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The Honourable Michael Ballantyne, Speaker

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MEMBERS PRESENT: Hon. Thus Allooloo, Mr. Antoine, Mr. Arngna'naaq, Mr. Arvaluk, Hon. Michael Ballantyne, Mr. Bernhardt, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Mr. Dent, Mr. Gargan, Hon. Stephen Kakfwi, Mr. Koe, Mr. Lewis, 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

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SPEAKER (Hon. Michael Ballantyne): Good afternoon. Orders of the day for Wednesday, June 24, 1992. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Ms. Cournoyea.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Ministers' Statement 73-12(2): Abortion Services

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, at a meeting on Thursday, June 18, the abortion services review committee presented me with its report. The report, with a translated introduction and recommendations, will be tabled at the appropriate time today. Translation is continuing on the remainder of the document, and it will be made available to Members as soon as it is completed.

The abortion services review committee completed the difficult task set out for it in its terms of reference tabled in this House on April 15, on time and within budget. I am pleased with the general approach taken by the committee, and support the positive nature of the 32 recommendations.

Earlier today, I met with members of the Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories to provide them with an overview of the report. A complete briefing of the council's membership is taking place this afternoon.

In addition, the board of management of Stanton Yellowknife Hospital and the Department of Health, in consultation with other health and hospital boards, have been directed to examine the report and its recommendations and to develop an implementation plan by July 31 of this year. I will table the implementation plan early in the fall session.

Mr. Speaker, it is important to note that the committee was given the mandate of referring any matter arising from the review for more specific investigation by a professional licensing or other disciplinary body where it considered such action to be desirable and in the public interest. The chairperson has advised me that there was no evidence of professional malpractice and no basis for recommending disciplinary action. As a result, the committee made no referrals.

The chairperson has also advised that all members of the committee were offered the opportunity of providing an addendum to the report to set out issues or facts which they believed warranted communication. In that respect, one member concurred fully with the recommendations, but would have preferred to see additional editorial changes to the body of the report, although no specific dissenting opinion was put forward.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank all individuals and organizations, such as the Status of Women Council, who came forward to provide information and opinion to the review committee members. All of them played a positive and constructive role in sharing their experiences with the expressed intention of improving the delivery of abortion services in the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

---Applause

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

Ministers' Statement 74-12(2): Hay River Reserve Treatment Centre

HON. DON MORIN: Mr. Speaker, during the last session, the Member for Deh Cho announced that site clearing had been completed and foundation work for the Hay River Reserve treatment centre would begin this spring. Tu Cho Gha Contracting Ltd., a construction company which is 100 per cent owned by the Hay River Dene Band, undertook this work.

On June 4, 1992, the Department of Public Works, with the approval of the Financial Management Board, awarded a negotiated contract to Tu Cho Gha Contracting Ltd. for the construction of the centre. The contract is worth \$2.3 million. The treatment centre is expected to be finished in the spring of 1993.

This construction project will provide much needed employment for band members and valuable business experience for this company. This is the

largest project ever undertaken by Tu Cho Gha. The subcontractors and suppliers are all NWT companies, and include Mackenzie Electrical Ltd., Weaner's Plumbing and Heating, United Carper/United Furniture, Alternative Energy Supplies, Igloo Building Supplies and Lakeshore Building Supplies, all from Hay River. In addition, Silverado Painting from Yellowknife is also a subcontractor.

The band leadership has played a major role in securing this facility for their community. During the past several years, members of the band, along with representatives from surrounding communities, have helped DPW and Social Services in planning this project.

The Department of Social Services has supported DPW's efforts to work with Tu Cho Gha and the Hay River Dene Band throughout the planning of the project and contract negotiations. Construction of the centre is managed by DPW on behalf of the Department of Social Services. This facility will provide an important service for many years to come. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Ministers' statements. Ms. Cournoyea.

Ministers' Statement 75-12(2): Ministerial Assignments

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, over the past few weeks I have been considering a re-alignment of ministerial responsibilities, particularly because of our plan for consolidation. More recently, a motion of this House has requested that I report, by today, on what I plan to do in respect to a lack of confidence ordinary Members have expressed in certain Ministers.

Mr. Speaker, I have given this matter careful consideration, and do not believe there is good reason to act on the premise of lack of confidence. However, a more equal distribution of portfolios will be announced shortly, once I have had the opportunity to speak with the new Minister to consider individual preferences and abilities in relation to the strength and workloads of other Ministers. As previously mentioned, these changes will be accompanied by the re-assignment of some deputy ministers. Thank you.

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

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Revised Business Incentive Policy

MR. TODD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is not often that I get an opportunity to stand here and throw compliments to Members of the cabinet on a job well done. However, today I am pleased to give credit where credit is due. Earlier this month, the Minister of Public Works, the Hon. Don Morin, brought forward a revised business incentive policy. This improved policy will allow northern businesses a greater opportunity to receive GNWT contracts. I was particularly happy to see this policy now apply to all authorities that receive over half their funding from the GNWT. This is long overdue.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Morin was also able to convince CMHC to allow this policy to apply with respect to the Housing Corporation contracts. This is surely a major breakthrough. Many past Ministers have attempted to convince CMHC to accept this provision. Mr. Morin has succeeded in getting it done. Perhaps we should allow Mr. Morin to undertake more negotiations with the federal government, considering his stunning success.

-- Applause

It would certainly be really stunning if he could convince the NWT Power Corporation to accept a similar policy. It is no secret that I have long been a major opponent of an absolute preference for northern businesses who bid on GNWT contracts. While the revised policy does not go this far, it does indeed represent a substantive improvement that should see a large reduction in the dollars flowing south.

MR. SPEAKER: Members' statements. Ms. Mike.

Member's Statement On Aboriginal Representation In Corrections Services

MS. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to raise a concern about the way corrections services is administered by the Department of Social Services. Mr. Speaker, the corrections field can be a rewarding career for aboriginal people, who have had an interest in working with people, throughout the Northwest Territories. This field can offer them an opportunity to help others and to develop their skills in fulfilling work

with offers and potentials for career advancement. But, Mr. Speaker, aboriginal people are not well represented within the corrections field. There are 254 corrections positions in the Department of Social Services.

Seventy-four of these are filled by aboriginal people. Mr. Speaker, that means aboriginal people hold 29 per cent of corrections jobs, and that is not good enough.

What concerns me even more is that of 13 positions that are classified as management, only one position is held by an aboriginal person. Mr. Speaker, that is a very poor record for corrections services. Although aboriginal people are turning to the corrections field for a promising and fulfilling career, it seems there is a block within the system. Aboriginal people are simply not advancing to the management level. I am very concerned with the record of the Department of Social Services with respect to the representation of aboriginal people at the management level. The government must make serious efforts to improve their performance in this crucial area. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Member's Statement On RCMP Detachment Remain In Grise Fiord

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of my constituents in Grise Fiord is concerned that the RCMP will be removed because of what Inspector J.W. Rushton had written. For a number of reasons, Grise Fiord feels they need the presence of the RCMP. It was created by the RCMP with the present population coming from other communities in the High Arctic. Even though it is a remote place to live in, it has been a community for quite some time now. So the people feel that if the RCMP is removed from Grise Fiord, their people might move out. The people that were raised there feel they are aboriginal and want to keep living there too. But if the detachment is to be closed and moved to other communities, the people born there will feel quite an impact of this.

They say the reason is because of the budget cutbacks but, from my point of view, I feel the funding should not be used as an excuse for law enforcement program cuts.

Today I would like to ask the federal government to review and to reconsider that the detachment should remain in Grise Fiord. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

-- Applause

AN HON. MEMBER: Hear, hear!

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

Member's Statement On Inmates Voting In Elections

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the Legislative Assembly may recall that I introduced a motion on July 3, 1991, which urged the Minister of Justice to refer the prohibition against inmates voting contained in our legislation to the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories so that the court could determine whether the prohibition was constitutional. At that time, a number of lower level courts had determined that similar provisions in other jurisdictions contravened the Charter right that guarantees every citizen of Canada the right to vote in an election for Members of the House of Commons or the Legislative Assembly.

At that time, Mr. Speaker, we were facing a territorial election, and I believed that it was important that the courts ruled on the issue before an election, rather than during an election and risk disrupting the entire election process. The motion was defeated, Mr. Speaker, much to my dismay.

We are fortunate that no challenge was launched by inmates during the last territorial election. A challenge could have seriously disrupted the entire election and, I believe, based on recent court decisions, would have been successful.

