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The Honourable Michael Ballantyne, Speaker

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Dear Lord, we ask You today to help all of us to work in harmony as we try to develop our North for all the people. Give us the knowledge we need to do our work to the best of our ability; guide us as we serve You and the people of our land. We ask You for forgiveness when we do wrong in our thoughts and words and, Lord, we ask for Your help in placing our biases and prejudices aside as we deliberate each day. We ask for Your help to find positive solutions to many of the issues we discuss. Amen.

SPEAKER (Hon. Michael Ballantyne): Good afternoon. Orders of the day for Tuesday, June 23, 1992. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Morin.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 72-12(2): Summer Program For High School Students

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the support of the Minister of Transportation and the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, I am pleased to announce that the orientation program to architecture and engineering will be running for its fifth year this summer. The program is designed to expose the students to careers related to engineering and architecture and to the importance of continuing their school work in maths and sciences.

Fifteen high school students from Inuvik, Hall Beach, Iqaluit, Paulatuk, Arviat, Rankin Inlet and Yellowknife have been selected. They will participate together in a week-long orientation session in Yellowknife. They then return to their home communities for a five-week, specially prepared work assignment under the direction of an employee from one of the sponsoring departments. For most students, this program is their first experience with summer employment at a typical workplace. All the students increase their

understanding of the career opportunities available in the NWT and the efforts and skills that are essential to take advantage of these opportunities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Morin. Ministers' statements. Ministers' statements.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome to the Legislative Assembly Mr. Percy Kabloona, Mayor of Whale Cove, and Mr. Paul Kaludjak, Mayor of Rankin Inlet.

---Applause

Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Antoine.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Social Problems In The NWT

MR. ANTOINE: Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Today I want to make a statement about an interagency statement on social issues. The groups represented here today serve thousands of people across the NWT. They are diverse groups, but they share a common concern for the alarming social problems of our people.

First, the Status of Women Council states that approximately 4000 sexual assaults took place in the NWT last year. The majority of the victims were girls under the age of 19. Number two, the Yellowknife Day Care Association states that there are about 2300 children in the NWT who require child care, but there are only about 700 licensed spaces available. Sixty-six per cent of the women in the NWT with children under the age of six work outside the home.

The NWT Federation of Labour states that thousands of northern workers and their families, especially single mothers, workers without unions and youth, suffer from inadequate enforcement of outdated laws such as the 1974 Labour Standards Act. One million dollars spent on RCMP squads here in Yellowknife could have hired a dozen qualified inspectors to make sure NWT safety laws and workplace laws are properly enforced.

The national action committee states that one in 10 children in the NWT goes to school each day without food in their bellies. The Learning Disabilities Association of the NWT states that the 1986 census reports that 44 per cent of the NWT residents over the age of 15 are functionally illiterate. Seventy-two per cent of the aboriginal people over age 15 are in this

group. Each year in the Northwest Territories, between 700 and 800 students leave the school system before graduation.

Northern Addiction Services states that in the spring of 1991 they opened a new 32-bed rehabilitation centre on the Dettah Road. The Department of Social Services provides operating funding for 20 of the 32 beds. Shortly after opening the new centre, the Department of Social Services commissioned Linda Bell, president and chief executive officer of Bellwood Health Services, to perform an evaluation of Northern Addiction Services. What are the government's plans for implementing the recommendations?

The YWCA states that...

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Antoine, your allotted time has expired. Mr. Antoine.

MR. ANTOINE: I seek unanimous consent to continue with my statement.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Antoine.

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The YWCA states that in the last year only 20 per cent of abused women utilized shelters, while the other 80 per cent continued to be beaten. This government must ensure that women who have been beaten are able to seek safe shelter. Last year only 2.4 of the male abusers had access to counselling to stop their violent behaviour. Last year, children made up 51 per cent of those in shelters. However, there have been no new resources made available for these children in order to stop the cycle of violence.

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There is a group called CLASS, Casaw Ladies Association of Support Services, that represents 240 families whose family members are on strike at Royal Oak mine. They fund raise in order to take care of their own, but if this strike goes on much longer, they will have to turn to Social Services for assistance to feed their families. They object to the over \$50,000 a days pent on the riot squad, which serves to inflame tempers and increase the potential for violence.

The Association of Community Living states that the territorial government spends \$100,000 each year for every mentally handicapped person from the NWT living in a southern institution. The Yellowknife Women's Centre states social assistance recipients,

many of whom are children, are constantly placed in jeopardy by government failure to abide by their own child welfare and financial assistance legislation and regulations. An adult on social assistance received only \$184 per month for food and personal care items. Our cost of living is 25 per cent higher than the cost of living in Alberta, where an adult receives the same rate of \$184.

The Native Women's Association of the Northwest Territories would like to bring the Government of the Northwest Territories' attention to programs and services. The Native Women's Association would like to state that they fully support programs and services that would address the issues and concerns that face aboriginal families in the areas of family violence. We support, they say, the wishes and desires of aboriginal communities, in that they must be allowed to identify and initiate their own programs and services.

In the recent release from the Commission on Western Constitutional Development, one of the recommendations was that the aboriginal communities receive recognition and funding for the healing process to begin in preparation for the transfer of programs and a move toward self-government.

Mr. Speaker, the group's goal is that they would respectfully request that the Assembly put aside their differences and work together as a team in order to address these pressing issues. There are dysfunctional communities, caught in a vicious cycle of violence, substance abuse, illiteracy and substandard housing conditions, that cannot properly benefit from decentralization or economic development. They ask that we commit ourselves to help the people first, and ask for a budget that reflects that commitment. They cannot see cuts to service delivery positions or to helping groups or agencies. They want to see cuts, instead, to government management and administration, cuts to all unnecessary government travel, particularly outside the NWT, and cuts to all non-essential construction. They want to see the government helping NWT organizations maximize, and they do not want to use outside consultants and groups. They would like it to minimize and eventually eliminate all outside consultants and groups. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Antoine. Members' statements. Mr. Lewis.

Member's Statement On Legislature Working As A Team

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Over the last week as we have been sitting, ordinary Members have been under some criticism for the appearance of not really taking the work of the Government of the Northwest Territories as seriously as they should. There has been a perception that we have spent our time, in fact, struggling with issues that are not to the benefit of all of the people of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, we all know that this is an unusual form of government. It is unique, and it is important to recognize that ordinary Members began four and a half years ago to try to find the areas in which there was a common purpose, a common understanding of things that mattered to the public at large, so the government would not be driven by one or two interest groups. I think it has been successful in doing that.

I would like to make this point today, Mr. Speaker, because the Member's statement we have just heard has made it clear that the public would like us to set aside our individual differences and to work together as a team. I believe that although at this early stage there are some problems that we have not completely resolved, I would like to assure the public that there is a dedication among all ordinary Members to work together. I think, from what I can see, if any individual Member seems to be pursuing a particular interest group or a particular line, if you like, that is of a personal nature, then we will be even more fragile than we are. I can assure the public that we do have some kind of vision and we will try to push for the kinds of changes that the public would like to see in the social area. Thank you.

-Applause

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

Member's Statement On Appreciation To Women

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I was coming to the Assembly, walking along the busy streets of Yellowknife a few minutes ago, it was business as usual; nothing out of the ordinary; everybody doing their own thing; crossing the street, people, trucks, cars, moving along; business as usual. But something very special was happening through the process that I saw that struck my inner spirit. A lady and her two little ones were crossing the street;

two little ones crossing the street at the safety of their mother, given the assurance and kindness of their mother. The same process, Mr. Speaker, was repeated by different mothers with different kids.

-Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Members' statements. Mr. Gargan.

Member's Statement On Hunters 'And Trappers' Coverage By Workers' Compensation Board

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, honourable Members will recall that I have risen in this House several times to speak against the policy which the Workers' Compensation Board has used to define whether aboriginal people are "principally engaged" as traditional harvesters for the purpose of injury compensation.

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I have opposed this policy, Mr. Speaker, because it states that if you receive income from other sources for a period exceeding 131 days during the year prior to the accident, you are not principally engaged as a hunter or trapper. It also states -- and this is what I have disagreed with the most -- that if you do not earn a minimum of \$10,000 from traditional harvesting for the 12-month period prior to the accident, then you are not to be considered as a hunter or trapper either.

The entire philosophy behind this definition of which hunters, trappers and fishermen are eligible for compensation under the Workers' Compensation Act misapplied non-native criteria related to the wage economy. It has, I believe, conveyed an inexcusable demonstration of the board's lack of awareness about traditional lifestyle and work patterns of aboriginal Northerners.

I am sure I should not have to remind you, Mr. Speaker, that for aboriginal people, being a hunter is a matter of how you live and not how much you earn. If an individual is seen by his family, his elders and his community as being principally engaged as a hunter or trapper, then he should be recognized as such by the Workers' Compensation Board.

I was comforted to learn that the Workers' Compensation Board review committee recently overturned an adjudicator's decision that was based on this policy. In doing so, the committee ruled that the policy is contrary to the spirit in which the Workers' Compensation Act was amended by the

10th Assembly when provisions for the hunters' and trappers' coverage were first included in the legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to see that the board has recognized that this policy should never have been made. I will now be calling on the Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board to ensure that it is rescinded and that a new definition of "principally engaged" - which reflects our honoured traditions as aboriginal people - is developed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Members' statements. Mr. Todd.

Member's Statement On Criticism By Media Of Ordinary Members

MR. TODD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to express concern over some of the speculation and inaccurate perceptions that I have heard recently with respect to the work that is carried out on the floor of this chamber. Mr. Speaker, I realize it is fashionable in some circles to be critical and suspicious of all politicians, and I realize that the media coverage of political pursuits has tended to capitalize on this fashionable trend by taking a cynical view of the role which is performed by elected officials in our contemporary society.

Mr. Speaker, I come here every day. I meet with my colleagues regularly. I chair and belong to standing committees, and I attend the ordinary Members' caucus on a regular basis. I want to tell you that the portrayal of ordinary Members as sharks circling the cabinet, as disruptive influences, has characterized this House as a snake pit; and it is simply not based on reality. I am personally fed up with it. I am particularly concerned, Mr. Speaker, by the manner in which the ordinary Member for Thebacha has borne the brunt of this belief.

During the last election, the message I heard more clearly was the crying need for government accountability in the Northwest Territories. Unfortunately, where ministerial government exists in conjunction with public service entrenchment in its own way of doing things, this is not always a warm, fuzzy process. However, ordinary Members on this side of the House are committed to ensuring that government departments, agencies, and Ministers will be held accountable. This is what leads us to good government.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Todd. Members' statements. Mr. Koe.

Member's Statement On Society For Friends Against Family Violence

MR. KOE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to say a few words about the Society for Friends Against Family Violence. The Society for Friends Against Family Violence has been very active in the town of Inuvik. The society has been actively pursuing funds for programs to be delivered in Inuvik. The statistics show that services are badly needed in the area of family violence. There has been and is a definite requirement for services to be offered to individuals in the smaller communities, as well as Inuvik.

The society recognizes the need for services and has identified various programs once funding is acquired. The services they are looking at are: emergency houses; housing; crisis intervention and counselling; life skills counselling; legal advocacy; children's support group; public education; women's resource room; nutrition counselling; and parenting skills. Friends Against Family Violence is also planning to build a network with elders so that an intergenerational program can be delivered for children. Friends Against Family Violence is looking to other organizations, such as the Gwich'in Tribal Council and Inuvialuit Regional Council, for involvement in regard to providing additional funds for counsellors' positions. This will ensure that more aboriginal people are trained to work in this field. Aboriginal counsellors trained in this field will certainly benefit the programs' success.

