know when the three Members will be able to participate in how this report is going to be addressed. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Government Leader.

Further Return To Question O81-I2(2): Ordinary Members' Involvement In Formulating Working Document Re Beatty Report

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, what we have been working on is the process, and once the process is established then we can begin our work program. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral Questions. Supplementary. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question O81-I2(2): Ordinary Members' Involvement In Formulating Working Document Re Beatty Report

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, it appears there is a process to be developed, but it appears from the results of the Minister's statement today that there have been some significant suggestions put forth in reshaping northern government, and basically I would like to ask the same question. When will the government allow participation from the ordinary Members, and how do they feel that our ideas will come into reshaping northern government? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Government Leader.

Further Return To Question O81-I2(2): Ordinary Members' Involvement In Formulating Working Document Re Beatty Report

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I would hope that before the end of this session we will set up a team on how the MLAs will be working with us to tap into the process that we are proposing at this time. I would hope that we have that set up before the end of this session. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Todd.

**Question O82-12(2): Protection Of The Public
Against Health Practitioners With Communicable
Diseases**

MR. TODD: My question is to the Minister of Health. Mr. Speaker, I would ask about the matter related to Dr. Carmichael's dentistry practice in the Keewatin. I am sure we would all agree, Mr. Speaker, that it is important to ensure that the safeguards which exist in our legislation, and that the policies and procedures followed by the Department of Health, are sufficient to protect the public against the spread of communicable diseases. Although all reasonable evidence suggests that there is a low risk that health practitioners can infect their patients with the HIV condition, I am concerned with some aspects of the department's response to this situation. In section 28(d) of the Manitoba Public Health Act, it allows regulations to be made which require anyone in Manitoba with certain communicable diseases, including AIDS, to report the disease to the province's chief medical health officer. I am assuming that happened in Dr. Carmichael's case.

My question to the Minister is, did the chief medical health officer for the Province of Manitoba advise her counterpart in this jurisdiction of Dr. Carmichael's condition?

MR. SPEAKER: Minister of Health.

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HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Not that I am aware of, but I will take the Member's question as notice and get back to him on that.

MR. SPEAKER: The question has been taken as notice. Oral questions. Ms. Mike.

**Question O83-12(2): Extension Of Fish
Processing Plant In Pangnirtung**

MS. MIKE: (Translation) Thank you, Mr Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. Does your department have any plans to extend the fish processing plant in Pangnirtung? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, Mr. Pollard.

Return To Question O83-12(2): Extension Of Fish Processing Plant In Pangnirtung

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Yes, we would like to do that, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Supplementary, Ms. Mike.

Supplementary To Question O83-12(2): Extension Of Fish Processing Plant In Pangnirtung

MS. MIKE: May I ask for which year?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question O83-12(2): Extension Of Fish Processing Plant In Pangnirtung

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, there are a number of things going on in the Baffin fishery at the present time. I think we would like to see a stabilization of these situations before we decide on the increased processing capability in Pangnirtung. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Second supplementary, Ms. Mike.

Supplementary To Question O83-12(2): Extension Of Fish Processing Plant In Pangnirtung

MS. MIKE: Mr. Speaker, in 1991, the quota for in-shore fisheries was 700,000 pounds. Last year, 500,000 pounds were processed. This year's quota has been doubled from 1990. When do you plan to make the extension to the fish processing plant in Pangnirtung?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Further Return To Question O83-12(2): Extension Of Fish Processing Plant In Pangnirtung

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, I cannot give a date. Some of the fish is moving through fresh. Some of the quota has to be moved out frozen. I think we would like to see if there are some more test fisheries, and I understand there is going to be over there. We would like to see what other products there will be before we make a commitment for further processing.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Todd.

**Question O84-12(2): Monitoring Keewatin Dentist
Infected With AIDS**

MR. TODD: My question is to the Minister of Health and, again, relates to Dr. Carmichael's AIDS

condition. Although the risk of infection for patients is slight, the Canadian Dental Association has acknowledged a concern about the ability of AIDS-afflicted dentists to practise safely and competently once the disease has begun to progress. The Canadian Dental Association recommends that support panels should be established to counsel and advise those ailing practitioners on the dental services they are able to provide, given their physical condition.