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Very recently, Mr. Speaker, yet another high level court decision was released which held that a similar provision of the Ontario Elections Act was unconstitutional. The Ontario Court of Appeal, in the case of *Sauve vs Attorney General of Canada*, held the prohibition unconstitutional saying that the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms confirms "that the right to vote must be protected against those who have the capacity, and often the interest, to limit the franchise."

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to bring to Members' attention the fact that the chief electoral officer, in

Tabled Document 50-12(2), a report on our last election, has suggested that the Legislative Assembly may wish to review the issue of inmates' voting rights with a view to possible future amendments to the NWT Elections Act.

I am, today, calling on this government to recognize that our Elections Act contains a section which has been held unconstitutional by other courts and to take the wise advice of the chief electoral officer. I urge this government to correct this situation immediately and remove this ancient, outdated and unconstitutional prohibition. Thank you.

--Applause

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

Member's Statement On Ingamo Hall Programs

MR. KOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to say a few words about the programs Ingamo Hall offers to the people in Inuvik. Ingamo Hall is constantly looking at programs that will enhance the community. Since Inuvik has an equal number of Gwich'in, Inuvialuit and non-aboriginal residents, the centre tries to appeal to these groups. The staff are using innovative ways to bridge gaps in the community. One way that the centre is trying to bring people together is to plan programs that will strengthen the relationships between youth and elders. Ingamo Hall has taken on a stronger community spirit and has become involved in a variety of community agencies. The centre has provided practise space for organizations and donated time to fellow agencies.

Over the past 12 months, Ingamo Hall has run 18 regular programs, eight annual events, and hosted a variety of feasts and dances, seminars and workshops. The friendship centre has also initiated now programs. These programs are offered to the community and taught by local people. The new programs offered this year included art classes, a healing circle, literacy programs, monthly coffee houses, new dimensions, strings across the sky and a trading post. These programs were delivered to enhance the skills of the community people.

As well, the programs are accessible to any individual or group in the community. Individuals from outlying communities are also welcome to get involved. The staff at the friendship centre are presently looking into other programs for the upcoming year.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to recognize the opportunities that Ingamo Hall is providing to the people in Inuvik and the surrounding communities. Any time that visitors are in Inuvik, please take the time to visit Ingamo Hall. Mahsi cho.

--Applause

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

Member's Statement On Economic Development Of NWT

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today because I am very concerned about the direction in which this government is going as it relates to the overall economic development of our Northwest Territories. What I have seen in the Now Directions paper is an attempt to decentralize jobs to other places, and there is a mixed signal, Mr. Speaker, when at the very time we are in need of economic development, the amount of money that is made available for the Development Corporation, which has already been reduced once from \$10 million down to eight million dollars, is now going to be reduced to six million dollars. It had been our recommendation over the last four years that what we should be doing is looking at some mechanism for creating wealth in our small communities; not simply by providing government jobs.

Although that may be an interim thing, what we have to look at is to find ways to develop another sector of our economy. It is a bad signal, I think, to the people of the Northwest Territories that we have so little imagination that all we can do is out down the amount of money that will create real wealth in the future by simply replacing it in the easiest way which is simply to just move a job out. Thank you.

--Applause

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

Member's Statement On Lack Of Phone Service In Small Communities

MR. ANTOINE: Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. I am going to speak in my language today. (Translation) Where I am from, there are three communities Jean Marie River, Nahanni Butte and Trout Lake, that do not have telephones. In each community, they only have one pay phone. If one wants to use it, sometimes the offices are locked up late at night, so it is difficult for people to use the phone. Now there are such things

as faxes and telephones, and a person can communicate very easily, but not in those communities.

The reason I am saying this is because the NorthwTel company over there, last year, raised a lot of money through the pay phones that are in these communities. As a government, we should get the government to assist them to get more phones for those communities. Mr. Zoe and Mr. Bernhardt have a similar situation in their ridings. I am really concerned about this, and this is why I wanted to raise it. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. Members' statements. Mr. Alloo.

Member's Statement On TFN Land Claim Ratification And Political Accord

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was very pleased last May 5 when the results from the plebiscite were finalized, and it appeared that the dream that we had carried in our hearts, Nunavut, would be established within the next decade. However, I would like to emphasize that there is a lot of work to be done before this now territory becomes a reality. The residents of the entire NWT began to march down the road toward Nunavut when we voted to confirm the boundary line. However, the next step is up to the Inuit residents of Nunavut when we vote to ratify the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut land claim early in November. Without the acceptance of the claim by the Inuit the establishment of Nunavut becomes less likely and, indeed, almost impossible at this time.

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In order to approve the claim, a majority of Inuit in each region must ratify the claim. This does not mean that only a majority of Inuit who vote must approve of the claim, but that at least 51 per cent of all Inuit on the voters' list must agree to accept the claim. It is vital that the beneficiaries show their support by voting, as a "no show will count as a 'no'." I, as chairman of the Nunavut caucus, urge all Inuit who are eligible to vote to be sure that their vote counts that we may move toward the attainment of our shared dream, a now territory called Nunavut.

There is much work to be done before Nunavut is established on April 1, 1999. The successful ratification of the land claim is the first step in the process, and negotiations toward the successful

creation of Nunavut must proceed in an orderly manner with full participation of residents of the territory. We look forward to participating in the building of our new homeland, and wish to get on with the work. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: I have cautioned ordinary Members about trying to stay within the time frames of Members' statements. I think it is only fair that I caution Ministers, when they are giving Members' statements, to try to live within the guidelines set out in the rules. Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Ms. Cournoyea.

ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I have a reply to Mr. Arngna'naaq's question regarding contracts for fuel oil delivery, Anderson report follow-up. Copies of the second phase of the Anderson report were given to the standing committee on finance and to the standing committee on public accounts on March 3. Additional copies of the report will be distributed to all Members today. In light of the report's findings, existing petroleum delivery contracts were extended for one year to enable the government to look at ways of improving the award process.

Return To Question 560-12(2): Grise Fiord Polar Bear Quota

I have a reply to a question asked by Mr. Pudluk on June 19 regarding the Grise Fiord polar bear quota. In April 1992, the communities of Grise Fiord, Arctic Bay and Pond Inlet signed a co-management agreement on the polar bear population that they share. The agreement recommends that quotas cover all polar bears taken from that population. The Department of Renewable Resources will meet with the hunters' and trappers' associations from these communities to discuss some options of what should be done about the polar bears that are killed by the Greenlanders.

Return To Question O544-12(2): Recruitment Of Manager Of Medical Travel

I have a return to an oral question asked by Ms. Mike on June 17, regarding recruitment of manager of medical travel. Ms. Mike is correct in stating that a competition was held, and the successful candidate declined the offer of the position.

Subsequently, efforts were made to identify a suitable individual within the Department of Health or the Department of Social Services, given the plans to amalgamate these two departments. Again, a suitable candidate was not identified.

The position of manager of medical travel is a very important one, and the plans to fill this position have not been put on hold. The position is now before the staffing officers, who will look for persons affected by the work force adjustment program across the Government of the Northwest Territories, in order to identify any suitable candidates. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Returns to oral questions. Mr. Pollard.

**Further Return To Question O565-12(2):
Prospects North Conference In Eastern Arctic**

HON. JOHN POLLARD: I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Todd on June 18, 1992. It concerns funding for Prospects North and Russian delegates. Mr. Speaker, under the Department of Economic Development and Tourism organization support policy, Prospects North, a non-profit organization established to promote business and investment in the North, received \$50,000 from the Government of the Northwest Territories in the fiscal year 1991-92 and another \$50,000 this fiscal year.

The government did not provide any financial assistance to the Russian delegates attending the conference. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Returns to oral questions. Mr. Alloo.oo.

**Further Return To Question O527-12(2):
Enforcement Of Local Hiring By Contractors**

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Gargan on June 16, 1992. On the highway reconstruction project near Fort Providence, the department has a service contract with DIGAA Enterprises Ltd. for the supply of engineering support and services personnel. On June 12, out of 19 persons working on the contract, 18 are native residents of Fort Providence, with the survey party chief being an experienced surveyor from British Columbia.

The contract for the reconstruction work is with Amy's Construction Ltd. of Rae. Of the total of 28 persons employed by the contractor, 16 supervisors,

equipment operators, mechanics and servicemen are from Alberta, while three equipment operators are from Fort Providence. All of the labour and flag persons, eight in total, are local native hires from Fort Providence. The administrator of the project is a northern native from Fort Rae.

The department's own hiring policy is in line with the overall GNWT policy in that preference for casual summer employment is given to returning native students, returning northern students, and other Northerners, in that order. Thank you.