Mr. Speaker, these programs are required to ensure that we have healthy communities with healthy individuals. We also need to promote programs that focus on family development. The programs that the Friends Against Family Violence are proposing to deliver will assist in providing a foundation for a healthy community and a healthy society. I would like to commend the members of the society for the time and effort they have put into this important issue. I would also like to thank the Minister of Social Services for his support in being able to secure some funding for the society. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me the opportunity to speak on this important issue.

-Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Koe. Mr. Arvaluk.

Member's Statement On Canadian Broadcasting Corporation

MR. ARVALUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have to speak my mind today. We listen to news items go through the electronic media as well as the paper medium. For example, in my community above the tree line in the Eastern Arctic, I hear nothing but bad news in reference to our work in this House. While I am aware that the people involved in producing the news have an obligation to sell news and to keep us informed, Mr. Speaker, I want it to be known that CBC should not be selling their news to the receiving media, especially in Inuit communities. They should not be selling commercials within those communities. Because of that, first of all I want to say that we are happy with the performance of the aboriginal people, because they present a balanced view of things happening, and Radio Canada is not part of the Work provided by CBC, so I want to state my support for the news that is provided by CBC Eastern Arctic. I encourage them to continue producing their work within their own style because it helps to promote awareness of what we are trying to do. When we keep hearing bad news about what is happening here, it causes concern; and the image is that good things are not happening within the House. This is the image that is also being received by visitors. So I encourage the aboriginal media to continue their efforts. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Members' statements. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Member's Statement On Media Allegations Re MLAs

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the topic of the media and how they are creating an atmosphere of MLAs doing nothing but fighting. Mr. Speaker, MLAs, as my previous colleagues have stated, are attempting to make the government accountable. The media, particularly News North, believe that the attempt to make government accountable is my personal vendetta. I have to tell them that their allegations are totally wrong.

--- Applause

My colleagues have stated that I speak many times on behalf of the ordinary Members' caucus and not on my own agenda. Mr. Speaker, let me assure you that if I had my way, I would address the continually increasing costs of providing RCMP for Royal Oak that may have to be absorbed by this government; the concern of many social problems that we face in the North; the concern of the housing shortage that we face in the North, and the list can go on and on. The fundamental problem that we faced during these past couple of sessions is that we were working in this House without a budget presented to us. We have difficulty in asking questions on programs. We have another problem, particularly myself: Whenever I want to ask a question, many of my questions are taken under notice.

Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention whatsoever to create a violent atmosphere. It is, however, our intention to make the government accountable. Mr. Speaker, I would request, in fairness, that the media be courteous and be responsible in reporting our actions as MLAs.

However, I do want to indicate one particular message that I have always wanted to say: that I am happy that they take the time to write or report about me, because at least the energy you focus on me allows you to leave someone else alone. Thank you.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Ms. Mike.

Member's Statement On Potential Of Scallop Harvesting, Cumberland Sound

MS. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am concerned about an issue of great economic significance to the Baffin Region. The fisheries harvest has enormous potential to bring employment and better standards of living to the people of the Eastern Arctic. It is crucial that this potential be further explored, but there is more to the potential in Cumberland Sound than halibut and char. There are scallop beds just waiting to be exploited. The federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans, in 1989, set a quota for scallops in Cumberland

Sound at 220,000 pounds for the year, yet right now no one is harvesting scallops and bringing this money into the Baffin Region, even though there is great interest in developing this resource.

P and L Fisheries in Pangnirtung is an organization which operates without public funding and provides winter employment for 80 fishermen. This firm actually has a 45-foot multi-purpose vessel that has been used by the firm in the past to harvest scallops and other marine fisheries. Currently, funds are needed to refurbish the vessel to make it suitable for scallop harvesting, but when P and L applied to the Department of Economic Development and Tourism for assistance to repower their ship so that they could expand their harvest and provide year-round employment, they were turned down.

I understand that there is a policy against market disruption, and that the Northwest Territories Development Corporation is already involved in a winter fishery industry, but there is no existing scallop business to be disrupted even though the testing and processing by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans indicates that there is potential within the scallop harvest for more than one business to be involved. Since a significant market demand exists in places like Montreal and Toronto as well as in American centres, the potential for scallop sales is virtually limitless.

This will be the fourth season the potential for scallop harvest is being ignored by the government. The residents of the Baffin need this industry. The re-evaluation of policy and past decisions made in this area

MR. SPEAKER: Ms. Mike, your time has expired.

MS. MIKE: Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to conclude my statement.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Ms. Mike.

MS. MIKE: Mr. Speaker, the residents of the Baffin need this industry. The re-evaluation of policy and past decisions made in this area is long overdue. This government must move now to help local people harvest this resource. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Her Honour Helen Maksagak, Deputy Commissioner of the Northwest Territories.

--- Applause

Members' statements. Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Returns to oral questions. Mr. Alloo.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Further Return To Question O548-12(2): Amount Paid To Truckers For Hauling Gravel, Fort Providence

HON. TITUS ALLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Gargan on June 17, with respect to the amount paid to truckers for hauling gravel at Fort Providence. Truck haul rates are not set by the Department of Transportation. The department's long-standing practice for highway reconstruction contracts is to publicly tender the work. The market then determines the prices bid for construction, including gravel haul. The prime contractor will often subcontract hauling to local trucking firms. The rates agreed to between the prime contractor and trucking subcontractors are a private contractual arrangement.

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In general, the rates currently being paid to subcontractors are less than the rates on the tender bid since the prime contractor allows for incidental costs, overhead and profit. The construction market has been very competitive lately, complaints from some trucking subcontractors stating that they cannot make a fair return at the rates being offered by prime contractors. Question O608-12(2): Term Position, Child Sexual Abuse The department is examining this issue, and I will be making a recommendation to cabinet in the near future. Our objectives are to ensure fairness and good value for public funds while ensuring the long-term viability and stability of northern businesses. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Returns to oral questions. Ms. Cournoyea.

Return To Question O546-12(2): Study On Benefits For Privatization Of Power Corporation

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Todd on June 17, regarding a privatization study of the Northwest Territories Power Corporation. On March 26, 1992, I indicated to this Assembly that it was the intention of this government to privatize the Northwest Territories Power Corporation. This direction is consistent with the position of the previous government and standing committee on finance, and it has been the objective since the purchase of the Northern Canada Power Commission. At that time, I suggested a phased-in

process may be considered but that a privatization strategy would be developed and that the strategy would be provided to the standing committee on finance.

On April 2, 1992, I indicated to this Assembly that the government would consider recruitment of an independent consultant to prepare a report on the feasibility of privatization. In addition, I agreed to provide the results of that study, if complete, at the fall session. To date, discussion between officials of the Department of the Executive, Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, and the Northwest Territories Power Corporation has taken place. Mr. Fred Abbott, retired partner with Coopers and Lybrand, has been retained to prepare a report on the feasibility of privatization, and I anticipate the report will be complete by the fall session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Further Return To Question O523-12(2): Power Corporation Layoffs In Fort Smith

I have another return to an oral question asked by Mrs. Jeannie-Marie Jewell on June 16 with respect to the recent layoff notices given to eight Northwest Territories Power Corporation employees in Fort Smith. I would provide the following information: 1) These positions were declared redundant based on a review of operational requirements and technological change; 2) the corporation's operational requirements including those in Fort Smith, are unrelated to the Government of the Northwest Territories' decentralization initiative and, as such, are not covered by the work force adjustment program; and 3) employees of the Northwest Territories Power Corporation are covered under a collective agreement separate from that of government employees and layoff entitlements that are contained in that agreement.

In a continuing effort to upgrade the electrical supply system in the Northwest Territories, the corporation is involved in a program targeted at improvements to safety, efficiency and reliability. These improvements will not be accomplished without operational impacts. While it is not my intention to advise Members of each staff relocation or layoff notice, I can advise the Assembly that opportunities for limited work force adjustments are being considered and that any affected employee will be treated in a fair and forthright manner. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Returns to oral questions. Item 5, oral resulting in bid prices which are quite low. This has led to questions. Oral questions. Mr. Antoine.

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Coordinator

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Social Services in regard to the statement I made at the beginning of the session. The Status of Women Council states that 4000 sexual assaults took place in the NWT last year. There is a term position of a child sexual abuse coordinator which finishes in July. I would like to ask the Minister what the government plans to do with this position. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Return To Question O608-12(2): Term Position, Child Sexual Abuse Coordinator

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The position indeed is going to expire at the end of July. However, we have already begun a review of the terms of the position, with the intent of extending it.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Pudlat.

Question O609-12(2): RCMP Services in Lake Harbour

MR. PUDLAT: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question I would like to direct to the Minister of Justice. As we know, the smaller communities do not have enough RCMP, or the RCMP are going to be taken out in some of the communities. The community I am representing is a small community, so I would like to ask the Minister a question. Before I was born, there used to be RCMP in the community that I am representing. I believe there was an RCMP even before Cape Dorset had one, so my question is to the Minister of Justice. In the community I represent, they are concerned about whether the RCMP is going to be taken out of the community because of funding being cut. Since they have had an RCMP for many years, are they going to keep an RCMP in the community I am representing? Can he answer my question?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question O609-12(2): RCMP Services in Lake Harbour

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I assume the Member is referring to Lake Harbour. There is no intention to deprive Lake Harbour of any RCMP presence. However, because of financial constraints,

I am currently discussing with the RCMP and with the Solicitor General for Canada and the commissioner of the RCMP for Canada how the available resources could best be deployed in the Northwest Territories. The debate and discussion is not at this point resolved, so I cannot at this point assure the Member that the Lake Harbour detachment will not be deprived of one member. There is no possibility that the police presence in Lake Harbour would be eliminated. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Todd.

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Question O610-12(2): Outside Firms Bidding On Northern Work

MR. TODD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for Arctic College. In the Nunatsiaq News of June 12, there was an ad placed, an invitation to tender for catering services for the Arctic College in the Baffin Divisional Board of Education. In the tender call it said, and I quote, "Contractors may obtain tender documents from the above address as of June 5. Out-of-town bidders, please contact CINI Little International at (416) 967-," et cetera, a Toronto address.

In discussions with this company, I find that they have handed out four or five of the requests for proposals to Toronto firms. Is it the policy of Arctic College to encourage outside firms to bid on northern work when there are competent competitive northern contractors in place?

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

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would have to take the question as notice since I have no background in this particular area. I will check into this for the Member and the Legislative Assembly as to what is happening in this particular matter. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The question has been taken as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Antoine.

Question O611-12(2): Government Action Re Child Care Services

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of Social Services, and it has to do with the day-care situation in the North, where there is a real need for child care services in the North. Twenty-three hundred children

require child care, while there are only 700 licensed spaces. Can the Minister tell the House what this government is planning to do about this situation? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Return To Question O611-12(2): Government Action Re Child Care Services

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the issue of day-care is one that I have already addressed in the House in terms of drafting a new policy for day-care from what we currently have. I think, specifically to the question, the program still exists in the way it was introduced; it is a subsidy program. We are able to maintain right now the same level of services as in the previous year. We are reviewing the policy with the intention of taking it to cabinet shortly.