My question to the Minister is this: What sort of assessment or monitoring of Dr. Carmichael's medical condition was undertaken either by the University of Manitoba, the Keewatin Health Board or the Department of Health to ensure he was able to carry out his contractual responsibilities?

MR. SPEAKER: Minister of Health, Mr. Whitford.

Return To Question O84-12(2): Monitoring Keewatin Dentist Infected With AIDS

HON. TONY WHITFORD: I guess we are assuming that the Manitoba people knew about this, but I am not aware that the NWT people were aware of Dr. Carmichael's condition, and I am not sure at this point in time, Mr. Speaker, of the precautions, if any, other than what is being prescribed by all medical professional people to practise universal standards of infection control when they are working on patients. But I will endeavour to find out, Mr. Speaker, the more specific points in Mr. Todd's question.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Todd.

Supplementary To Question O84-12(2): Monitoring Keewatin Dentist Infected With AIDS

MR. TODD: Can the Minister make a commitment to review a list of the specific procedures performed by Dr. Carmichael during his visits to the Northwest Territories so that he can, where necessary, arrange for a follow-up examination of Dr. Carmichael's patients by another dentist?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

HON. TONY WHITFORD: I am not sure I understand the question here. We are talking about a dentist -- concerned about HIV or AIDS. Are we talking about the professional competence of a dentist, as to whether he puts a filling in properly? Is it the quality of work, or is it the possibility of not practising

universal standards for infection control, sterilizing needles? I am not sure what the question would be.

MR. SPEAKER: There is not really a place in the rules for a question by a Minister, but I think I will allow the Member clarification.

MR. TODD: There are certain practices put in place by dentists who have communicable diseases that are approved by the Canadian Dental Association, but we need to know and to be assured of this. Did Dr. Carmichael during his visits to the Northwest Territories follow those practices? If he did or he did not, can we arrange for a follow-up with another dentist with respect to the patients that he took care of?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Further Return To Question O84-12(2): Monitoring Keewatin Dentist Infected With AIDS

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I am informed that the dentist practised, as closely as anybody could be aware of, the universal standards for infectious diseases control.

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MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Antoine.

Question O85-12(2): Monthly Educational Grant Payments

MR. ANTOINE: Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the minister of the Department of Education in regard to quarterly funding. In December I asked some questions about it, and you were contemplating changing the educational grant payments from quarterly to monthly instalments; and if there is a change, then there will be a considerable loss of revenue to divisional boards of education. These revenues are currently used to supplement the grant in the delivery of programs and services. Can you tell the House what has happened up to date and how you are going to deal with this situation? Mahsi.

MR. SPEAKER: Minister of Education, Mr. Alloo.oo.

Return To Question O85-12(2): Monthly Educational Grant Payments

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The decision was made a year ago that the government would adhere to the auditors' report, that the funding to divisional boards would be monthly. In

doing so, the Executive Council has not made the final decision on this issue. If we are going to go into monthly contributions to divisional boards, then the government will be talking to each divisional board to see how we could accommodate the loss of revenue they would ultimately suffer, in terms of getting a monthly contribution from our government. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Antoine.

Supplementary To Question O85-12(2): Monthly Educational Grant Payments

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Deh Cho Divisional School Board in Simpson is using the interest from the quarterly funding to fund grade 11 programs in Simpson. The government decided not to fund them last year, so they are using the interest, presently, to fund grade 11. They want to increase it to grade 12, and if you cut the quarterly funding to a monthly funding, then we will lose that interest payment. Are you saying that you will negotiate with the Deh Cho Divisional School Board, the grade 11 and grade 12, as they were planning to do this year? Mahsi.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Allooloo.

Further Return To Question O85-12(2): Monthly Educational Grant Payments

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The department has developed a paper, that I will be taking to the Executive Council, on this topic. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Oral questions. New question, Mr. Antoine.