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MR. SPEAKER: Returns to oral questions. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

**Question O634-12(2): Factors Considered In
Advancement Of Children In School**

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Education. I have a situation which I have lot ride for the last three years. It is with regard to the end of each school year, when report cards are given. One of the factors, Mr. Speaker, in determining whether or not a student advances to the next grade, is based on his size, including his age. I can only refer to my own situation, in which I have a young boy who is seven years of age, who is going to fail his grade for the third year because of his size, and I cannot believe the teachers are allowed to do that. If a child is smart enough to advance, I think that should be the determining factor, not his size or his age. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not he is aware of these kinds of practices happening in the communities because it has gone on now for about three years.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Alloo.oo.

Return To Question O634-12(2): Factors Considered In Advancement Of Children In School

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Mr. Speaker, no, I am not aware of that kind of situation. I am under the impression that when the students are able to pass their grades, they are able to advance a grade in the following year. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Gargan.

Supplementary To Question O634-12(2): Factors Considered In Advancement Of Children In School

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister whether or not he may be able to look into the situation I am referring to in Fort Providence if I refer the students and the parents that were told that?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Alloo.oo.

Further Return To Question O634-12(2): Factors Considered In Advancement Of Children In Schools

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will look into it.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Ms. Mike.

Question O635-12(2): Aboriginals Employed In Management Positions, Corrections Services

MS. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Social Services. As I stated in my Member's statement today, Mr. Speaker, there is only one aboriginal person within the corrections services in the management level. What is your department planning to do to increase the number of aboriginals, or to encourage the aboriginals to get into the management level within corrections services?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Return To Question O635-12(2): Aboriginals Employed In Management Positions, Corrections Services

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The department is instituting in-house training, a competency based training package, that will help persons in the corrections field to advance to higher levels as they develop their interests and their skills.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

Question O636-12(2): Amendments To NWT Elections Act

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Under tabled documents, the report of the chief electoral officer, section 10 refers to inmates voting. The chief electoral officer is suggesting that the territorial government should review its Northwest Territories Elections Act in light of the fact that recent court cases have made certain sections of the NWT Elections Act unconstitutional. I would like to ask the Minister of Justice whether or not he is aware of the Ontario case and the recommendations of the chief electoral officer, and to ask if his department is

prepared to make amendments to the Northwest Territories Elections Act to reflect that?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question O636-12(2): Amendments To NWT Elections Act

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I am aware of the current cases in Ontario, *Sauve vs the Attorney General of Canada* and the *Belczowski* case, earlier. Mr. Speaker, I am advised that the *Belczowski* case is presently under appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada, and that the prudent course of action would be to await the result of that issue by the Supreme Court before making any decision to change the NWT Elections Act, so we are awaiting the Supreme Court of Canada ruling on this case. I think we have the benefit of some time because, fortunately, there will not be a territorial election for a few years. That is the position I am now taking on that matter, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Gargan.

Supplementary To Question O636-12(2): Amendments To NWT Elections Act

MR. GARGAN: Mr. Speaker, with regard to the last court challenge, which has been referred to the Supreme Court of Canada, it was appealed because of the recent election in Manitoba, and that was the only reason it has gone to a higher court. But that does not stop an inmate from challenging the section of our Elections Act, regardless of whether we still have three more years to go. If there was a challenge, I would think the result would be the same anyway. I would like to ask -- I am not too sure about the length of time it will take before a decision is made by the Supreme Court -- whether or not the Minister should be working on changing the section that is in the constitution now, in the event that it is challenged.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

Further Return To Question O636-12(2): Amendments To NWT Elections Act

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Mr. Speaker, I would venture to say that if an inmate challenged the territorial Corrections Act -- or I should say the Elections Act which would be the statute at issue -- there is some possibility that the court would await the final word of the Supreme Court of Canada on that matter. I want to assure the honourable Member that if it appears that once this issue is resolved in the

courts, if it appears that our statute is contrary to the Charter of Rights for Canada, then this government will bring forward an appropriate amendment to the Legislature to correct that inequity. We are prepared to do so.

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I am told, however, Mr. Speaker, that there are some special circumstances in the Northwest Territories that may not have been considered in the Ontario case, and that the prudent approach would be to await the Supreme Court of Canada judgment, see whether it applies to us as well as it applies to Ontario, and then, as I said, if the judgment is that this ruling should apply to the Northwest Territories, this government will bring forward the appropriate amendment. But for those reasons, I believe the prudent course would be to await this appeal which will settle it by the very highest court in the land. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O636-12(2):
Amendments To NWT Elections Act

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister what he meant when he said the circumstances in the North may make it so unique that it does not require a change to our Elections Act.

Further Return To Question O636-12(2):
Amendments To NWT Elections Act

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, in the Ontario case, Crown counsel stated that the practical problems of providing security to inmates to vote would not be an issue in the case; that in Ontario these problems would not be argued as a justification for preventing inmates to vote. However, Mr. Speaker, in consultation with the corrections services, I think we have to be sure, in the Northwest Territories, that those practical security issues would not be a problem or would not be a barrier to allowing inmates to vote. It may be that in a small community, given our staff-to-inmates ratio, it may be that we would have practical problems in allowing inmates to vote in an election. I am not saying this is the case, but it is a factor that I think makes the Northwest Territories perhaps different from Ontario, and that was one of the considerations we will have to evaluate in light of the Supreme Court ruling. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Koe.

Question O637-12(2): Responsibility For Government's Operations At Expo

MR. KOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On June 22, I asked the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism whether his office was taking responsibility for the government's operations at Expo in Seville. The Minister responded that it has been a joint operation between the departments and that it has been co-ordinated through his office. My question to the Minister is, if this is a joint responsibility, can he tell me what aspects of the operation his office is responsible for?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Return To Question O637-12(2): Responsibility For
Government's Operations At Expo

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, Mr. Ward reports to my office. The people on site at Expo report through Mr. Ward to the department, so Mr. Ward deals with the department when he is looking for extra supplies or logistical items. Any problems that Mr. Ward encounters come to my attention. He is usually reporting his sales daily to my office, and my office is responsible for collating that information and putting together the report that I intend to put before the House tomorrow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Koe.

Supplementary To Question O637-12(2):
Responsibility For Government's Operations At Expo

MR. KOE: My supplementary is to the same Minister. Who is Mr. Ward, and what are his responsibilities?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question O637-12(2):
Responsibility For Government's Operations At Expo

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, Mr. Ward is the agent general, and is running the operation for the NWT in the Canada Pavilion. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O637-12(2):
Responsibility For Government's Operations At Expo

MR. KOE: Is Mr. Ward a government employee, or is he a contract employee?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question O637-12(2):
Responsibility For Government's Operations At Expo

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Ward is a contract employee for the life of the fair, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. This is your last supplementary, Mr. Koe.

Supplementary To Question O637-12(2):
Responsibility For Government's Operations At Expo

MR. KOE: Were all residents of the Northwest Territories given an opportunity to bid on the contract, executive general, or whatever you call it, of the pavilion? Were all residents of the Northwest Territories given an equal opportunity to bid on this contract?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question O637-12(2):
Responsibility For Government's Operations At Expo

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, the position was not advertised. Thank you.

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

**Question O638-12(2): Meeting With Quebec
Premier On NWT Concerns Re Great
Whale Project**

MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Government Leader regarding the Great Whale project. The Premier of Quebec and Members of his Cabinet have taken the position that they are not willing to see the Great Whale hydro development delayed in order to satisfy the interests of a group of aboriginal people which they consider to be a small and insignificant fraction of the Quebec population. Is the Government Leader willing to meet with Mr. Bourassa to convey the understanding that the communities in the Northwest Territories are very, very concerned about the Great Whale project as well? Thank you.

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MR. SPEAKER: Ms. Cournoyea.

Return To Question O638-12(2): Meeting With
Quebec Premier On NWT Concerns Re Great Whale
Project

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, yes, I will relay that message. As a matter of fact, I had a meeting, I think earlier this month, with Premier Bourassa, at which time I relayed to him a number of issues of concern that we have, and that is one issue I brought to his attention. However, I will formalize that more by stating again the concern that you have raised. Thank you.