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

Supplementary To Question O611-12(2): Government Action Re Child Care Services

MR. ANTOINE: Yes, the Minister indicates that he is working on adopting a new policy. Is it possible to see this policy and possibly have input from this side of the House? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Further Return To Question O611-12(2): Government Action Re Child Care Services

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we fully intend to be discussing it as time allows, and there will be a consultation process taking place that will allow the public's input.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Question O612-12(2): Status Of Report Re Fuel Oil Contracts

MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Government Leader. Several months ago the government awarded 22 contracts for the delivery of fuel oil in NWT communities. Following concerns expressed by the 11th Assembly's standing committee on finance, Mr. Ben Anderson was retained to conduct a review and delivered a report to the Government Leader on December 17, 1991. This report was provided to the Government Leader, so I

am certain that she will be able to respond to my question. On December 17, the Government Leader advised the House that she had asked Mr. Anderson to do a follow-up report to include recommendations for improving the award process. What is the status of that follow-up report? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms. Cournoyea.

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I will take that question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The question has been taken as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

Question O613-12(2): Changing Definition Of "Principally Engaged" In Workers' Compensation Act

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board. Mr. Speaker, there was a ruling by the appeal committee of the Workers' Compensation Board that indicated in section 10(1) of the Workers' Compensation Act, that the policy is contrary to the spirit of intent of the section. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not there is a review now in place that would look at maybe changing the definition of "principally engaged" as described by the policy.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question O613-12(2): Changing Definition Of "Principally Engaged" In Workers' Compensation Act

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Gargan.

Supplementary To Question O613-12(2): Changing Definition Of "Principally Engaged" In Workers' Compensation Act

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister when he intends to bring the new policy forward.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question O613-12(2): Changing Definition Of "Principally Engaged" In Workers' Compensation Act

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, the review of the hunters' and trappers' coverage under the Workers' Compensation Board has been under way for some time now. It is being conducted by the Workers' Compensation Board and officials from the Department of Renewable Resources, who are paying for hunters' coverage under the WCB Act. I am told that a meeting was held again this week on this issue and that the review committee is awaiting the report of the ABC committee to note any comments they have on this issue. The object is to have a new policy available by the end of this summer. Thank you.

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MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Todd.

Question O614-12(2): Arctic College Procedures For Contractual Agreements

MR. TODD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for Arctic College. Does Arctic College fall under the policy and procedures of the Government of the Northwest Territories when seeking and tendering contractual agreements?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O614-12(2): Arctic College Procedures For Contractual Agreements

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As far as I know, yes, and if they do not, they should. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Todd.

Supplementary To Question O614-12(2): Arctic College Procedures For Contractual Agreements

MR. TODD: Given my previous case, Mr. Speaker, will the Minister assure that they do?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Allooloo.

Further Return To Question O614-12(2): Arctic College Procedures For Contractual Agreements

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

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Gargan, did you have another supplementary from your last round? I

am sorry, I saw your hand too late, but go ahead with your supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O613-12(2): Changing Definition Of "Principally Engaged" In Workers' Compensation Act

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board whether or not the appeals committee -- I do not know whether or not there are any claims right now under the definition of "principally engaged," but, in practice, how are they handling the section now that you no longer have the policy defining "principally engaged" What are the appeals committee basing their decisions on now?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I will have to take that question as notice. Thank you.

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

Question O615-12(2): Plans For Expansion And Diversification Of Fishery Industry In Baffin

MS. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. Mr. Speaker, I spoke earlier about my concern about the lack of response by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism to efforts of Pangnirtung business people to harvest the ripe scallop beds of Cumberland Sound. My question is, could the Minister advise the House what plans, if any, have been developed for the expansion and diversification of the fishery industry in the Baffin Region?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Return To Question O615-12(2): Plans For Expansion And Diversification Of Fishery Industry In Baffin

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, as I said yesterday in the House, there is a long-term plan to develop the fishery there. We recognize the importance of it to the south Baffin. We recognize the importance of it to Pangnirtung. There are two competing interests in Pangnirtung. We are extremely interested in the scallops coming out of that particular area. I know there is a problem with the vessel there. I know the engines are out of it, and there may be some cracks in the hull. I am going to

Iqaluit and Pangnirtung in July. I hope to resolve the issue when I am in Pangnirtung at that time, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Ms. Mike.

Supplementary To Question O615-12(2): Plans For Expansion And Diversification Of Fishery Industry In Baffin

MS. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary for the same Minister. Will the Minister table that plan sometime during this session?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Further Return to Question O615-12(2): Plans For Expansion And Diversification Of Fishery Industry In Baffin

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, we do not know what the resource is there yet. We are presently seeking a vessel to do some exploratory work over the next few years in that area, so as far as tabling a plan in the House that says what the resource is overall and what our long-term goals and objectives are with that resource, it would be hypothetical for me to say that we had one. But I will get back to the Member with how we intend to proceed over the next three or four years with a view to the exploration of that fishery. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Ms. Mike.

Supplementary To Question O615-12(2): Plans For Expansion And Diversification Of Fishery Industry In Baffin

MS. MIKE: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary to the same Minister. I had understood him to say that there is a long term development plan. Would it be possible to have that long-term development plan tabled in this House?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question O615-12(2): Plans For Expansion And Diversification Of Fishery Industry In Baffin

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, I will table the EDA plan that pertains to fisheries in the Baffin. That is one I was talking about regarding exploration, but as far as harvesting that resource, we do not know what is there yet, so I do not have a harvesting plan. I

will table the EDA plan for that particular area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Ms. Mike.

Supplementary To Question O615-12(2): Plans For Expansion And Diversification Of Fishery Industry In Baffin.

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MS. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the same Minister. I thought the Minister was aware that just outside of Pangnirtung Fjord there is a three-mile long, one and three-quarters wide, scallop bed that has been identified. There are two other areas that also have been identified. The one in Pangnirtung Fjord has been estimated to be 10 feet in depth. I am wondering if the Minister is aware of the scallop bed that I am talking about?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question O615-12(2): Plans For Expansion And Diversification Of Fishery Industry In Baffin

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Yes, I am, Mr. Speaker. The vessel that presently has no engines, that is in Pangnirtung right now, is one of the vessels that was working in that area. I do not think it completed, before it lost its engines, all of the exploration in that area, so I know there is a resource there already but there may be more, Mr. Speaker, and that is what we intend to find out. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: I wonder if I could take this opportunity to welcome my former colleague, Mr. Peter Fraser.

--- Applause

We all miss Mr. Fraser's humour in this Assembly.

Oral questions. Mr. Zoe.

Question O616-12(2): Advice Of Agencies, Boards And Commissions Committee Re "Principally Engaged" Definition

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board. This is a follow-up on my colleague's question in regard to the policy regarding "principally engaged." Mr. Speaker, this whole review has been going on for a couple of years now. Why is

the review committee waiting until the agencies, boards and commissions committee review is concluded?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O616-12(2): Advice Of Agencies, Boards And Commissions Committee Re "Principally Engaged" Definition

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I am surprised that the honourable Member would question why people working on an aspect of the operations of the Workers' Compensation Board that came under great scrutiny and criticism in this House in the last session and previous session-- I am surprised that the honourable Member would question why people working on that review would not want to receive advice from this House that has undertaken a fairly extensive review of the WCB, including that issue. Let me make it clear, Mr. Speaker, the review is not paralysed while they are waiting for the ABC committee report. It is ongoing, but they are going to take into account the advice of the ABC committee, if any, on that issue before they conclude their work. I do not think that is an unreasonable approach for them to be taking with regard to any committee of this Assembly.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Zoe, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O616-12(2): Advice Of Agencies, Boards And Commissions Committee Re "Principally Engaged" Definition

MR. ZOE: Mr. Speaker, I am surprised at the response the honourable Minister has just given me. On this specific issue, I am not worried about the overall comprehensive review of the agencies, boards and commissions committee review. That specific issue, in regard to that specific policy, is the one I am questioning. Why is the review committee not moving forward on it? They already know the views of the agencies, boards and commissions committee. Why can they not deal with it right away?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question O616-12(2): Advice Of Agencies, Boards And Commissions Committee Re "Principally Engaged" Definition

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I think the real problem is money. The real reason why this issue is still not resolved is that the government has to reimburse the Workers' Compensation Board for

every dollar that is provided by way of compensation to a hunter, and if the definition of a "hunter" is to be made more generous, then additional money that is now presently in the budget of Renewable Resources has to be identified to pay for those additional costs. That is a real problem.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudlat.

Question O617-12(2): Creation Of Jobs In South Baffin

MR. PUDLAT: (Translation) I have a question to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. We all know we are facing budget restraints, and those of us from the small communities have to maintain ourselves in the small communities. In the South Baffin, we are trying to get jobs for people. We are trying to find ways to start supporting the local community economically. Can the Minister indicate to me if they are going to have a survey done on creating jobs in the communities? Could he answer my question in the next session?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Return To Question O617-12(2): Creation Of Jobs In South Baffin

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Gargan.

Question O618-12(2): Action Taken On Pipeline Spill

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I have a newspaper clipping from May 4th. There is a pipeline that burst about 25 kilometres north of Fort Simpson. I know the article is true because it was done by Mr. Mercredi.

---Laughter

I think it was the Mackenzie Times. I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Economic Development if there was any action taken with regard to containing the spill, and what kind of damage was done?

MR. SPEAKER: With these sorts of questions, it is up to the asker of the question to attempt to verify the authenticity of the report. Mr. Gargan obviously has done that. Mr. Pollard.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, I have no knowledge of this incident. I did not read that

particular newspaper, although I am sure it is a good publication. But I will look into it and report back to the House. I will take it as notice.

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MR. SPEAKER: The question is being taken as notice. Ms. Mike.

Question O619-12(2): Long-Range Plan For Corrections Services

MS. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Social Services. The Department of Social Services currently has the responsibility for corrections services. I am concerned about long-range planning for these services and the direction in which the department plans to develop. Can the Minister confirm to the House that a 15-year corrections plan is in the process of being prepared?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Return To Question O619-12(2): Long-Range Plan For Corrections Services

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is a long-term plan for corrections being undertaken. I am not certain it is 15 years. I will seek out the exact length of time that this review will be encompassing and get back to that portion of the question.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is not taken as notice unless a Minister specifically says it is. Supplementary, Ms. Mike.

Supplementary To Question O619-12(2): Long-Range Plan For Corrections Services

MS. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Recognizing that concerns were made last Thursday about the need for cabinet Ministers to remain abreast of important issues, can the Minister assure the House that his departmental officials are briefing him regularly on the status of this important initiative?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Further Return To Question O619-12(2): Long-Range Plan For Corrections Services

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Koe.

Question O620-12(2): Recommendations Of 1990 Labour Standards Law Review Panel

MR. KOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The NWT Federation of Labour states that thousands of northern workers and their families, especially single moms and workers not represented by unions, and youth, suffered from inadequate enforcement of outdated laws, such as the 1974 Labour Standards Act. To the Minister of Public Services, who I think is responsible for labour: When will the territorial government accept the recommendations which were made over two years ago by both business and labour by the 1990 labour standards law review panel?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question O620-12(2): Recommendations Of 1990 Labour Standards Law Review Panel

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I answered questions about this issue during the last session. I informed Members of this Assembly that the department was studying the recommendations of that important review group; that we were hampered by a lack of resources and the priority that has been placed on the mine safety bill now under development; but that I was confident I would have something to report back to the Assembly on that issue this fall. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Antoine.