Question O86-12(2): In-House Papers Re Hospital In Fort Simpson

MR. ANTOINE: It is a question for the Minister of Health regarding the hospital in Simpson. Yesterday I asked if it was possible for me to receive some in-house working papers that you had, but you never answered me. Is it possible to get something from you on this?

MR. SPEAKER: Minister of Health, Mr. Whitford.

Return To Question O86-12(2): In-House Papers Re Hospital In Fort Simpson

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Yes, Mr. Speaker. We will be in contact with the MLA for Nahendeh in connection with any review that we are going to be doing regarding the Fort Simpson Hospital. As the documents he is referring to present themselves, we will endeavour to involve him in any consultation that we do.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Lewis.

Question O87-12(2): Undated Letters Of Resignation From Ministers

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Government Leader. If you recall, Mr. Speaker, when Mr. Pollard joined the Executive Council, one of the things that he had agreed to do is to give the Leader an undated, but signed, letter of resignation in order to strengthen her hand in this very interesting but fragile form of government. There are other Members who, apparently, were considering doing likewise in order to show loyalty and support to our Leader so that she can get the job done. I would like to ask the Government Leader, has she accepted or received any other undated, but signed, letters of resignation in the manner that Mr. Pollard had given her one?

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Government Leader, Ms. Cournoyea.

Return To Question O87-12(2): Undated Letters Of Resignation From Ministers

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Lewis.

Supplementary To Question O87-12(2): Undated Letters Of Resignation From Ministers

MR. LEWIS: Since we have a very open government and this would normally be a very, very confidential type of arrangement, I would like to ask the Government Leader if she is prepared to tell us what other letters she has received from Members of the Executive Council to indicate their loyalty and support to her.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms. Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question O87-12(2): Undated Letters Of Resignation From Ministers

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, from Mr. Whitford.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Todd.

**Question O88-12(2): GNWT's Role In AIDS
Prevention And Education In NWT**

MR. TODD: Mr. Speaker, I do not want to appear to be flogging the AIDS question to death, but it is a serious question in my riding, and I think it is a serious issue throughout the world. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister of Health about the status of this government's efforts in the area of AIDS education and prevention. Initially, much of the funding for these initiatives, I understand, was supplied by the federal government. I am a little uncertain as to whether this is still the case. Can the Minister inform the House what objectives, project personnel, and funding levels and sources are in place for AIDS prevention and education in the Northwest Territories?

MR. SPEAKER: That is quite a detailed question. If

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the Minister wants to make an effort on it. Mr. Whitford.

Return To Question O88-12(2): GNWT's Role In
AIDS Prevention And Education In NWT

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for this opportunity. Yes, we have quite an extensive AIDS awareness program in the Territories. I do not have the figures at my fingertips as to how much we spend. The Member will recall that some time ago there was a door-to-door campaign. As Mr. Lewis pointed out, in the last session there was the distribution of information related to the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases through a condom program and making people aware of the nature of HIV infection. To sum it up, we do go to some lengths to make the public aware of the dangers of HIV infection through the various sources of contact. Unprotected sex is one, but there are other areas, of course -- through intravenous and in some very rare cases through birth

There is an information program available. I am not altogether certain whether or not we do this in the numerous languages that we have, Mr. Speaker, and I think that is one area where the department could endeavour to make the public more aware. I always like to say that we should do more preventative work or information transfer through the school systems, and that is an area where we can involve ourselves a

bit more. It is a very serious concern, but not one that is being neglected by this government and the Department of Health.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Todd.

Supplementary To Question O88-12(2): GNWT's
Role In AIDS Prevention And Education In NWT

MR. TODD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can the Minister assure the House that responsibility for AIDS programs will not be transferred to the regional health boards unless adequate funding and resources are available?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Further Return To Question O88-12(2): GNWT's Role
In AIDS Prevention And Education In NWT

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will endeavour to ensure that. We are not the federal government transferring things to the territorial government.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Oral questions. Mr. Koe.