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

Supplementary To Question O638-12(2): Meeting
With Quebec Premier On NWT Concerns Re Great
Whale Project

MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ: Supplementary to the Government Leader. There has been some well-reasoned speculation that Quebec's motivation to proceed with this project is tied to prospective sovereignty issues. Is the Government Leader prepared to make the issue of transboundary environmental damage between provinces and territories a matter for discussion at national constitutional negotiations? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms. Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question O638-12(2): Meeting
With Quebec Premier On NWT Concerns Re Great
Whale Project

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, we can make an attempt to bring it forward, and I believe when Mr. Kakfwi and myself meet with the premiers at various meetings that are set, we do bring up these issues. It may not be discussed at the table, but in order to justify why we feel we should be part of the broader government discussion is because a lot of individual actions taken by the provinces really do affect us, and we will continue to take those key issues. In particular, this project has been brought up on numerous occasions but not necessarily at the table, and we will continue to do so.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Antoine.

Question O639-12(2): NWT Disability Pensions

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is for the Minister of Social Services. In yesterday's Member's statement, I noted that the Northwest Territories Council for Disabled Persons

has estimated that over 5000 persons with disabilities live in the Northwest Territories. During the 11th Legislative Assembly, this House was informed that work was proceeding on the development of a plan to establish disability pensions as opposed to the current process of forcing disabled people to rely on social assistance payments to meet their living needs. Can the Minister indicate to the House whether or not, under his administration, the department will set a priority on evaluating whether a system of indexed disability pensions could be developed to remove the stigma faced by disabled persons when they must turn to social assistance?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

Return To Question O639-12(2): NWT Disability Pensions

HON. TONY WHITFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, we will.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Antoine.

Supplementary To Question O639-12(2): NWT Disability Pensions

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a supplementary to the Minister of Social Services. What community consultation has taken place to date with respect to identifying enhanced approaches to meeting the needs of disabled persons across the Northwest Territories?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Whitford.

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

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Ms. Mike.

Question O640-12(2): Ministerial Information Re P And L Services Contract

MS. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism. Yesterday when I asked him whether he was aware that there are three identified areas of scallop beds in Cumberland Sound, one being the mouth of Pangnirtung Fiord, his reply was, "Yes," and that the vessel that was used to do the resource assessment stopped due to the engine problem before the resource assessment was completed. I would like to know from where the Minister is getting his information.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Return To Question O640-12(2): Ministerial Information Re P And L Services Contract

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, the resource was identified in 1987 and 1989. I believe that the vessel in question was working on those beds when it lost its engines, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Ms. Mike.

Supplementary To Question O640-12(2): Ministerial Information Re P And L Services Contract

MS. MIKE: Mr. Speaker, my supplementary to the same Minister. Is the Minister aware that P and L Services, who was contracted out by Economic Development and Tourism at the time, had to stop the resource assessment of scallop beds because the Economic Development and Tourism contract was not covering the costs incurred by P and L Services?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question O640-12(2): Ministerial Information Re P And L Services Contract

HON. JOHN POLLARD: I am aware of some dispute with regard to that vessel, P and L, and the department, Mr. Speaker, yes.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Ms. Mike.

Supplementary To Question O640-12(2): Ministerial Information Re P And L Services Contract

MS. MIKE: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary to the same Minister. The impression I got from his response yesterday was that the reason the resource assessment did not continue was because the P and L Services' vessel's engine broke.

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Is the Minister aware that the reason why P and L Services discontinued their resource assessment was because they were losing money with the contract that was provided by Economic Development and Tourism?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question O640-12(2): Ministerial Information Re P And L Services Contract

HON. JOHN POLLARD: As I have said, Mr. Speaker, I am aware that there is a problem, or that there has been problems in the past. I would advise the Member that we received an application from P and L with regard to this vessel. It was returned in March 1992 because it was incomplete. We are anticipating that their application will be tabled again tomorrow, Thursday, June 25, with a view to seeking assistance from us. Tomorrow there should be another application with regard to this vessel. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Final supplementary, Ms. Mike.

Supplementary To Question O640-12(2): Ministerial Information Re P And L Services Contract

MS. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. All I wanted to know was where the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism getting his information from because, as I said, P and L Services did not stop the resource assessment on scallop beds due to the engine problem. It was due to losing money with the contract that they had with Economic Development and Tourism. My question was, from where is he getting his information?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Further Return To Question O640-12(2): Ministerial Information Re P And L Services Contract

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, the information comes from the department. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Koe.

Question O641-12(2): Status Of Report Of Traditional Knowledge Working Group

MR. KOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On Friday, June 19, I asked the Minister of Culture and Communications about a report prepared by the traditional knowledge working group. The Minister responded to one of my questions by stating that he was asked by the executive director of the cultural institute to hold back on responding to the report's recommendations until the group had a chance to review, re-evaluate and reconsider its recommendations. It is my understanding that the group has met, re-evaluated and reconsidered, and has decided that the original recommendations are still relevant. This was communicated by letter dated May 1. The Minister subsequently responded on May 25 stating that he will be bringing a proposal to

cabinet in June outlining the way they are going to respond. Has the Minister brought his proposal dealing with this issue to cabinet?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Alloo.oo.

Return To Question O641-12(2): Status Of Report Of Traditional Knowledge Working Group

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have directed the department to prepare a paper for cabinet. We have not dealt with it, but I can assure the Member that it is on the move. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Oral questions. Mr. Todd.

Question O642-12(2): Report On Feasibility Of Privatization

MR. TODD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister responsible for the NWT Power Corporation. Yesterday, in Hansard, the Hon. Nellie Cournoyea indicated that Mr. Abbott, a retired partner with Coopers and Lybrand has been retained to prepare a report on the feasibility of privatization. Would it be Mr. Abbott's intention to discuss this privatization with Northerners? Are we going to be involved in discussions that relate to privatization, or is it going to be an academic exercise?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister.

Return To Question O642-12(2): Report On Feasibility Of Privatization

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I would believe that in any exercise such as this, that everyone possible who has information or some assessments should be contacted and dealt with.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Todd, supplementary.

Supplementary To Question O642-12(2): Report On Feasibility Of Privatization

MR. TODD: Given that privatization could have an impact on the employees and unionized employees, will Mr. Abbott be discussing with the organized labour, their concerns and their input into this privatization thrust?

MR. SPEAKER: Ms. Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question O642-12(2): Report On Feasibility Of Privatization

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, when we took over the Power Corporation from the federal government, part of the takeover included the union aspect of that corporation. When we deal with the privatization of the petroleum products, that would also be part of the consideration in privatization.

MR. SPEAKER: Supplementary, Mr. Todd.

Supplementary To Question O642-12(2): Report On Feasibility Of Privatization

MR. TODD: Will the employees who will be effected through privatization be given an opportunity to put forward their input into the feasibility of privatization?

MR. SPEAKER: Ms. Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question O642-12(2): Report On Feasibility Of Privatization

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I would say yes to that.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Antoine.

Question O643-12(2): Communication Services In Communities

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know the government is not responsible for communications telephones, but I want to ask if the Government Leader would be willing to get a hold of NorthwTel for us to try to provide better services into the communities that require better telephone services.

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MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Morin, Minister of Government Services.

Return To Question O643-12(2): Communication Services In Communities

HON. DON MORIN: I commit to the Member that I will get in touch with NorthwTel and raise those concerns with them.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Todd.

Question O644-12(2): Federal Government Funding Based On Census

MR. TODD: To the Minister of Finance. It is my understanding that the government received additional funding from the federal government based on the revision of the new population census. Is it the

intention of the government to redistribute some of these funds to hamlets with respect to their increased population as it is currently funded under the old population figures?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

Return To Question O644-12(2): Federal Government Funding Based On Census

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, it is true that we received some good news in that respect. We have not as yet crunched all the numbers or received the agreement of the federal government. I would suggest to the Member that perhaps the new funding policy, that has been worked on by Mr. Patterson through Municipal and Community Affairs, will address the population increases in communities. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Todd.

Supplementary To Question O644-12(2): Federal Government Funding Based On Census

MR. TODD: I appreciate It will address the population increase in the community. Will it address the additional funding that would be required given there is a population increase in the community?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Pollard.

HON. JOHN POLLARD: Mr. Speaker, I am not an expert in this new funding policy for municipalities. I will take the question as notice and provide a copy to the Member.

MR. SPEAKER: Question has been taken as notice. Item 6, written questions. Mr. Antoine.