Question O621-12(2): Provision Of Services For Abusers And Abused

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Social Services. Earlier, I commented on the findings of the YWCA, which points out that only 2.4 per cent of male spousal abusers have had access to counselling, so that means about 97.6 per cent of male spousal abusers did not have any counselling at all. The YWCA also stressed that only 20 per cent of the women who are abused have direct access to safe shelter facilities. Can the Minister of Social Services explain to the House why his department continues to overlook the need to provide programs and services aimed at intervening the cycle of violence, which threatens the safety and well-being of so many families across the Northwest Territories? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: I wonder if I could ask Members to take note. I think the question is presupposing

something on the part of the government. Maybe I could ask the honourable Member to rephrase that question.

MR. ANTOINE: I am just asking the Minister of Social Services to explain to the House what his department is doing to try to deal with the situation.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Antoine. Mr. Whitford.

Return To Question O621-12(2): Provision Of Services For Abusers And Abused

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the answer to that is in the efforts that the department is making to establish safe shelters in each of the regions and to respond to requests by the Society Against Family Violence, for instance, which has made for new initiatives that may be deemed necessary in that area. Encompassed in the safe homes will be provisions for counselling for both spouses, whichever one it may be, the children, and the abuser as well in some cases. We are endeavouring to meet the needs on a regional basis first, given the limited financial circumstances we see ourselves in.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Antoine.

Supplementary To Question O621-12(2): Provision Of Services For Abusers And Abused

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of Social Services a supplementary question. I would like to know what the Minister is doing to ensure that there are adequate programs and services in place in the correctional facilities, and in community-based counselling, to make sure that the abusers receive appropriate counselling. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Further Return To Question O621-12(2): Provision Of Services For Abusers And Abused

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In situations where the person is in a facility and they themselves attempting to address a problem of spousal assault or violence, it is within the facility's mandate to provide, as much as it can, counselling services within our corrections facilities. But the individuals themselves take on some responsibility to seek that help. We provide it wherever we can and wherever it is requested.

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

Supplementary To Question O621-12(2): Provision Of Services For Abusers And Abused

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is evident from the statistics provided by the YWCA that only 2.4 per cent of male spousal abusers have access to counselling, and it is obvious that the existing program is not providing necessary services to them. Can the Minister explain to the House how his programs are being provided? He says they are provided in the correctional facilities. I am wondering how they were provided. Thank you,

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Further Return To Question O621-12(2): Provision Of Services For Abusers And Abused

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would be glad to make arrangements for the YWCA to discuss this problem with our department, and see how we can review the report that they have, so that we can find some common ground and some solutions to it.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Question O622-12(2): Arviat Health Committee Representative On Keewatin Regional Health Board

MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Health. I would like to find out if there has been an appointment made from the Arviat Health Committee. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms. Cournoyea.

Return To Question O622-12(2): Arviat Health Committee Representative On Keewatin Regional Health Board

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: No, Mr. Speaker.

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Arngna'naaq.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Lewis. Supplementary To Question O622-12(2): Arviat

Health Committee Representative On Keewatin Regional Health Board

MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ: I would like to know why there has not been an appointment. This vacancy has been there since November or December of 1991.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms. Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question O622-12(2): Arviat Health Committee Representative On Keewatin Regional Health Board

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, the initial delay in appointing additional members to the health boards when they became vacant, is because we had a general directive put out that we would put on hold, for a period of time, appointing members to boards and agencies unless there was a requirement for a quorum, until we had established and looked at the boards while we were going through our budget exercise. Recently, we took another change in direction, which was to put forward the appointments that are from the communities. Because the Legislative Assembly has been in place, we have tried to keep the cabinet decision-making to a minimum, so these appointments are prepared and they are ready to go to cabinet. But at this point in time, because we are in session every morning, with caucus and other meetings, we just have not been dealing with it. As soon as the session is over and we can proceed with the paper work, they will be appointed. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Lewis.

Question O623-12(2): Tabling Of Housing Needs Survey

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have heard quite a bit today about social problems in the Northwest Territories. Some half a dozen years ago, there was a major survey on housing in the Northwest Territories. I would like to ask the Minister responsible for housing whether he is going to table that housing needs survey, which was done at great expense, so that Members can have a look at it soon?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Morin.

Return To Question O623-12(2): Tabling Of Housing Needs Survey

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will be happy to table the findings of the 1992 housing needs survey, in September.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lewis.

Supplementary To Question O623-12(2): Tabling Of Housing Needs Survey

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, this is obviously an urgent matter. We heard this afternoon how urgent it is that we deal with social problems, so I would like to ask the Minister, would he committee to the Keewatin Regional Health Board to date. table that document today so that we can be aware of the nature of these social housing problems throughout the Northwest Territories?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question O623-12(2): Tabling Of Housing Needs Survey

Supplementary To Question O623-12(2): Tabling Of Housing Needs Survey

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister responsible for Housing, if that document was taken with him to Ottawa to show Mr. MacKay the kinds of problems we have in the Northwest Territories?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question O623-12(2): Tabling Of Housing Needs Survey

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The 1992 housing survey is not completed yet, and I did not take this survey with me to Ottawa. In my meeting with Mr. MacKay, I was using figures from the 1991 housing survey which indicated a shortage of 3100 units. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Lewis.

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Supplementary To Question O623-12(2): Tabling Of Housing Needs Survey

MR. LEWIS: Will the Minister confirm, Mr. Speaker, that when he went to Ottawa, he was not able to fully brief Mr. Elmer MacKay on the nature of the problem that we have in the Northwest Territories?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question O623-12(2): Tabling Of Housing Needs Survey

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was able to brief him fully on the problems we have in the Territories.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

**Question O624-12(2): Status Of Complaints
Commission Review Re Kitty
Nowdluk-Reynolds Case**

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will direct my question to the Minister of Justice. The Minister and all honourable Members will be very familiar with the shameful fashion in which an aboriginal Northerner was treated by the Canadian justice system. I am speaking about Kitty Nowdluk-Reynolds of Iqaluit, who was victimized once by a sexual assault and victimized again by the Crown and RCMP officials, who arrested her and dragged her across the country in handcuffs to testify against her assailant. I would like to ask a question with regard to the RCMP complaints commission last May. Will the Minister advise this House whether he has yet been shown the findings of the commission's review?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question O624-12(2): Status Of Complaints Commission Review Re Kitty Nowdluk-Reynolds Case

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Not yet, Mr. Speaker, no.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Gargan.

Supplementary To Question O624-12(2): Status Of Process Complaints Commission Review Re Kitty Nowdluk-Reynolds Case

MR. GARGAN: I would like to ask the Minister whether or not the RCMP has advised the Minister when he may be able to expect the results of the commission's review.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I should make it clear that this Public Complaints Commission review is quite independent from the RCMP, and I have every expectation that their report on the Nowdluk case will be made public. I will undertake to find out the latest information on when that report could be expected, Mr. Speaker, and I will take the question as notice.

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

Question O625-12(2): Assessment Of RCMP Complaints Commission Process

MS. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have an oral question for the Minister of Justice. I would like to thank my honourable colleague from Deh Cho for raising, on several occasions, matters surrounding the treatment of Kitty Nowdluk- Reynolds by RCMP officers. I understand that Ms. Nowdluk's case was reviewed by the RCMP Public Complaints

Commission in March of this year. My question is for the Minister of Justice and it deals with the procedures used by the commission in general, not the specific complaint filed by Ms. Nowdluk.

The hearings that were held involved a courtroom filled with different lawyers and wore a very adversarial and emotional process. In many ways, such hearings are as traumatic as a court trial. Has the Minister of Justice, or his officials, had an opportunity to assess whether this is the best way to treat a victim of crime who has a complaint about the conduct of the RCMP?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question O625-12(2): Assessment Of RCMP Complaints Commission Process

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I am as anxious as anyone to see the result of the Public Complaints Commission review. I think that the recommendations, what they find and what they say about the conduct of persons involved in that case, will be a very critical element of review of the effectiveness of that process. If people went through some pain in the hearing, but they got a good, strong result that they are happy with, and justice was seen to be done, then maybe the assessment of the effectiveness of that process will be different than if the recommendations are less than satisfactory.

To answer the Member's question, I have not yet undertaken a review of that kind because I think the most important element of the equation, namely the final recommendations of that commission, is not in place. Until they are in place, I think it would be premature to judge the process without the end result. I cannot answer that question definitively at this point. I think it is premature to review the matter without the

conclusion of the end product of that process in hand. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Ms. Mike.

Supplementary To Question O625-12(2): Assessment Of RCMP Complaints Commission Process

MS. MIKE: Mr. Speaker, perhaps the Minister has forgotten his own courtroom days when he must have noticed the manner in which some witnesses are badgered and intimidated by lawyers who are only trying to discredit their testimony. Would he be willing to direct his department to evaluate whether such an adversarial process actually discourages people from bringing forward complaints against the RCMP?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question O625-12(2): Assessment Of RCMP Complaints Commission Process

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I certainly would be willing to direct my department to undertake such an evaluation, but, as I say, I believe that it should be done in the context of the conclusion of this commission review, so it may take some time yet before that analysis can be done. Yes, I will do it, but I think we should have the results of the review in hand to ensure that we get the full picture. Thank you.

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

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Supplementary To Question O625-12(2): Assessment of RCMP Complaints Commission Process

MS. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A supplementary to the Minister of Justice. Would the Minister be willing to approach Mr. John Bayly or Mr. Lazarus Arreale, the Northwest Territories representatives on the RCMP Public Complaints Commission, with the request that more culturally consistent procedures be developed for hearing the complaints of aboriginal Northerners?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question O625-12(2): Assessment Of RCMP Complaints Commission Process

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, the honourable Member has asked me to evaluate the adequacy of the process, and now she is asking me to reach a conclusion on the adequacy of that process with respect to a culturally sensitive viewpoint. I am certainly willing to approach the Northwest Territories representatives on the Public Complaints Commission review with our recommendations as to how the process can be more sensitive to victims and to aboriginal people involved in the process, but I think it should happen after we have done the evaluation that the Member has requested. Yes, once the evaluation is done, I would not hesitate to approach our representatives on that commission and the Solicitor General of Canada, who is responsible overall for the Public Complaints Commission, with our advice on how the process could be improved. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, first of all I would like to seek unanimous consent to extend question period.

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to extend question period. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Question period will be extended. Mrs., Marie-Jewell.

Question O626-12(2): Security Costs For Royal Oak Mine Strike

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Justice. We recognize and know that the Minister of Justice has granted extra RCMP security for the current dispute happening at the Royal Oak mine site. I would like to ask if the Minister has, to date, received a confirmation from the federal government as to whether or not they will be absorbing these extra RCMP costs?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question O626-12(2): Security Costs For Royal Oak Mine Strike

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would respectfully correct the Member's preamble to her question. As Minister of Justice, I have concurred with the commanding officer, G Division, for additional RCMP reinforcements in connection with this labour relations dispute. The reinforcements were provided and authorized by the commissioner for the RCMP

Canada and the Solicitor General of Canada. The answer to the Member's question is, no.

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question O626-12(2): Security Costs For Royal Oak Mine Strike

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL: Can he give us an estimated cost of what this is mounting up to be?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question O626-12(2): Security Costs For Royal Oak Mine Strike

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, as of today, the RCMP reinforcements have been here for three weeks at between \$50,000 and \$60,000 a day, plus the cost of two turnarounds in the vicinity of \$30,000 for aircraft charter. That works out to an estimate of over a million dollars. We have not yet received a detailed breakdown.