**Question O89-12(2): Minister's Statement Re
Inuvik Teachers**

MR. KOE: Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. I wish to thank the Minister of Education for his statement and response to the dispute in Inuvik between the Department of Education and the teachers. However, I find a number of the statements made by the honourable Minister do not disclose all the facts. For example, he mentions that the teachers' requests were turned down. It was turned down after it was approved. Also, other examples are where approvals were given for in-service days without the Minister's authorization. Will the Minister, after consultation with his officials, review some of the statements made by him today and elaborate further to this House?

MR. SPEAKER: Minister of Education, Mr. Alloo.oo.

Return To Question O89-12(2): Minister's Statement
Re Inuvik Teachers

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Supplementary. Mr. Koe.

Supplementary To Question O89-12(2): Minister's Statement Re Inuvik Teachers

Mr. KOE: Is the Minister also prepared to meet with the officials representing the teachers in Inuvik to resolve this dispute?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Allooloo.

Further Return To Question O89-12(2): Minister's Statement Re Inuvik Teachers

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If I am requested to meet with the officials from Inuvik, I will gladly accept the invitation. So far my information is that the Northwest Territories Teachers' Association which is the association that represents the teachers, has requested a meeting with me by letter, and I am told that the date has been set. I believe it is March 9, which the president of the NWTTA has agreed to. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Koe.

**Motion To Move Ministers' Statement 10-12(2),
Education Dispute, To Committee Of The Whole,
Carried**

Mr. KOE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a motion. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife Centre, that the Minister of Education's statement titled "Education Dispute" be moved into committee of the whole.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order, and it is quite proper for the mover to put the motion forward at this time, but normally question period is not used for motions. But the Member is well within his rights to put the motion forward. The motion is non-debatable. All those in favour? Opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Ministers' Statement 10-12(2) is moved into committee of the whole. Oral questions. Ms. Mike.

Question O90-12(2): Reduction In Student Allowances

MS. MIKE: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Minister of Education. I received a letter from a student who goes to Peterborough for native studies. The funding that student gets is \$523 per month -- \$531.43 a month, and it has been reduced to \$522.86. I would like to

know why this student assistance was reduced to that amount. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Minister of Education, Mr. Allooloo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you. I will provide the Member with the requested information. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Question O91-12(2): Exact Amount Of Grants In Lieu Of Taxes To Larger Municipalities

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Mr. Speaker, last week I asked the amount of funding that was outstanding in respect to grants in lieu of taxes to the larger municipalities, and the Minister indicated he felt it was about two million dollars. But I did indicate I would like to know if I could be provided with the exact amount. At that time he said he would provide the House with the exact amount as soon as

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possible. Can he give me an indication as to when he plans to address this issue, "as soon as possible"? Does he mean next week, next month, or by the end of this week? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Minister responsible for Municipal and Community Affairs, Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question O91-12(2): Exact Amount Of Grants In Lieu Of Taxes To Larger Municipalities

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I should be able to provide this information to the House tomorrow. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Supplementary, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question O91-12(2): Exact Amount Of Grants In Lieu Of Taxes To Larger Municipalities

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Is it fair to ask the Minister of MACA that he provide this information to the House tomorrow?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question O91-12(2): Exact Amount Of Grants In Lieu Of Taxes To Larger Municipalities

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I will make every effort to provide the request for information to this Assembly tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Oral questions. Item 6, written questions. Written questions. Mr. Pudlat.

ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question W6-12(2): Katannilik Territorial Park

MR. PUDLAT: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This written question is directed to the Minister of Economic Development. Is the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism aware of the extensive community consultation over the past four years and the strong community support for the proposed new territorial park near Lake Harbour? In light of the extensive consultation and the very strong community support, will the new Katannilik Park be a priority for the department in the Baffin Region?

MR. SPEAKER: Written questions.

Item 7, returns to written questions. Returns to written questions.

Item 8, replies to Opening Address. Replies to Opening Address.

Item 9, petitions. Petitions.

Item 10, reports of standing and special committees. Reports of standing and special committees.