ITEM 6: WRITTEN QUESTIONS

Question W43-12(2): Adequacy Of Educational Assessment

MR. ANTOINE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a written question for the Minister of Education. Would the Minister please table the following information in the House:

a) the cost spent in the 1990-91, 1991-92 and to date in 1992-93 fiscal years for travel and contract services related to educational, learning and occupational assessments of NWT students in southern Canadian resource facilities;

b) the number of full-time educational psychologists capable of completing educational assessments who are presently on staff at divisional boards of education, district school boards or the board of secondary education;

c) the number of resource teachers working for the same educational boards who have advanced training in the assessment of learning disabilities; and

d) the amount of contribution funding provided in the 1990-91, 1991-92, and to date in 1992-93 fiscal years, to community organizations mandated to provide support or training for learning disabled children, their families and their teachers?

MR. SPEAKER: Written questions. Item 7, returns to written questions. Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 7: RETURNS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton): Mr. Speaker, returns to Question W34-12(2), Question W39-12(2), Question W40-12(2) and Question W42-12(2).

W34-12(2): Payments To Chairpersons Of Agencies, Boards And Commissions

Hon. Nellie Cournoyea's return to Question W34-12(2), asked by Mr. Koe on April 3, 1992: A chart showing payments made to chairpersons of boards and agencies for the 1991-92 fiscal year may be obtained from the Legislative Assembly.

W39-12(2): Availability Of Financial Assistance For Post-Secondary Students

Hon. Thus Allooloo's return to Question O39-12(2), asked by Mr. Koe on June 19, 1992:

The following NWT student financial assistance programs are available to students to continue post-secondary education in the 1992-93 school year: supplementary grants, basic grants, post-secondary student incentives (remittance loan), special training allowances, primary loan, secondary loan, needs assessed loan, scholarships and correspondence course fees.

In addition to these programs, the federal government funds the GNWT to provide the university college entrance preparation program for Inuit and treaty Indians. Also, the GNWT provided, in 1991-92, four seats by contract with the University of Manitoba.

One thousand and forty-eight students were approved for financial assistance in 1991-92. Figures for the 1992-93 school year are not complete yet as applications are still being received. The names of students receiving financial assistance, or those who have been refused assistance, is considered confidential. All students applying for financial assistance will receive funding if they meet the eligibility criteria under the Student Financial Assistance Act and Regulations.

Students receiving financial assistance in 1991-92 were taking over 110 programs. Three hundred and seventy-two students were registered at Arctic College. Four hundred and seventy-five were enrolled in other institutions in a degree or certificate program, and 275 in a technical program.

The levels of assistance individual students are receiving are determined by the Student Financial Assistance Act and Regulations.

Information on the funding individual students are receiving is considered confidential.

A lengthy report with detailed information has been provided directly to the Member asking the question, the MLA for Inuvik, Mr. Koe.

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W40-12(2): GNWT Employees On Educational Leave In 1992-93

Hon. Titus Allooloo's return to Question W40-12(2), asked by Mr. Koe on June 19, 1992

Due to fiscal restraint, there were no funds available in the education leave program to support any employees who applied for education leave in 1992-93 to begin a new program of studies. Twenty-six employees applied to begin a new program.

Fourteen GNWT employees applied to continue in their programs for the 1992-93 school year. The 14 employees applying to continue their programs were approved for 1992-93. The 14 employees are continuing on education leave in a variety of programs and a number of post-secondary education institutions.

A report providing further details on employees applying for and receiving education leave has been provided directly to the Member asking the question, the MLA for Inuvik, Mr. Koe.

W42-12(2): Operation Of The Information Contra Dawson City, Yukon

Hon. John Pollard's return to Question W42-12(2), asked by Mr. Nerysoo on June 19, 1992. The visitor centre in Dawson City is being operated by the Department of Economic Development and Tourism, and it is staffed by three casual employees during the 1992 tourism season. The person hired to manage the facility lived in the Inuvik area prior to attending Arctic College in Fort Smith. The other two staff members are summer students from the Inuvik Region.

MR. SPEAKER: Returns to written questions.

Item 8, replies to Opening Address.

Item 9, petitions.

Item 10, reports of standing and special committees.

Item 11, reports of committees on the review of bills. Mr. Arnagna'naaq.

ITEM 11: REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON THE REVIEW OF BILLS

Report Of Standing Committee On Legislation On The Review Of Bill 30

MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to report to the Assembly that the standing committee on legislation has reviewed Bill 30, and wishes to report that Bill 30 is now ready for committee of the whole.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Patterson.

HON. DENNIS PATTERSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In light of Mr. Arnagna'naaq's report, I would seek unanimous consent to waive Rule 66(5) and have Bill 30, An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Act, placed on the orders for committee of the whole for Thursday, June 25, 1992. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: The Member is requesting unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays, Mr. Patterson. Bill 30 will be referred to committee of the whole for Thursday. Mr. Todd.

Report Of The Standing Committee On Finance On The Review Of Bill 9

MR. TODD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Rule 66(1) requires that a bill referred to a standing committee shall not be proceeded with until the Assembly receives the report of the committee or 120 days have passed since the second reading. The standing committee on finance has not completed its review of Bill 11, An Act to Amend the Insurance Act, and therefore requests the unanimous consent of the House to recommit Bill 11 to the standing committee on finance under Rule 66(1).

MR. SPEAKER: The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Bill 11 will be recommitted to the standing committee on finance. Item 11, reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 12, tabling of documents. Mr. Pudluk.

ITEM 11: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this time I would like to table Tabled Document 59-12(2), addressed to the Minister of Education, May 21, 1992, from the Nanisivik community education council. It supports the recent action taken by Joe Enook of the Baffin Divisional Board of Education. Mr. Enook refused to sign Appendix B to the contribution agreement. Thank you.

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

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 60-12(2), Report of the Abortion Services Review Committee, Northwest Territories, June 1992.

MR. SPEAKER: If I could correct the record, I understand that the bill we dealt with, the Insurance Act, is actually Bill 9, not Bill 11, so I will correct that for the official record as I speak here.

Item 12, tabling of documents. Item 13, notices of motions. Ms. Mike.

ITEM 13: NOTICES OF MOTION

Notice Of Motion 21-12(2): Appointment To Fill Vacancy On Executive Council, Cabinet

MS. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I give notice that on Friday, June 26, I will move the following motion: I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that this Legislative Assembly recommends to the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories that Mr. Arvaluk, the Member for Aivilik, be appointed to

the Executive Council, cabinet. At the appropriate time, I will seek unanimous consent to proceed with this motion today.

MR. SPEAKER: Notices of motions. Mr. Pudlat.

Notice Of Motion 22-12(2): Support For Participant Funding In The Great Whale Hydroelectric Project

MR. PUDLAT: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to give notice that on Thursday, June 25, I will move the following motion: I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Keewatin Central, John Todd, that this Legislative Assembly fully support the efforts of the municipality of Sanikiluaq to obtain participant funding for the review of the environmental impact study of the Great Whale hydro-electric project; and further, that the Legislative Assembly urge the Government of Canada, through the Minister of the Environment, to conclude a memorandum of understanding that would provide participant funding in the amount of \$500,000 for the communities on Hudson Bay; and further, that the Government of the Northwest Territories, through the cabinet, provide all the required assistance and support to the people of Sanikiluaq in their efforts to obtain participant funding and the conclusion of a memorandum of understanding. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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MR. SPEAKER: Just to correct the record, the Member said Thursday. I believe he meant Friday. If it is all right with the Member, the record will show Friday. Is that all right with you, Mr. Pudlat?

MR. PUDLAT: (Translation) It is all right, Mr. Speaker. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudlat. Notices of motions. Item 14, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Item 15, motions. Mr. Pudluk.

ITEM 15: MOTIONS

Motion 20-12(2): Regulating Adventurer Travel In The NWT, Carried

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS the Arctic is a place where persons can go on expeditions to challenge the forces of nature;

AND WHEREAS these adventures have caused problems when expeditions must be rescued after becoming lost, injured, or short of supplies;

AND WHEREAS the latest Weber-Malakhov expedition emphasizes some of the problems with the rescue costing about \$200,000;

AND WHEREAS rescue efforts have direct implications for the people of the Northwest Territories in the form of additional direct and indirect costs to the government, the safety risked for community people, the armed forces personnel and the RCMP;

AND WHEREAS the Government of the Northwest Territories and the federal government have recognized that these problems have existed for a long time;

AND WHEREAS during the 11th Legislative Assembly, Bill 41 was passed, which amended the Travel and Tourism Act to include a regulation making authority whereby the Minister could make regulations regarding non-resident travellers;

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism has not yet established such regulations;

AND WHEREAS It is important that legislative action be taken to provide for the provision of posting of bonds or insurance by adventurers and the use of the Northwest Territories guides;

AND WHEREAS there is a need to amend the Scientists Act concerning the regulating of science research and research expeditions;

AND WHEREAS it is important that this legislation be introduced as soon as possible;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that this Legislative Assembly urge the cabinet to proceed immediately to prepare the necessary amendments to the Travel and Tourism Act and the Scientists Act, to regulate adventurers in the Northwest Territories;

AND FURTHER, that the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism consider making regulations under the Travel and Tourism Act to provide interim measures until the amendments to the Travel and Tourism Act and the Scientists Act are introduced. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Pudluk, your motion is in order. To the motion, Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to speak briefly to the motion. It is pretty well self-explanatory. I think we are all aware, as Members in this House, of the purpose of this motion for the people. It is not just for the tourists, but also for the people who have to travel long distance by walking, by skidoo and by dog team. It also includes other means of travel, especially now adays in the Northwest Territories where there is an increase in tourism, and they are starting to enjoy it more when they come up here. We are all aware that it is a nice place to live in.