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question O626-12(2): Security Costs For Royal Oak Mine Strike

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL: What measures is he taking to ensure the federal government will absorb this cost?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question O626-12(2): Security Costs For Royal Oak Mine Strike

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, both myself and Madam Premier have written a number of clear and strong letters to various federal Ministers, including the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and the Solicitor General for Canada, stating our view as to why the responsibilities for these extra police reinforcements rest with the Government of Canada and putting the Government of Canada on notice that we hold them financially responsible for these bills. There have been a number of letters written in that connection, in addition to discussions at the officials level.

MR. SPEAKER: Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question O626-12(2): Security Costs For Royal Oak Mine Strike

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL: Mr. Speaker, when the Minister made a Minister's statement on June 17, he indicated in this House that as of Friday, June 12, the costs had reached one million dollars. It is now June 23rd. So I would suspect it would be something like two million dollars. What steps toward a solution of trying to address and minimize the cost of this issue does he intend to take?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question O626-12(2): Security Costs For Royal Oak Mine Strike

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, Members of cabinet and senior officials are meeting regularly, sometimes twice a day, to assess this very difficult situation. We are now considering how we might enforce with the federal government our determination that these costs are the federal responsibility. Cabinet will be considering options tomorrow morning, and the House will be advised of the next steps we might be taking in this connection.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lewis.

Question O627-12(2): "Healing Our Spirit, World Wide Conference"

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I again refer to the brief on Social Services that we heard earlier, given by Mr. Antoine. There is a concern that we are not making the right

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MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Return To Question O627-12(2): "Healing Our Spirit, World Wide Conference"

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The requests by groups who work with alcohol and drug counselling services across the NWT to attend a conference of this nature. Initially the request had been by the groups to send several people from each of the counselling facilities, and this would have far exceeded our budget. Because the department and I place a high priority on alcohol and drug counselling services, this was a solution to the numerous requests we were getting. Rather than send several people from one agency or one group, we would approve the travel costs for one individual from each of these communities to attend this conference. I think it is a good solution. Further Return To Return

To Question O628-12(2): Efforts Being Made In Search For Johnny Tonka.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lewis.

Supplementary To Question O627-12(2): "Healing Our Spirit, "World Wide Conference"

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In light of the concerns about cutbacks in all the Social Services departments, is this a priority? Have the commitments been made to these 42 people to travel outside the NWT to a conference?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Further Return To Question O627-12(2): "Healing Our Spirit, "World Wide Conference"

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Lewis.

Supplementary To Question O627-12(2): "Healing Our Spirit, "World Wide Conference"

MR. LEWIS: This is a worldwide conference. Could the Minister tell us how many people he estimates will attend this conference from around the world?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will take the question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The question has been taken as notice. Mr. Antoine.

Question O628-12(2): Efforts Being Made In Search For Johnny Tonka

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. Members are aware that an elder from Simpson has been missing since Friday evening from the community, and I hope that with his experience on the land he may be safe. So considering the search being conducted for John Tonka is now under the direction of the RCMP, has the Minister communicated with the detachment commander or with the chief superintendent of that division to ensure that all possible efforts have been made to conduct an intensive search?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question O628-12(2): Efforts Being Made In Search For Johnny Tonka

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: I was going to answer the question, yes, Mr. Speaker, but I would not want to mislead the honourable Member. do not communicate directly with the RCMP, but through my officials, yes, that communication has occurred with the detachment commander in Simpson. matter the Member is addressing is a solution to numerous

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Antoine.

Supplementary To Return To Question O628-12(2): Efforts Being Made In Search For Johnny Tonka

MR. ANTOINE: Can the Minister tell me how the search for Johnny Tonka has been funded? Is there a certain policy or program from within your department that provides for a search of this nature?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question O628-12(2): Efforts Being Made In Search For Johnny Tonka

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, yes, there is a policy on community scorches which is in place within this government. It does provide for reimbursement to community members for gas incurred in a search of this kind, and that is happening in Simpson in connection with this search. The RCMP also can, and have, made funds available for searches of this kind, and those funds were already made available for the air part of the search that has been under way. I should also note that, through the co-operation of the Department of Renewable Resources, fire crews have also been made available to assist with the search, and that department has absorbed related costs associated with that and of course, Mr. Speaker, community volunteers are also assisting. All that is co-ordinated by the RCMP.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Zoe.

Question O629-12(2): Food Basket Survey

MR. ZOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Social Services. During the 11th Assembly, Motion 19-11(2) recommended that the Department of Social Services make significant changes to the way social assistance rates are calculated. One of the recommendations was that the new food basket survey should be conducted by October of last year, and that social assistance rates should be calculated on the basis of this new survey.

Could the Minister inform this House whether this food basket survey has been completed?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Return To Question O629-12(2): Food Basket Survey

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, it has.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Zoe.

Supplementary To Question O629-12(2): Food Basket Survey

MR. ZOE: Could the Minister tell me when his department plans to recalculate social assistance rates based on this new survey?

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MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Further Return To Question O629-12(2): Food Basket Survey

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The survey has been completed, and the results are being reviewed by the department to evaluate the impact it is going to have on our budget. The review will be completed by the summer, and it should be ready by September.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Zoe.

Supplementary To Question O629-12(2): Food Basket Survey

MR. ZOE: Is the Minister also considering the possibility of indexing the cost of living?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Mr. Speaker, the difference between the costs in the community and the rates paid is a prime concern, and we were addressing that issue. I would like to take that question as notice to see whether the cost of living is going to be included, in addition to the parity between the communities that we deal with.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is taken as notice. Mr. Gargan.

Question O630-12(2): Rates Paid To Private Truckers

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Transportation with regard to the rates paid to private truckers. When a contract is awarded on the construction of highways, is it possible for the hauling of gravel to be one section of the contract, as opposed to subcontract?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Allooloo.

Return To Question O630-12(2): Rates Paid To Private Truckers

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is one of the areas my department is looking at to see how large contracts can be broken down so that northern trucking businesses, who are not able to take on large contracts, are able to bid on the smaller contracts, so that northern companies are benefiting from these contracts.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pudluk.

Question O631-12(2): North Pole Expedition Rescue

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the Minister of emergency measures in regard to the people who were travelling up to the Arctic Circle. I would like to know who picked them up from the North Pole.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I have requested that information. I have not received it yet. I will have to take the question as notice.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is taken as notice. Oral questions. Mr. Lewis.

Question O632-12(2): Economic Benefits To North Re Participation In Expo '92

MR. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, on March 6, 1991, I asked the Minister responsible for Economic Development a lot of questions about our participation in Expo, in Seville. I spent about an hour and a half wondering why we were going. My question to the Minister of Economic Development is, since he was the SCOF chairman at that time and supportive of this project, does he expect the predictions of Mr. Wray will in fact emerge as Mr. Wray had predicted; that we would be putting \$800,00 into our producers of arts and craft in the Northwest Territories; \$1.4 million in salaries to employees; \$650,000 into the hands of food

producers; and we would have a net benefit of \$2.8 million into the territorial economy? Does he think those predictions, on the basis of his current information, will be borne out?

MR. SPEAKER: Senior Pollard.

Return To Question O632-12(2): Economic Benefits To North Re Participation In Expo '92

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Si, Mr. Speaker. I will be putting a report into the House either tomorrow or Thursday with regard to the exposition, but certainly the purchase of arts and crafts and of meat products from the Northwest Territories, as well as the hiring of the majority of people from the Northwest Territories, will plow most of the money that it is going to cost us to be there back into the Northwest Territories. I will have further details on that later in the week. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Antoine.

Question O633-12(2): Education Assessments

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Learning Disabilities Association of the NWT states that the 1986 census reports 44 per cent of NWT residents over the age of 15 are illiterate; 72 per cent over the age of 15 are aboriginal people; and each year in the Northwest Territories, between 700 and 800 students leave school before graduation. My question to the Minister of Education has to do with "assessments must be done before programs can be prescribed." I would like to know from the Minister, where are these educational assessments conducted especially for the Western Arctic?

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

Return To Question O633-12(2): Education Assessments

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, we know now the statistics of our students, their graduations, and their post-secondary graduations that are taking place in the Northwest Territories. We conducted the survey in co-operation with the CEIC, which is a federal department. From these studies, we will be making some enquiries as to how we can improve the number of students staying in school to graduate from our high schools. In terms of developing criteria to respond to the report, my department is working with all the partners in education, mainly with the divisional boards, to come up to these solutions to questions that are raised in the report. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Antoine.

Supplementary To Question O633-12(2): Education Assessments

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The problem here is that there are a lot of children that have learning disabilities in our school system in the North. The problem is assessing them. I know that in my particular community, there is a great concern by parents there that proper assessments are not being conducted for all the students. I would like to ask the Minister if he is aware of this problem, and, if he is, what he is doing about it? Thank you.

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MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Allooooloo

Further Return To Question O633-12(2): Education Assessments

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you. During this session, Mr. Speaker, I was asked a question by the Member for Thebacha with respect to assessments done on students who may have some disability for learning. The current assessment is being done at Stanton Yellowknife Hospital with doctors there, but more comprehensive studies or assessments of these students are being done in Edmonton at one of the institutions. I cannot recall the name, but I will get back to the Member as soon as I can on the name of the institution where our students are going to get assessments. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Antoine.

Supplementary To Question O633-12(2): Education Assessments

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are all aware of the financial difficulties that this government has and the amount of learning disabilities that exist in some of the communities. There are quite a few students that should be assessed, and it would cost quite a bit to have them all come to Yellowknife and a bit more to go to Edmonton. I was wondering if the Minister could tell me if his department is going to be doing anything about getting the assessors to go into the communities more than they have been in the past? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Allooooloo.

Further Return To Question O633-12(2): Education Assessments

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. That is one of the areas we could look at. There has been a tri-ministry committee from the departments of Education, Health and Social Services, that is examining the area of services to children, and they will make recommendations to enhance service ability and delivery of this program. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Antoine.

Supplementary To Question O633-12(2): Education Assessments

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A final supplementary. Can the Minister tell me, is his department looking at the eventual move of doing all the assessments in the Northwest Territories? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Allooooloo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:

Mr. Speaker, I would have to take that question as notice. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The question has been taken as notice. Oral questions. We will take a short break before we go onto the next item.

--- SHORT RECESS

Item 6, written questions. Item 7, returns to written questions. Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 7: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

CLERK OF THE HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, return to Question W36-12(2), asked by Mr. Nerysoo to the Minister of Transportation concerning the Department of Transportation guidelines for use of construction equipment; and return to Question W41-12(2), asked by Mr. Lewis to the Minister of Personnel regarding summer student employment with the Government of the Northwest Territories.

W36-12(2): Department Of Transportation Guidelines For Use Of Construction Equipment

Hon. Titus Allooooloo's return to Question W36-12(2), asked by Mr. Nerysoo on June 18, 1992: The difference in the procedures used to maintain the Dempster Highway between the Yukon and the Northwest Territories is due to the type of material available on each side of the border.

In the Yukon, the material used is a sedimentary shale, which is softer than the glacial gravel found on the eastern side of the mountains in the Northwest Territories. The Yukon shale can be easily compacted using "packers" after it has been wet bladed. The gravel material available in the Northwest Territories does not respond as well to treatment by "packers."

The department's policy with respect to surface treatment procedures is included in the highway maintenance manual which allocates budget to the maintenance activity, as appropriate to the traffic use and material resources available on specific sections of the highway network.

W41-12(2): Summer Student Employment With The GNWT

Hon. Stephen Kakfwi's return to Question W41-12(2), asked by Mr. Lewis on June 19, 1992: In the summer of 1991, 340 students were hired by the government. Of the 340, 241 were hired in Yellowknife and 99 were hired in the regions. It is important to note that 1991 was an all-time high for student hiring. The number of students hired in Yellowknife was more than double the number hired in previous years.