Item 11, reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 12, tabling of documents. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

ITEM 12: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 9-12(2), a document entitled "Strength at Two Levels," and the "Appendices to the Report of the Project to Review the Operations and Structure of Northern Government," in English and Inuktitut. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of documents. Ms. Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 10-12(2), a document entitled "Reshaping Northern Government," in English and Inuktitut.

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of documents. Item 13, notices of motions.

ITEM 13: NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Notice Of Motion 1-12(2): Tabled Document 9-12(2) To Committee Of The Whole

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Friday, February 21, 1992, I shall move that Tabled Document 9-12(2), Strength at Two Levels, be moved into committee of the whole for consideration.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of motions. Ms. Cournoyea.

Notice of Motion 2-12(2): Tabled Document 10-12(2) To Committee Of The Whole

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, February 21, 1992, I shall move that Tabled Document 10-12(2), Reshaping Northern Government, be moved into committee of the whole for discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of motions. Notices of motions. Item 14, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Mr. Pollard.

ITEM 14: NOTICES OF MOTIONS FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Notice Of Motion For First Reading Of Bill 14: Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1992-93

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Friday, February 21, 1992, I shall move that Bill 14, Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1992-93, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of motions for first reading of bills.

Item 15, motions. Ms. Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to deal with Motion 2-12(2).

MR. SPEAKER: We have a problem. We do not have copies of it, and it has not been translated, so I

find it difficult to accept your motion at this point. Motions. Ms. Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, the motion refers to Tabled Document 10-12(2), which was just tabled a few minutes ago, and it is translated into Inuktitut. I just gave it to the Clerk.

MR. SPEAKER: According to our rules, before Members can vote on a motion, they have to have copies of it before them, and the Speaker has to have seen it; that has not taken place. I am sorry, Ms. Cournoyea. Motions. Motions. Item 16, first reading of bills. Mr. Pollard.

ITEM 16: FIRST READING OF BILLS

First Reading Of Bill 13: Financial Administration Act

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for

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Nunakput, that Bill 13, An Act to Amend the Financial Administration Act, be read for the first time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 13 has had first reading. First reading of bills. First reading of bills. Mr. Patterson.

First Reading Of Bill 9: Insurance Act

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Insurance Act, be read for the first time.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order, Mr. Patterson. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 9 has had first reading. First reading of bills. Item 17, second reading of bills. Mr. Pollard.

ITEM 17: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Second Reading Of Bill 11: Plebiscite Act

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Natilikmiot, that Bill 11, An Act to Amend the Plebiscite Act, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill would amend the Plebiscite Act to lower the voting age in plebiscites from 19 to 18 years of age; to give the power to the chief plebiscite officer to adapt the regulations to certain circumstances; and to set out when a voter may be required to take an oath. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order, Mr. Pollard. To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. Mr. Pollard.

Second Reading Of Bill 8: Elections Act

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 8, An Act to Amend the Elections Act, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill would amend the Elections Act to lower the age at which a resident may vote from 19 to 18 years of age. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order, Mr. Pollard. To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Second reading of bills. Bills 8 and 11 will be referred to the appropriate committee.

Item 18, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters.

Item 19, report of committee of the whole.

Item 20, third reading of bills. Third reading of bills. Item 21, orders of the day. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, there will be a meeting of the standing committee on finance immediately after adjournment today, which will be

followed by the standing committee on legislation at 5:00 p.m. this evening. Meetings for tomorrow morning: the standing committee on agencies, boards and commissions at 9:00 a.m.; followed at 10:30 by the ordinary Members' caucus; followed at 12:00 o'clock by the full caucus.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until 1:30 p.m., Thursday, February 20, 1992.

---ADJOURNMENT

ITEM 21: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Thursday, February 20, 1992.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Oral Questions
6. Written Questions
7. Returns to Written Questions
8. Replies to Opening Address
9. Petitions
10. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
11. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
12. Tabling of Documents
13. Notices of Motions
14. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
15. Motions
16. First Reading of Bills: Bill 15
17. Second Reading of Bills: Bill 9 and Bill 13
18. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Ministers' Statement 10-12(2)
19. Report of Committee of the Whole
20. Third Reading of Bills
21. Orders of the Day