It is a vast country, and there are different resources available to the people. We encounter problems when the adventurers come across some problems, or if they are lost. We all get concerned because it is our land. We do not want them to be injured, and we do not want anybody to get lost. We all know that in the Northwest Territories, even if you know your community, there are times that you can easily get lost because of the weather. A lot of times, the unexpected happens and we encounter unexpected problems. For those reasons, the adventurers in the North should be insured so they can be protected, and that is why I make this motion case something happens. We are all aware that this is not the first time this has happened, and I am pretty sure it is going to continue in the future because of the curiosity of the southern people or people from other countries. They like to come up and explore in the Northwest Territories, and this will not stop.

Mr. Speaker, as I said before, I wanted to give a further explanation or clarification as to why I made that motion, and I urge the other Members to support this motion so that it can be more suitable for the adventurers or tourists. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER: The seconder of the motion, Mr. Koe.

MR. KOE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I seconded this motion because I agree totally with my colleague from the East in that there are many problems associated with these adventurers or Arctic travellers. I think a lot of it stems from a lot of the promotion we are doing about the North and about our virgin territory, untapped rivers, and we have a lot of land to travel on. We have people now going by dog team, skidoos, skis, kayaks, boats, bikes both foot peddled or motorized, travelling across our country. They are

using our highways, rivers, any way they can go, and they are doing these things. They are crossing the Arctic, not only east/west and north/south, but now recently going from the West to the East. Recently we have had expeditions starting in the Yukon or Alaska travelling the Arctic coastline across. There was one expedition by dog team from Aklavik to Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk to Paulatuk, and they even got lost between Aklavik and Inuvik where there are ice roads in place to follow, so I do not know how they can get lost. Any time these groups, tourists or Arctic explorers get lost, it costs money to go out - charter airplanes, using emergency rescue crews from whatever community is near by. Whenever these resources are taken out of a community, it takes away from the needs of the community.

I think It is really important that we do something, that we pass or get legislation in place, so that there are bonds or some kind of security, some kind of protection for these people to cover the cost of rescue operations. I fully support this motion, and I urge other Members, too. Thank you.

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MR. SPEAKER: To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question is being called. Would the mover of the motion like to conclude debate? Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am ready for the question.

Motion 20-12(2), Carried

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

-Carried

Motions. Ms. Mike.

MS. MIKE: Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed with my motion today regarding an appointment to fill the vacancy on the Executive Council, cabinet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Motion 21-12(2): Appointment To Fill Vacancy On Executive Council, Cabinet, Carried

MS. MIKE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

WHEREAS section 55(1) of the Legislative Assembly and Executive Council Act requires that there shall be an Executive Council of the NWT;

AND WHEREAS a vacancy exists on the Executive Council due to the resignation of Mr. Ningark, the Member for Natilikmiot;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to fill the vacancy;

AND WHEREAS Members of the Executive Council are appointed by the Commissioner on the recommendation of this Assembly;

NOW THEREFORE, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Inuvik, that this Legislative Assembly recommends to the Commissioner of the NWT that Mr. Arvaluk, the Member for Aivilik, be appointed to the Executive Council, cabinet.

--Applause

MR. SPEAKER: The motion is in order. To the motion. Ms. Mike.

MS. MIKE: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Koe, as seconder.

MR. KOE: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Ms. Mike, you have the opportunity to conclude debate.

MS. MIKE: Question.

MR. SPEAKER: Question is still being called. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

--Carried

Congratulations, Mr. Arvaluk.

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 on Sobriety Clause in Contribution Agreements;

Committee Report 10-12(2), Special Committee on Constitutional Reform Report on the Multilateral Conferences on the Constitution; Ministers' Statement 71-12(2), Federal Funding, Social Housing, NWT, 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. What does the committee wish to do? Mr. Ningark.

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The committee would like to discuss Ministers' Statement 71-12(2).

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): We will take a short break.

--SHORT RECESS

The committee will come to order. Before we begin I would like to say a few words about getting a quorum in the afternoon. This is only a warning. If it happens again when I am sitting in the chair, there will be no more breaks in the afternoon. First and last warning.

Ministers' Statement 71-12(2), Federal Funding, Social Housing, NWT

We will now discuss Ministers' Statement 71-12(2). Mr. Ningark.

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe my colleague, Mr. Koe, may have comments. I thought he was going to respond to the statement

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): General comments. Mr. Koe.

MR. KOE: Yes, if I can speak on behalf of my absent colleague. Basically, at the time this statement was made, I think some Members were a little curious as to some of the discussions surrounding federal funding for housing; we were aware that the Minister responsible had gone to Ottawa by his noticeable absence during those two days, and the Government Leader had announced that the Minister would be down there. I guess we were hoping for more detail on the results of the meetings, but the statement indicates that talks are still ongoing, and we are

waiting for the federal Cabinet or the federal Minister's favourable response to our government's proposals on federal housing. I would ask the Minister responsible, are these discussions ongoing? Can the Minister give some indication as to when he expects to see the final results? Will we get 35,000 units eventually, according to the housing plans?

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I guess that is a question to the Minister. I know these are negotiations, and I do not expect the Minister to put all his cards on the table in this forum until a lot of these negotiations are done, but maybe the Minister can indicate to us when he is planning further meetings, and when does he expect this to be finalized?

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

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I met with the Hon. Elmer MacKay last week in Ottawa, on the 17th and 18th of June, and when meeting with him I wanted to make sure that he understood the uniqueness of our housing problems in the Northwest Territories. I made sure he understood that, in the Territories, we are basically a first generation of people coming off the land. We have a high demand for housing. We do not have an old stock of housing to fix, like the southern provinces do. We are basically talking about getting people out of igloos and tents, and into housing.

I think he understands that now, and he also understands that the birth rate in the Northwest Territories is twice the national average.

Many of our communities also depend highly on housing for jobs. I told the Minister that in the past, with the fur industry, our people did contribute to the community. They did have some way to generate money, and a lot of our young people now look forward to the summer to work on construction jobs in the housing field. If you take that hope away from them, they are basically left without any hope of gaining any meaningful employment. So I stressed that point. I also stressed, that in turn, it would basically drive up the social and suicidal problems that we have, because people would not have any hope of gaining employment from new housing construction.

I also pointed out the problems we are having with health, because of lack of adequate and suitable

housing. In the Northwest Territories, we had over 50 cases of tuberculosis occurring since 1988.

Approximately 50 to 55 per cent of our public housing clients are also on social services, which makes a difference from the South. Our government supplies social housing, and the biggest part of our clientele is aboriginal people, so they have a certain commitment to supply housing to aboriginal people.

I also made it clear to the Minister that the territorial government's highest priority is housing. We spend eight per cent of our budget on housing. There is no other province in Canada that spends close to that of their provincial budgets. The highest any province spends is one per cent. Some do not spend any of their own money on housing.

I made it clear that we are committed to try to solve our housing problems; that we do not continually expect to go back to the pot for more money. We would make commitments to cut costs and cut increased expenses by redesigning our units and getting a better bang for our buck, getting people to kick in more for the cost of their own housing, and also look at the programs. I felt, when I came away from the meeting, that he understood our problems, and he knows that we have unique problems in the Northwest Territories.

I will be going again on Sunday to the Ministers' meeting in Toronto to discuss the same things again. All the provincial governments' Ministers of Housing will be there, as well as Elmer MacKay, Minister of Housing for the federal government. So I am going to pursue the issue more at that time. We are also speaking to and writing to the Minister of Indian Affairs,

Mr. Siddon; the Minister of Finance, Mr. Mazankowski; as well as Joe Clark, the Minister of Constitutional Development. It is an ongoing thing. There should be some finality to this in July or August because the year is getting late.