To date, 267 students have been hired this summer. Of the 267, 181 have been hired in Yellowknife and 86 have been hired in the regions.

As of June 22, 1992, the number of students employed by the government is down 11 per cent overall from the number hired in 1991. However, the student placement period is May through August. The government will attempt to continue placing students to the end of August to hire as many as possible.

MR. SPEAKER: 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. Mr. Todd.

ITEM 10: REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Committee Report 12-12(2): Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance On Inter-Sessional Activities

MR. TODD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The standing committee on finance has continued to be active

since this Assembly last met. The committee met in Coppermine the week of May 4 to 8 to discuss the goals and objectives of the committee and received briefings from the Ministers of Finance, Housing and Public Works, and we met with members of the public to receive their feedback.

The committee met again in Yellowknife during the week of June 9 to 12, and the committee received briefings from the same Ministers, as well as a briefing on education, Reshaping Northern Government, the health billings dispute, Expo in Seville, the NWT Development Corporation and the NWT Business Credit Corporation.

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The committee also considered the Interim Appropriation, No. 2, for 1992-93; Supplementary Appropriation, No. 1, for 1992-93; and the amendments to the Insurance Act. We will report on these bills as they come before the House for consideration.

The committee feels that it is important for residents in the communities outside of Yellowknife and the regional centres to be able to meet with and share their concerns with Members of the Legislative Assembly. It is for this reason that we held one of our meetings in Coppermine. We hope to visit other communities during the life of this Assembly.

During our meetings in Coppermine the committee held a well-attended public meeting in the community hall and met with the Chamber of Commerce, the hamlet council and members in general. The committee had an opportunity to meet with many residents of Coppermine to discuss their concerns.

Goals And Objectives

During the previous meetings the committee discussed its goals and objectives for the examination of the fiscal initiatives of the government. However, it is the consensus of the committee that we not just review government initiatives but that we offer some practical solutions to our financial difficulties. As a result, the committee decided that it will explore some options to generate new revenue for the Northwest Territories and to use our existing resources for the maximum benefit of all our residents.

The committee developed a list of broad topic areas that we will concentrate on over the year and a half. The committee will develop option papers on each of

these issues and report back to the Assembly. On new revenue resources, the committee will be looking at the ramifications of legalizing gambling, offshore investment capital, development of a heritage investment fund, and take a serious look at the development of an ethical investment fund. In terms of existing resources, the committee will be taking a hard look at the workers' compensation fund, northern pension funds and how they are used, development of a basic infrastructure policy and import replacement substitution.

The committee also discussed in some detail the Northwest Territories Power Corporation. The committee remains concerned about the operation of this corporation. In particular, we are concerned that there has been no comprehensive review of the cost and operation of this organization. The committee sees this as being of particular relevance concerning the recent application for rate increases announced by the corporation.

The committee wishes to ensure that an independent review be conducted as soon as possible. Therefore, the committee recommends that the Legislative Assembly request that the Auditor General of Canada undertake a comprehensive audit of the Northwest Territories Power Corporation and report there on to the Legislative Assembly.

With respect to Reshaping Northern Government, the committee is pleased to see the positive action by the cabinet in terms of consolidation, reforming programs, decentralization and privatization. We are supportive of the planned departmental consolidations going forward as soon as possible with no delay. Members did express two concerns: that the plans did not appear to incorporate consideration of regional bodies as expressed in recent publications of the western constitutional groups, and the Kitikmeot and North Slave have been left out of the current decentralization plans.

The committee also wishes to emphasize as well that restructuring alone will not bring about change. People in government are key to successful management of change. Their knowledge levels, attitudes and behaviour must be directed toward and supportive of change. This means better communication with employees throughout the civil service and amongst ourselves as politicians, demonstrating the political will to carry it through.

Current Government Gridlock

Members also expressed some concern, perceived or otherwise, about the current government gridlock. Since the territorial government is such a major influence in the daily lives of so many of us in the North, we cannot allow it to close ranks like a herd of musk-ox under siege. Rather than halting decisions or reducing spending, there is a pressing requirement to hasten good decisions and to target more productive use of our resources and find more resources to invest in the North. We must clearly look at the revenue side and not only the expenditures. The bold political action on the business incentive policy announced by the Minister of Public Works is typical of the greater initiative that needs to be taken.

The Department of Education has committed to present to the committee in July or August an action plan for schools, and in the following year an action plan on integrating post-secondary and transition to good programs. The department recognizes the enormity of the problem that exists in the Northwest Territories and has started, admittedly later than it should, to take steps to address it. It has been 10 years since the 1982 special committee on education provided a blueprint to this government on the use of education.

The standing committee on finance recognizes that there is a diversity of opinion on how to deliver educational programs and awaits these action plans in order to comment on how the department is planning to deal with our educational problems and whether our resources are properly directed. We are concerned that change may not be coming swift enough to benefit the burgeoning youth or young population of the NWT or those willing to work but not yet prepared educationally. We are also concerned at the apparent lack of communications between the Department of Education and Arctic College at headquarters and in the regions. We are, however, heartened by recent good news -- a satisfactory resolution of negotiations with the UNW and the NWTTA, completion of the boundary plebiscite, promising mineral developments in the Kitikmeot riding and an NWT company selling their services to Russia, to name a few.

On the other hand, we remain disappointed at the federal position in negotiations on health costs, public housing funds and changes to the formula funding regime. In particular, given the 3500 unit shortfall of public housing in the Northwest Territories, we are concerned that federal cutbacks will condemn our people to live in inferior living conditions and will be a serious handicap to the quality of life in which we live.

The standing committee on finance continues to support the cabinet in the fundamental changes necessary and will continue to monitor its progress and offer creative solutions where possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

With that, I would like to move a motion.

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MR. SPEAKER: Proceed, Mr. Todd.

Motion To Move Committee Report 12-12(2) To Committee Of The Whole, Carried

MR. TODD: I move that Committee Report 12-12(2), Report of the Standing Committee on Finance, be moved into committee of the whole for consideration.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order, Mr. Todd. All those in favour of the motion? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

--- Carried

The Report of the Standing Committee on Finance, Committee Report 12-12(2), will be put into committee of the whole. Reports of standing and special committees.

Item 11, reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 12, tabling of documents. Mr. Patterson.

ITEM 12: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table Tabled Document 56-12(2), Sexual Assault, A Help Book for Teens in the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of documents. Mr. Antoine.

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table Tabled Document 57-12(2), Inter-Agency Statements on Social Issues.

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of documents. Mr. Kakfwi.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 58-12(2), Feasibility and Socio-Economic Study for the GNWT Aircraft Maintenance Facility, Final Report, and a summary in Inuktitut.

MR. SPEAKER: Tabling of documents.

Item 13, notices of motions.

Item 14, notices of motions for first reading of bills.

Item 15, motions.

Item 16, first reading of bills.

Item 17, second reading of bills. Item 18, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Tabled Document 9-12(2), Strength at Two Levels; Tabled Document 10-12(2), Reshaping Northern Government; Motion 6-12(2), Discussion of Sobriety Clause in Contribution Agreements; Committee Report 10-12(2), Special Committee on Constitutional Reform Report on the Multilateral Conferences on the Constitution; Bill 3, An Act to Amend the Medical Care Act, March 31, 1992, No. 2; Bill 29, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1992-93; Ministers' Statement 71-12(2), Federal Funding, Social Housing, NWT; and Committee Report 12-12(2), Report of the Standing Committee on Finance on Inter-Sessional Activities, with Mr. Pudluk in the chair.

ITEM 18: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The committee will come to order. Mr. Todd.

Bill 29, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1992-93

MR. TODD: Mr. Chairman, can we deal with Bill 29, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1992-93?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Is this committee agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Are there any opening remarks? Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would seek approval of the committee to bring in Mr. Lew Voytilla as a witness and move to the witness table.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Does the committee agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Proceed, Mr. Minister. Could you introduce your witness please?

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On my immediate right is Mr. Lew Voytilla, who is the secretary to the Financial Management Board.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister, do you have any opening remarks?

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1992-93, proposes an increase of approximately \$5.5 million to the government's 1992-93 capital program. Five million of this amount is capital funding carry-overs from the 1991-92 fiscal year to the 1992-93 fiscal year for projects that were not completed on schedule. The remaining requirements are: \$84,000 to purchase a house in accordance with the employee house purchase plan; \$102,000 to furnish new accommodation units for nursing staff in Pond Inlet and Broughton Island; \$170,000 to provide a contribution to the Hamlet of Aklavik to assist in the replacement of the community fire hall which was destroyed by fire; and \$225,000 to purchase two portable classrooms used by Ecole Allain St. Cyr in Yellowknife. The cost of these portable classrooms will be recovered from the federal government under the terms of the Canada-NWT agreement on official languages.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Would the chairman of the finance committee like to make any opening remarks? Mr. Todd.

Comments From The Standing Committee On Finance

MR. TODD: The standing committee on finance reviewed this bill during its meetings in Yellowknife the week of June 9 to 12, 1992. The committee would like to thank the Minister of Finance and his staff for appearing before the committee to answer our questions. The large majority of this supplementary appropriation is for a carry-over of unexpended funds for capital projects in 1992.

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The standing committee on finance had no serious concerns with respect to this bill; however, we would like to point out that the government, in keeping with the Finance Minister's previous statements, should endeavour to fulfill its financial obligations when prior

commitments have been made. Therefore, the committee agreed to recommend this bill to the House for consideration.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Does this committee wish to go clause by clause? Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, on Bill 29, with regard to capital, I just want to make a general comment. The government indicated they are going to adhere to previous commitments that were made to various communities on different projects. Is the government still committed to what they have indicated to the House?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Where those commitments are still practical, yes, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, I notice, in going through Bill 29, that the majority of the bill is referred to carry-overs of various projects from a previous year. I notice that a number of projects which were not completed in the previous year were not carried over into the new Bill 29. If the government is committed to the statement they made with regard to adhering to the prior commitments, why, then are those projects not carried over into the bill that is before us?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, not all of the projects that were proposed last year were carried over in this particular supplementary appropriation. There may well be more carry-overs in the next supplementary appropriation. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Is the Minister saying that there will be another capital supp coming forward, which would also include the carry-overs that are not in Bill 29 from a previous year?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Yes, the ones that are not in this document and the ones that we are still proceeding with.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Could the Minister indicate why those projects, which were missed in Bill 29, were left out when they were not even gone ahead with in the previous year?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, as is the case with any of the capital carry-overs, there are different reasons why a project is stalled. It may be delivery, weather, technical difficulties or difficulties with foundations, or supplies, and we deal with those carry-overs as they become available to us. So I freely admit that not all of the carry-overs are in this particular document. These are the ones we are aware of, where there have now been difficulties resolved, and if there are others out there it may be because of some of those

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, I raise these concerns because, as the Minister knows, the prime building season is upon us. If the next supplementary is going to be coming forward, I would assume it would be in the next session, which is tentatively scheduled for the month of September. If these projects are going to be completed during the summer, Mr. Chairman, how is the Minister going to deal with the prior commitments that were made, that he anticipates will be coming forward in the month of September?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, if the next supplementary appropriation contains capital projects that were carried over, obviously in September, we would have lost this building season, and we will be proposing to carry them over into the next capital year. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, in other words, the Minister is indicating that the carry-overs that are not contained in Bill 29 would definitely not be carried forward in the month of September, and he would be suggesting that they would come into the new fiscal year, 1993-94. That is what I am hearing from the government. Am I correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, although the heavy construction money would not be required if we were going to do it in 1993-94, there might still be

requirements in this particular capital year, such as design, soil testing, and maybe even some site clearing on certain projects. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, is the Minister considering, for those projects that are not in Bill 29 as carry-overs, that they could be done by special warrant during the summer while the House is not in session, and come forward with a supplementary in September so that the work for site testing design and so forth could be done during the summer period?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, that would depend on the project. It would depend on the department, and it would depend on the Department of Public Works for their expertise in that particular area. If they thought the work could be done after the next supplementary comes to the House, then there would not be any need for a special warrant. If it is urgent and pressing, I will take their direction and consider a special warrant, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Are there any further general comments? Does this committee wish to go through details now?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

----Agreed

Culture And Communications

Museums/Heritage, Total Capital, Agreed problems. As soon as the problems are resolved, they will

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Page 3, Culture and come forward in the next supplementary, Mr. Chairman, if there are any.

Communications, capital, museums/heritage, special warrant, \$152,443. Agreed?

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SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, special warrant, \$152,443. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Personnel

Labour Relations, Total Capital, Agreed

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Special warrant, not previously authorized, \$120,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Transportation

Marine Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Transportation, capital, marine services, not previously authorized, \$225,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed. **CHAIRMAN** (Mr. Pudluk): Page 4, Personnel, capital, labour relations, special warrant, \$84,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--- Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Not previously authorized, \$102,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--- Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, special warrant, \$84,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--- Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Not previously authorized, \$102,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--- Agreed

Government Services

Petroleum Products, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Government Services, capital, petroleum products, special warrant, \$300,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--- Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Not previously authorized, \$120,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, special warrant \$300,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Are we on Transportation, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Yes, Mr. Gargan. Transportation, capital, Arctic airports. Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, a special warrant was issued on June 3 for renovations to three Department of Transportation staff houses. Mr. Chairman, I thought all government staff housing was under Personnel. Why does the Transportation department have their own staff housing?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, these houses were part of the transfer of the Arctic B and C airports program from the federal government. There were four staff houses in all; three in Baker Lake and one in Nanisivik. Public Works inspected the houses prior to the transfer and developed cost estimates for their rehabilitation. The Department of Transportation agreed to fund the rehabilitation on a one-time basis to ensure the houses were in good condition prior to being added to the inventory of pool housing. The formal transfer of the ownership of three of these houses has been completed, and they have been

included now in the staff housing pool administered by Personnel. The fourth house, which is occupied by the airport manager, has not yet been transferred. Upon completion of the transfer, the house will also be turned over to the Department of Personnel for inclusion in the staff housing pool. There will then be no locations where the Arctic airport program has dedicated housing. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Arctic Airports, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Arctic airports, special warrant, \$115,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Transportation Planning, Total Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Transportation planning, not previously authorized, \$278,000. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Just information here, Mr. Chairman. What is that Coronation Gulf study about?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

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HON. JOHN POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Coronation Gulf study is a consortium of government agencies and private companies, namely DIAND, Northern Development, Echo Bay Mines, Minnova, Kennecott Canada, Continental Pacific Resources, Home Stake Canada, BHP-Utah Mines Ltd. and Nortara Incorporated. They are looking at the technical and economic feasibility of using the Coronation Gulf to ship ore concentration from the Izok Lake area in the Central Arctic.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Last year, there was approval to upgrade the Jean Marie access road. Is that still in the plans or is that scrapped?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Yes, that is still in the plans.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: For what year?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: The upgrade is ongoing so there is a little bit done each year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: How about the ferry that is supposed to be operating in Camsell Bend? That was also approved last year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, Scott Steel in Edmonton received the contract to build a new ferry. This year the road bans came on much earlier than they normally do, and they were unable to ship the ferry, which has been built in pieces in Edmonton, north to Hay River for welding. It will arrive this year and be welded together later on this year, and so the Camsell Bend ferry will be in operation next season.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Antoine.

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to make a general comment on transportation, and it has to do with the community of Jean Marie River. It is not in this supplementary, but I just wanted to make a point. The community has capital estimates to build a fair weather road from the community to the highway, and they ran into a problem last winter where your project managers, following blueprints, are instructing the community to build a road through a muskeg area and the community is using common sense and suggesting this road be built on higher ground where the right of way was already cleared previously. But the engineer says this is the way it is on the map so this is the way it is going to go. Could the Minister do something about this situation and work with the community more closely using the common sense approach rather than following a map drawn up by some engineers from Yellowknife? Could the Minister indicate if he is aware of the situation or instruct this department to work more closely with the community to build this fair weather road from Jean Marie to the highway?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Yes, Mr. Chairman,

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Arngna'naaq.

MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In Arviat, the gravel pit which they are using there at this time, they expect, will run out of the type of grade that is required by government for use in the communities. They expect this to run out at the end of this

construction season. Is the Minister aware of this and, if so, will anything be done?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: I think that comes under MACA. We will pass on that information to that Minister.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Transportation planning, not previously authorized, \$278,000. Agreed? Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to bring up a point that last year we had something like \$36 million used for reconstruction purposes, but also this year it is one of the worst seasons for floods. The access road on the ferry landing was under about four feet of water, and it went through a lot of erosion before the water finally went down. Also, between Providence and Yellowknife there are a lot of sections of road that have deteriorated. It is over 30 years that the road has been there. There is a situation now where there are all kinds of stretches where the road has eroded to the ground level. So we have a situation in which certainly \$36 million helps, but when you commit all that money for certain sections to be reconstructed, then you run into a situation where there are areas where priority would have to be given due to the fact that the roads have been sitting long enough and repairs are required.

Between the Department of Transportation and the federal government, are there any plans to see if we could get more than what we are getting now for the highways? I think the need now is that a lot of the conditions out there require immediate attention.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Those are the kinds of things that Madam Premier has been saying at the premiers' conferences, that good transportation infrastructure, not only roads but ferries, and bridges, and wharves in the Eastern Arctic for shipping are what is required to develop the North. One of the things, and perhaps the Minister of Transportation can expand a little further on it, is that there has been a proposal by the provinces -- and I think the federal government is willing to look very seriously at it -- of linking all the capitals in the NWT, by a decent road, which would mean from Enterprise right through to Yellowknife, and that is being considered by all the Ministers of Transportation throughout the provinces

and the federal government. Perhaps Mr. Allooooloo might have more information on that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Allooooloo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is a national committee struck to deal with the need to improve roads and reconstruct old roads and new construction of new roads. My department is party to that committee in which each jurisdiction will contribute to the fund that the NWT, might be able to tap into to properly reconstruct or pave roads for the NWT, thereby assisting my department to deal with the problems of washouts, new road construction and rehabilitation of the old roads. All the provinces will be contributing to that fund.

Also, the territorial transportation strategy is being looked at by premiers and also other Transportation Ministers of the country, because we do contribute quite a bit to the economy of other provinces in terms of purchases from other provinces, and also shipping is very important to the Northwest Territories and other provinces.

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Transportation Planning, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Transportation planning, not previously authorized, \$278,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--- Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, special warrant, \$115,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--- Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Not previously authorized, \$503,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--- Agreed

Renewable Resources

Fire Management, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Renewable Resources, capital, fire management, special warrant, \$76,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--- Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, special warrant, \$76,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--- Agreed

Municipal And Community Affairs

Community Works And Capital Planning, Total Capital

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Municipal and Community Affairs, capital, community works and capital planning, not previously authorized, \$916,000. Mr. Arngna'naaq.

MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand this is the section that I would be asking about this gravel pit in Arviat. I am just wondering if the Minister is aware of the situation in Arviat. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, identification development of gravel sources rests with the Department of Public Works. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Arngna'naaq.

MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ: It sounds as though I am getting the runaround here. There is another item that I wanted to discuss in this area, because I cannot emphasize enough the need for the waterline in Arviat. I mentioned twice in December of 1991, twice in March, and earlier this session, the need for the water line. Something that the community has been requesting and should have been considered by government a long time ago is now finally being considered. I know it takes a long time to get anything going when it concerns capital, but to say that this was a request originally made close to 10 years ago -- I think it is ridiculous to have that happen. I just

wanted to re-emphasize the need for the waterline in Arviat. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Community works and capital planning, not previously authorized, \$916,000. Agreed? Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, for Municipal and Community Affairs in regard to their capital, just to follow-up on what my colleague is saying, does the department have a plan in regard to a gravel survey? Have they done it in all the communities in the Territories? As the Minister is aware, there is a gravel shortage in my area, too, and I am just wondering if the department has done anything in terms of planning to search for gravel.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Chairman, as I mentioned earlier, without trying to pass the buck, this area does not fall within my department. It is dealt with by the ministry of Public Works. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, the gravel I am making reference to is for the use of municipalities. I realize the Minister is indicating he does not want to pass the buck, but my understanding was that the initiation of the gravel search has to be co-ordinated by his office. Since he is the lead department, I am asking his department, what initiatives are they taking in regard to a gravel search?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, there is a community granular program. It is a revolving fund of eight million dollars, and it is run by the Department of Public Works. They go from community to community and stockpile gravel, and as the gravel is used, the moneys in the fund are replenished. It is a revolving fund, and I will be glad to get both Mr. Zoe and Mr. Arngna'naaq the information on the schedules that those people have at the present time, and where they are at with it this year I will have to deliver it at a later date, though, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Community works and capital planning, not previously authorized, \$916,000. Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, another general question in regard to MACA capital. Since I view MACA as being the lead department in regard to putting in place

community transportation infrastructure -- I am making reference to stuff like roads, docks, airports -- since you are the lead department and airports come under Transportation, I am just wondering, what types of initiatives in the area of transportation infrastructure is your department taking in regard to capital?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Minister. Mr. Allooloo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The task that we have for putting transportation infrastructures in the communities is in the transportation strategy that was tabled in the Legislative Assembly some time ago. Our plan is to put airports, mainly, and also marine facilities, in communities where there are no roads, and where there are roads, to improve the road going into the community. We could put airports where it makes sense to put airports. We try to do that, but it would be our priority to put airports where there are no roads going into the communities. Thank you.

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CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, maybe instead of going after my colleague from Iqaluit, I will make comments to the Minister of Transportation. In regard to capital planning, the planning money, I do not see moneys here in the capital planning portion of his department or MACA in terms of doing feasibility studies. I do not see money in the capital budget of either department, so is it in the capital budget or is it in the O and M side of their departments?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Allooloo.

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Normally, for capital projects the planning money is included in the capital plan. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, just one more question, then, so I do not delay the committee. Where does the money come from to undertake feasibility studies, to determine if the project is viable or not, before you continue? Is that out of O and M, or is it included in capital under capital projects?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, needs assessment is mostly done out of O and M. When

the project becomes specific, then the planning money obviously forms part of the capital dollars allocated to that particular venture, so there are funds in O and M for needs assessment.

Community Works And Capital Planning, Total Capital, Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Community works and capital planning, not previously authorized, \$916,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Sport And Recreation, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Sport and recreation, not previously authorized, \$90,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total department, not previously authorized, \$1,006,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

Health

Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Health, capital, Territorial Hospital Insurance Services, special warrants, \$364,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Total department, special warrants, \$364,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Social Services

Corrections Services, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Social Services, capital, corrections services, special warrants, \$127,000. Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE: Mr. Chairman, could I ask the Minister why we are replacing the locks at Yellowknife Correctional Centre? What is wrong with the locks we have there? Is that the electronic locks or the key locks, the padlocks -- what kinds of locks are we talking about?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the YCC was renovated, the existing manually operated Folger-Adams locks were replaced with electrically-operated remote-controlled locks. The change was made in order to avoid the necessity to increase the number of staff needed to operate the facility and to increase security. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Corrections services, special warrants, \$127,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed.