What we are trying to do is at least get our funding back to the 1991-92 level of funding that was in place at that time. I also talked to the Minister about our share of the federal pie; that no way could we accept any reduction in that share. Right now, we enjoy 6.44 per cent of the federal social housing budget, and we have to continue to enjoy that if not increase it, because of our unique circumstances.

That is basically where things stand right now, and, as things develop, I would be happy to let Members know as soon as possible. Thank you.

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

MR. GARGAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the discussions that the Minister indicated was with regard to the unique circumstances of the North. I guess one of the other things about the uniqueness of the North is also the way that the federal government treats the aboriginal housing program; that is, it differs where the Department of Indian Affairs gives money directly to reserves. In the North, it is all put under one pot and everybody benefits from it.

One of the things that Mr. Morin is aware of, and before Mr. Morin, Mr. Butters, and before Mr. Butters, Mr. Wray, is the situation that for social housing up here, at least there is no requirement for ministerial guarantee. But there is a requirement by this government to require indemnification. I guess this has never happened. I am wondering if we have a situation in which, in Fort Liard for example, there were 20 social houses built I believe in that situation, indemnification was provided by this government. Or did the Minister, Tom Siddon give ministerial guarantee for the construction of 20 social housing units?

We provide public housing in all other communities except with regard to the Hay River Reserve, and in the last six years we have not provided the adequate level of housing because we cannot fit the programs to fit the reserve. In southern Canada on the reserve, they fund you directly, so your 'housing needs are addressed at that level. But that is not the case. I am wondering if you have discussed the situation with the federal Minister, Mr. MacKay at all.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not up-to-date on the issue of indemnification in Laird at all, Mr. Gargan. I was to the reserve in Hay River this winter to visit the people there with Mr. Gargan. They raised the issue of land and public housing. We are looking into that. I never mentioned anything about that to Mr. MacKay when I met with him because I focused on the one issue, the 55 per cent cuts to housing.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could we gain a better understanding of the process? Is decision on the allocation of funds entirely a federal decision, or do the provinces have to agree to the division of the funds as well? If so, has there been any effort made to let the provinces know about our special circumstances here?

Will the Minister be able to take any preliminary information from the 1992 housing survey with him to his meetings next week? Or is it still too soon for anything to come out of that survey?

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CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have let the other provinces know. I went to an emergency provincial meeting a month or so ago in Ottawa, and I let them know about our special circumstances. My understanding is that it is a federal responsibility to cut up the pie or the federal portions and deliver them on the advice of the conference that I am going to next week. It is my understanding that I have no information on the 1992 survey to take with me next week. Maybe somebody else will tell me differently, but that is my understanding right now.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Lewis.

MR. LEWIS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have had good fortune in the past in having a pretty large allocation of housing for the size of the population we have. It is because the federal government recognized our unique circumstances, as the Minister has pointed out. I would like to get some clarification on some of the statements made on the document we are discussing today.

It is pretty clear to me that the federal government would very much like to get out of housing. In fact, it was one of the federal institutions that they were quite happy to put on the block to go to the provinces so that they can deal with their own problems in their own way. But on the basis of the meeting that the Minister had with our federal counterparts, it is not clear to me exactly what is meant when you say that the three Ministers - MacKay, Siddon and Mazankowski - will pursue ways and means of allocating sufficient federal funding for northern housing. Reading it just as literally as I can, that means they are going to do it. It is just a question of finding a way of doing it. They are going to do it, but they have not figured out how yet. So in his

statement, I wonder if the Minister is really saying he has solved the problem and has convinced them that we are unique and we have to have these levels; and that we are going to do it, but just give us time now until the 29th of June, and we will have it all fixed up.

However, I know that when our own Minister goes to meet with his provincial counterparts, it will not be a meeting with MacKay and other federal people to see whether they have delivered on the promise or not. It will be a meeting of provincial Ministers where they will discuss the federal plan which, according to this document anyway, really reduces the amount of federal commitment to social housing, and they are going to give the bad story to each of the provincial Ministers. This is the story; we just do not have the money, and this is what we are going to do. Then, if there is going to be a reaction obviously each of the provincial Ministers is going to argue for their own particular jurisdiction and to indicate how the federal government should be dealing with each of these jurisdictions.

So I suppose the concern I have is that this document gives us the indication that the Minister has been successful, in convincing people, and they are going to solve it; but, they just do not know how yet. They do not know what the ways or means will be, but it is going to be done. And when he meets the people at the meeting on June 29th then he does

not have to do any more fighting because the money is going to be there. It is just a question of defending whatever the federal government wants to do against the other provincial Ministers who may not see it exactly the same way that Mr. Elmer MacKay sees it. Do I have it right?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If it was good news, and if he said, "Yes, we are going to do it," I guarantee, Mr. Lewis, that would be in big block letters right at the beginning of the statement. I did not get a solid commitment from him. He committed to talk to Mr. Mazankowski as well as Mr. Siddon on the issue and we are going to continue to work on it. As far as the Ministers' meeting in Toronto is concerned, my understanding is that we will talk at that time about the provincial share of the national budget, and I will be there to defend my share. But there is also opportunity to meet with Mr. MacKay at that time. It is not all in one big room. I will continue to push the issue with him at that time.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. Supplementary, Mr. Lewis.

MR. LEWIS: Just a quick one then, Mr. Chairman. What Mr. Morin will be defending then at this meeting, in Ottawa I presume, is whatever the federal government is going to put forward, and it is my understanding that what they are going to put forward is a document which severely cuts every jurisdiction. They are all going to get cut. Is that what he is going to be defending, or is he going to be defending something else that will not even be on the table?

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

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. By going to this meeting we, as the provincial Ministers of Housing, are going to try to convince the federal housing government to reinstate funding back to the 1991-92 levels. That is number one priority. Also, 1, as the Minister, will be continuing to pressure them so that we continue to enjoy a 6.44 per cent of the pie. Those are the two issues. Whatever size that pie is, I do not want to see any decrease - if anything, an increase of the Territories' portion. Thank you.

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

MR. TODD: Without saying that you do not want to put all your eggs in the one basket, if we assume the worst scenario, just for arguments sake, what steps are we going to look at to continue to provide at least the same levels of public housing? What alternatives are we going to look at in terms of providing public housing units to the people across the Northwest Territories? With the current shortfall of close to 3500 units, if this situation comes to pass, and even though you get to the 1991-92 levels, there will still be this massive shortfall of 3500 units, which is about a \$600 million price tag in today's prices. I would hope that some action is being taken now to look at alternatives. We just cannot look at one scenario. If we get a negative answer, or even if we got a reduction, Mr. Chairman, and you do not get your share of the pie, I wonder if you could, for our benefit, give us some idea of what kind of alternative options the Housing Corporation and your office are currently looking at, Mr. Morin.

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

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Regardless of whether we get our funding back or not, we have to look at what we are doing in housing. We have to look at what we are building. Right now,

the department is looking at redesigning the units to get them back down to simplicity so that they are cheaper and so that our people can maintain them in the communities. Also, as Members know, we can build seven HAP houses for the price of one public unit, so we are looking right now at revising that program so that more people can be eligible for that program.

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We have to look at different ways of supplying rental social housing, for example, more utilization of the rent supp program. All those things combined will help us, but it is not going to close the gap, guaranteed. When there is no money, there is no money. If you have only so much money, you can only build that much stuff. If worse comes to worst and we do everything possible in the Housing Corporation, along with the communities trying to maximize and stretch every dollar we do have, we will have to look at possibly more money if you are going to try to close that gap. Right now if it stays the way it is, as the federal government is saying, we are building 372 cost-shared units this year, and we should really only be building 265. We would be down to approximately 153 cost-shared units next year, Mr. Todd.

We are not sitting back waiting. We are looking at new ways of delivering the programs and new construction designs, and different programs, and we want flexibility from CMHC so we can use those things to cut costs and to get a better bang for our buck.

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

MR. TODD: Mr. Chairman, I recognize what you are saying, but can I ask this question and maybe be a little bit more specific? I also have a comment. While I recognize, and I have said to the Minister on a number of occasions, that you can, in accordance with the financing formula with CMHC, build X amount of HAP houses versus one public, but there is still a great deal of people who require social housing, so a certain amount of caution has to be taking place. While in an ideal world we would all like to own our own houses, there are a number of people who just do not have the financial capacity to do that, and, as a socially responsible government, our job is to ensure that these people are given a fair opportunity to have housing.

My concern would be that there would be an enthusiastic rush to get seven houses versus one,

and I think we have to balance that very carefully. I can understand the enthusiasm for it, and I am sympathetic, but there has to be a certain amount of caution in that there is still a requirement for what I call public-funded social housing. That is the one point I would like to make.

On the other point, I am wondering if I can ask the Minister about the rent income supplement program which I understand works reasonably well in some of the larger centres. Could this type of program perhaps be incorporated into the other parts of the Arctic where you have private sector initiative, to build these houses, and you have Housing Corporation support? Two questions, and one is more a comment. I want to caution the Minister in terms of we are all enthusiastic about the HAP program and nobody is more enthusiastic than I am, but we must ensure that it does not take away from those who have the least; that is, the people who desperately need public housing. While I am an advocate of the HAP program, HAP people usually are in a position to at least pay the O and M, and in some cases have the capacity to build their own home. A lot of people, not everybody, who are in public housing have the capacity to build their own homes. A lot of people, not everybody, who are in public housing have the capacity to do neither. I wonder, too, if perhaps there is some way of accelerating or maintaining the current level. It might be an advance in this rent income supplement program. I wonder what your thoughts are on that, Mr. Morin.

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

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The HAP program, if it is expanded and the criteria is changed, there is a large portion of people living in public housing who could be eligible for that and they could afford it. We are not going to shove home ownership down the throats of people that cannot afford it. Let me assure the Member that I would like to build a vast majority of HAP units, because you do get the best bang for your dollar, but I understand that we need some social housing, so I will ensure that need is met as well.

The rent subsidy program, where private business, development corporations or community corporations build houses, and we rent them for 20 years, is a very straightforward program. It has been used in the major communities. It will be expanded. I have already given direction for it to be expanded. This year instead of a proposal call for build/supply/ship/erect, I am going to go rent supp in

Iqaluit, Hay River, Fort Smith, Inuvik and Fort Simpson. I have expanded it already, and I will continue to expand it into any community we can, because you got to build more units that way as well. Those are units that are subsidized by the NWT Housing Corporation so that they meet the social housing needs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

MR. TODD: Just one last item, on this subject anyway. One of the things I was wondering, and I do not have the statistics so I am not sure of this question, but a number of people who are working for the GNWT could be living in public housing in these communities, and I am wondering if there is some way that we could find a way to accelerate the employee home purchase program that Mr. Kakfwi was working on, and whether that would have any impact. Let me use this situation in the Keewatin, if I may. I have a lady working for the government for the past seven or eight years in public health. There is some government housing that could be available for purchase. If she was prepared to purchase that house, that would free up that one public health house. Now, I do not know if it warrants looking at. Maybe it is so small it has no impact, but you may want to take a look at trying to accelerate or expand the employee purchase program with the GNWT, as there may be some people there who may be prepared to do that. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Nothing is too small to look at. We have to look at everything because dollars are tight. We will look into that Mr. Todd. You see, a government employee must have a full-time job, so homeownership is the way to go if people are working full time. We have to keep our public units open for those who cannot afford to own their own home.

I will just make a correction, Mr. Chairman. We are not expanding the rent supp program to Inuvik this year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Thank you. On my list I have Mr. Koe, but he is not in the House at the moment. Mr. Ningark.

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I would like to recognize and congratulate Mr. Minister for taking the time to meet with the federal Minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and

Housing Corporation. I know the Minister has a very, very tough job ahead of him, especially when the funding from the federal government, according to my understanding, is to be reduced because of the budget restraint of the national government, and especially when the population growth in the NWT is very high in comparison to the national average.

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Mr. Todd, my colleague, talks about other options, and other alternatives. As most of the Members are aware, in some of the communities in the eastern part of the Territories and in the western part of the Territories, we have co-op communities where they have co-op stores and co-op hotels. I guess one of the alternatives or options we can look at is to communicate to the co-ops in some of the communities. Some co-ops are not members of Arctic Co-op Limited; others are members. Some years ago, Mr. Chairman, in my community, which is predominantly co-op, we do not have other stores, and we do not have Northern or Hudson Bay, we talked about the possibility of getting into co-op housing. I think the matter is something we can look at because the coops are owned by the community and the money stays in the community; therefore, the financial benefits remain in the community. It is one way that would help to reduce the need and demand for housing. I would like to suggest to the Minister that this is something we can look into. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One part I did not mention too much, because we have hardly used it in the Territories, is co-op housing. We used it in Fort Smith and Yellowknife, but that program was cut completely in 1992 from the federal government, but it is something I will look into. Thank you.

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

MR. NINGARK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The only thing I am suggesting is that, as the Minister suggested, it is cheaper to get HAP housing, if the co-op housing would be cheaper than HAP housing or equivalent to it. I am not asking for a commitment, but if it is equivalent to HAP housing or maybe cheaper, I think it is something we can look at. Thank you. That was not a question.

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

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Possibly, Mr. Ningark, we can follow up on that between the two of us and see what we can do. Thank you.

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

MR. KOE: Thank you. As we are on the subject of housing, earlier in the session, after the Minister was appointed, he had made statements about his commitment for housing construction, design/construction, and that utilizing of labour would be almost totally northern. I would like to commend the Minister for taking that stand, and hopefully you are improving and working on that to have total northern goods and services, including the hiring of workers and training of these workers where required. I think we know in most communities it is required and we have to put some restrictions or qualifications on contracts to have companies train and utilize northern people.

I am aware there are some pilot projects going on this year where you are designing, and constructing and utilizing northern contractors. Can the Minister indicate how many communities are involved in these types of projects this summer?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. DON MORIN: Project management is being done in McPherson, Resolution and Snowdrift. There are five of them. I am not sure of all of them. There are many block-funding types of arrangements, like in Simpson and Liard, Providence, Hay River, Pangnirtung, Fort Good Hope and Arviat.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Koe.

MR. KOE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know it is early in the season, but does the Minister have any indication on how these projects are going? I am trying to get an early indication of the success we are going to have this year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is too early in the season, Mr. Koe, to evaluate the projects for this year. But this is not the first year this is happening. This is the third year in some of those communities, and they have been very successful in the past. I have no reason to believe they will be not successful this year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Mr. Minister.

HON. DON MORIN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the Members for this opportunity to let them know what is happening with the Housing Corporation and the federal budget cuts. I will keep you informed. Mahsi cho.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): Any further questions. Does the committee agree that Ministers' Statement 71-12(2) is concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): What does the committee wish to do now? Mr. Koe.

MR. KOE: I move that we report progress.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk): There is a motion on the floor and it is not debatable. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

I will report progress.

ITEM 19: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

MR. PUDLUK: Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Ministers' Statement 71-12(2) and wishes to report that Ministers' Statement 71-12(2) is concluded. Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the chairman of the committee of the whole be concurred with.

MR. SPEAKER: Secunder to the motion, Mr. Arngna'naaq. All those in favour? Opposed, if any? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Item 20, third reading of bills. Ms. Cournoyea.

ITEM 20: THIRD READING OF BILLS

Third Reading Of Bill 3: Medical Care Act

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Yellowknife South, that Bill 3, An Act to Amend the Medical Care Act, 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 3 has had third reading. Third reading of bills.

**Third Reading Of Bill 29: Supplementary
Appropriation Act, No. 1, 1992-93**

HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA: Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that Bill 29, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 1, 1992-93, be read for the third time.

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

---Carried

Bill 29 has had third reading. Third reading of bills.
Mr. Clerk, orders of the day.

CLERK OF THE HOUSE: Mr. Speaker, there will be a meeting at 8:00 a.m. tomorrow morning of caucus with Daishowa; at 9:00 a.m. of the standing committee on rules, procedures and privileges; at 10:30 tomorrow of the ordinary Members' caucus.

ITEM 21: ORDERS OF THE DAY

Orders of the day for Thursday, June 25, 1992.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Oral Questions
6. Written Questions
7. Returns to Written Questions
8. Replies to Opening Address
9. Petitions
10. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
11. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
12. Tabling of Documents

13. Notices of Motions
14. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
15. Motions
16. First Reading of Bills
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); Bill 30
19. Report of Committee of the Whole
20. Third Reading of Bills
21. Orders of the Day

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MR. SPEAKER: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Before we adjourn, I would like to remind Members that Mr. Arvaluk's swearing in ceremony will take place in approximately five minutes. So we would ask Members to stay and participate with Mr. Arvaluk in the swearing in ceremony.

This House stands adjourned until 1:30 p.m., Thursday, June 25, 1992.

---ADJOURNMENT