**Alcohol, Drugs And Community Mental Health,
Total Capital, Agreed**

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Alcohol, drugs and community mental health, special warrants, \$251,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total department, special warrants, \$378,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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**Economic Development And Tourism
Tourism And Parks, Total Capital, Agreed**

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Economic Development and Tourism, capital, tourism and parks, special warrants, \$610,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total department, special warrants, \$610,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Education

Schools, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Education, capital, schools, special warrants, \$1,461,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Not previously authorized, \$225,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Arctic College, Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Arctic College, special warrants, \$76,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--- Agreed

Total Capital, Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Total department, special warrants, \$1,537,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--- Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Not previously authorized, \$225,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. These details are now completed. Does the committee wish to deal with clause by clause? Mr. Antoine. **CHAIRMAN** (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 3, supplementary MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There was nothing in there for Public Works, but I would like to make a general comment on Public Works, and it has to do with project officers all being stationed in Yellowknife. Whenever there is a major capital project going in to the communities, the project officers are assigned from Yellowknife to run the operations. Since this practice has been going on, there have been a lot of problems because the project officers live in Yellowknife and when they go into the smaller communities they do not know the community sometimes; they do not know the resources and the businesses and the types of people that are in the communities. This causes a lot of unnecessary problems, and I was wondering if the Minister responsible for this department could tell me if there is going to be any change to that practice, please. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): That comment was not really in order, but I will let the Minister respond to that. Mr. Minister.

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Department of Public Works right now is looking at reorganizing the project officers staff so that we have people at the front end that are working with the communities. Those people are qualified to assist the communities. As I have said in this Assembly before, we are here to help the communities develop, not only build capital projects, and I stay committed to that. We will look at the possibility of having our staff closer to the communities that we are there to serve. That is part of the reorganization, to look at that. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Would this committee like to deal with Bill 29, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1992-93? Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, just two points on the water supply for Arviat. There is \$28,000 in this year's capital budget for that Wolf Creek project, with \$500,000 future years' anticipated expenditures. I may have misled the committee, Mr. Chairman, and I would like to clear that up. I mentioned on the correctional centre and the locks, the electrically operated locks did not work. They were used much, much more than the manufacturer anticipated. Inmates soon learned how to defeat the

single cell locks in the high security area, and breakdowns of the corridor locks were frequent. The manufacturer was then taken over by another firm, service deteriorated even further, and some parts are now hard to obtain. DPW thinks that the locking system is no longer cost effective or safe, and replacement is indicated as economical and efficient, probably back to the old key system. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Does the committee wish to deal with Bill 29, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1992-93, clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Clause 1, definitions. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 2, application. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

Agreed Appropriation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

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CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 4, purpose of expenditures. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 5, lapse of appropriation. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 6, accounting. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Clause 7, commencement. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Schedule. Capital, total supplementary appropriation, \$5,572,443. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): The bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Now this bill is ready for third reading. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Mr. Todd.

MR. TODD: Can we move to the standing committee on finance's report please?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Is the committee agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

Committee Report 12-2(2), Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance On Inter-Sessional Activities

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Committee Report 12-12(2), Report of the Standing Committee On Finance. Mr. Todd.

MR. TODD: The report of the standing committee on finance is simply an update on our activities since the last session. However, we do have one recommendation that we want to get approval on.

Motion To Undertake Comprehensive Audit Of NWT Power Corporation, Carried

I move that this committee recommends that the Legislative Assembly request the Auditor General

of Canada to undertake a comprehensive audit of the NWT Power Corporation and report to the Legislative Assembly.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arvaluk): The motion is in order.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arvaluk): Question is being called. All those in favour of the motion? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried.

Mr. Todd.

MR. TODD: That concludes our report, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arvaluk): Does the committee agree that is the conclusion of Committee Report 12-12(2)?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arvaluk): What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Pollard.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Chairman, if we could deal with Bill 3, An Act to Amend the Medical Care Act.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arvaluk): Thank you. Does committee agree on that?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arvaluk): Madam Minister.

Bill 3, Medical Care Act

Minister's Opening Remarks

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And to my colleagues, MLAs, thank you very, very much. I wish to introduce a bill to amend the Medical Care Act. The proposed amendments will bring the act into line with the general Canadian practice of permitting alternative forms of payment to physicians. The Medical Care Act provides coverage of all physician services which are listed in its regulations. However, the act provides for only fee-for-service payments to physicians.

The proposed amendments would facilitate alternative forms of payments to physicians, and thus recognize activities and services which are not suited to fee-for-service. Alternative payments would generally involve contracts with individual physicians or groups of physicians and where such a contract affects medical services to residents of an area served by a regional health board, the health board's approval must and will be obtained before the contract is entered into. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arvaluk): Mr. Arngna'naaq.

Comments From The Standing Committee On Legislation

MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The standing committee on legislation considered Bill 3, An Act to Amend the Medical Care Act, on two occasions, May 25th and June 16th of 1992. At each meeting, the standing committee was grateful to the Minister of Health, the Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, and her officials for attending to present the bill and to respond to questions and comments from committee Members.

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The standing committee also appreciates input received from the NWT, Medical Association and the NWT Health Care Association as part of the new and more public legislative process that has been adopted by this 12th Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Chairman, Bill 3 would amend the Medical Care Act to make it possible for the Medical Care Plan to make payments to physicians who choose to be paid on a basis other than a fee-for-service basis. The current act does not provide this option with respect to medicare funds. This amendment would allow other forms of payment such as salary, contractor sessional remuneration, where appropriate, based on agreements with the department's director of medical insurance.

Presently within the NWT, some physicians employed by hospital boards or regional health boards are paid by salary. Other physicians are engaged by contract on a per diem basis. These arrangements can be made through health and hospital board budgets but not directly by medicare.

The Department of Health has taken the position that this is inefficient and obscures actual costs. The stated intent of amending the Medical Care Act, then,

was to remove a cumbersome administrative process whereby funds had to be processed from medicare accounts to the Territorial Hospital Insurance Services program in order to facilitate payments to doctors who wish to be remunerated on an other than fee-for-service basis.

During its review, the standing committee on legislation received input from the Health Care Association, which represents hospital and health boards across the NWT, and from the NWT Medical Association, which represents physicians. Both these organizations raised concerns about the degree of consultation that had taken place to date with medical practitioners and about a general lack of understanding about this bill which exists within the medical and hospital communities.

As the standing committee considered this consultation issue further, the Minister and her officials assisted by providing a summary of the consultations process that had been undertaken as the bill was being developed. Generally, there does appear to have been a satisfactory level of consultation during the earlier stages of this bill's preparation. Any remaining confusion about the principle and substance of the bill can hopefully be cleared up through the use of normal information-sharing channels between the department and the medical community and perhaps even more effectively through information-sharing channels within the medical community itself.

A second point also received considerable attention from Members of the standing committee on legislation and eventually resulted in amendments being made to Bill 3. During the May 25th public meeting, Members of the standing committee raised concern over potential implications for the health and hospital boards. Currently, the only way in which physicians can be paid on other than a fee-for-service basis is for funds to be made available through Territorial Hospital Insurance Services. This process involves the boards of our hospital and health regions. Bill 3 would have amended the Medical Care Act to enable the director of medical insurance, a senior management position within the Department of Health, to make agreements with physicians for payments other than a fee-for-service basis. The standing committee on legislation expressed concern that this amendment might then create a potential for the Department of Health to circumvent the involvement of hospital and health boards when making contract or salary arrangements with physicians.

It is important to emphasize that the Minister of Health stated clearly at both public meetings that it was not the intention of her department to, in any way, diminish the authority of the boards. However, Members of the standing committee were of the opinion that this should be established right in the legislation, and the May 25th consideration of Bill 3 was stood down so that amendments could be prepared. The new legislative process, approved earlier by the 12th Assembly, includes a procedure whereby bills can be amended at the committee stage. At its evening meeting on June 16th, the standing committee on legislation invoked this procedure and carried a motion to amend Bill 3.

As amended, Bill 3 would still allow the director of medical insurance to enter into agreements for services and make payments other than on a fee-for-service basis. However, in order to do so, the director would first have to obtain the approval of any regional health boards or hospital boards which have been established in areas where residents might be affected by the provision of services under the agreement. That is, if the director of medical insurance wishes to enter into an agreement to pay a salary position directly from medicare funds in Inuvik, the director would, by law, need to obtain the approval of the Inuvik Regional Health Board before doing so. The same would be true for agreements respecting the provision of services in areas served by the Baffin Regional Health Board, Stanton Yellowknife Hospital Board, the Keewatin Regional Health Board, and so on.

Under the new legislative process, the Minister's concurrence is required before a bill can be amended at the committee stage. In this case, the Minister of Health concurred with the standing committee's motion to amend Bill 3. Therefore, the bill that is before honourable Members today differs from the one voted on by this House at second reading in that it includes the requirement that the director of medical insurance must obtain the approval of the respective health or hospital board.

Following the passage of this amendment, Members of the standing committee on legislation were quite satisfied with the bill and at the end of the June 16th meeting passed a motion that Bill 3 was now ready for committee of the whole.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arvaluk): Bill 3 has been reprinted. Make sure you are looking at the reprinted version. Does committee wish to go clause by clause?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arvaluk): Clause 1. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arvaluk): The bill as a whole. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arvaluk): Does the committee agree that Bill 3 is ready for third reading?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

--- Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arvaluk): What is the committee's wish? Mr. Koe.

MR. KOE: I move that we report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Arvaluk): The motion is in order. All in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

--- Carried

I will rise and report progress.

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ITEM 19: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MR. SPEAKER: Item 19, report of committee of the whole. Mr. Arvaluk.

MR. ARVALUK: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 29, Bill 3 and Committee Report 12-12(2) and wishes to report that Committee Report 12-12(2) has been concluded with one motion being adopted, and that Bill 29 and Bill 3 are ready for third reading. I move that the report of the chairman of committee of the whole be concurred with.

MR. SPEAKER: Seconder to the motion. Mr. Pudluk. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Item 20, third reading of bills. Mr. Pollard.

ITEM 20: THIRD READING OF BILLS

**Third Reading Of Bill 28: Interim Appropriation
Act, No. 2, 1992-93**

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 28, An Act Respecting Interim Appropriations for the Government of the NWT, for the Fiscal Year Ending March 31, 1993, No. 2, be read for the third time.

MR. SPEAKER: Your motion is in order. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 28 has had third reading. Item 21, orders of the day. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, meetings: immediately after adjournment, of the Western caucus, which will be followed by a meeting of the special committee on health and social services; at 9:00 a.m. tomorrow morning, the standing committee on legislation; at 10:00, territorial leadership committee; and at 12:00 noon of the special committee on constitutional reform.

ITEM 21: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Wednesday, June 24, 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: Motion 20-12(2)
16. First Reading of Bills
17. Second Reading of Bills
18. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters: Tabled Document 9-12(2), Tabled Document 10-12(2); Motion 6-12(2); Committee Report 10-12(2); Ministers' Statement 71-12(2)
19. Report of Committee of the Whole
20. Third Reading of Bills: Bill 3 and Bill 29
21. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 24, 1992.

---ADJOURNMENT