

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1992**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Hon. Titus Allooloo, Mr. Antoine, Hon. Michael Ballantyne, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Mr. Dent, Mr. Gargan, Hon. Stephen Kakfwi, Mr. Koe, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Mike, Hon. Don Morin, Mr. Nerysoo, Mr. Ningark, Hon. Dennis Patterson, Mr. Pudlat, Mr. Pudluk, Hon. Tony Whitford

**ITEM 1: PRAYER**

---Prayer

**SPEAKER (Hon. Michael Ballantyne):**

Before I begin with the orders of the day, I would like to read a letter from the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, it is addressed to myself, as Speaker.

Dear, Mr. Speaker, I wish to advise that I recommend to the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories, the passage of Bill 34, supplementary appropriation Act No. 2, 1992-93, during the second Session of the 12th Legislative Assembly. Yours truly, D.L. Norris, Commissioner.

Also, I would like to recognize in the gallery this morning, the grade 11 law class from Sir John Franklin High School, and their instructor, Michael Madore.

---Applause

Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Patterson.

**ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS**

Minister's Statement 105-12(2): Implementation Plan

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, later today, I will be tabling the Department of Health's implementation plan for recommendations made by the abortion service review committee.

All of the committee's recommendations have been accepted. The implementation plan was developed in collaboration with Stanton Yellowknife Hospital and regional health boards.

Many of the recommendations, especially those dealing with procedures at Stanton Yellowknife Hospital, have already been acted on. Other recommendations will take some time to implement.

The cost of implementing those recommendations, for which costing has been possible, is about \$250,000 in 1992-93, with continuing costs of about \$150,000 in succeeding years.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Health wishes to acknowledge the cooperation and assistance of the Stanton Yellowknife Hospital, hospital and health boards, the Northwest Territories Council on the Status of Women, and N.W.T. professional organizations, in the development of this plan. Qujannamiik.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ministers' statements. Mr. Whitford.

Minister's Statement 106-12(2): Reconstruction Of Highway #3 To Yellowknife

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to clarify an answer I gave to a question from the Member for Yellowknife Centre, on Monday, September 28, 1992.

Mr. Speaker, in my answer I indicated to the Member that the Department of Transportation plans to complete the reconstruction of highway number three from Fort Providence all the way to Yellowknife within the next five years.

I am afraid in my enthusiasm for this project my statement was overly optimistic. By the end of the next five years, the five year period, the department's reconstruction and paving program will have reached Rae-Edzo, and a start will have been made to the final section to Yellowknife.

Although it is true that the heaviest traffic on highway three is between Yellowknife and Fort Rae, the road between Fort Providence and Edzo, as the Member for Deh Cho attested to in the House last week, is structurally very weak and in much poorer condition.

The department has scheduled its reconstruction program to attend to the worst sections of the highway first.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**SPEAKER:**

Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements.  
Mr. Gargan.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement Regarding C.B.C. Commentary  
On Charlottetown Accord

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise today to speak about the commentary given on C.B.C. radio on September 30. In this commentary, Danielle Whitworth argues that the federal government is pursuant in the policy of assimilation of aboriginal people, and that by agreeing to the proposed Charlottetown Accord, our leaders have been pulled, perhaps unwillingly, into this process.

Mr. Speaker, as a strong advocate of the Charlottetown Accord, and an aboriginal leader, I must disagree with Ms. Whitworth. It is my firm belief, that this accord will, for the first time since confederation, allow aboriginal people to begin to solve some of the problems that they are faced with in terms of health, housing, education, etc.

The entrenchment of self-government in the Constitution allows aboriginal people to implement their own solutions to those pressing problems. Unlike, Ms. Whitworth, I believe that assimilation occurs and is occurring because aboriginal people have no control over the process that shapes our own lives.

To a large extent our institution, programs, or services within aboriginal communities, whether they be health, justice, education or housing, have been based on European models. This is an assimilation. To stop this, we must reinstate our own value systems into our communities and organizations.

I believe that one step in this process is the realization of aboriginal self-government. Despite the flaws, I believe that the Charlottetown Accord presents a unique opportunity for aboriginal people to take

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some measures of control over their own lives through this self-government process.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Ms. Whitworth argues that aboriginal women have been unjustly served by the

accord and by male aboriginal leaders. That the accord will mean nothing more than the continued poverty and oppression of the rights of aboriginal women. Chief Wendy Grey of the Assembly of First Nations has suggested the opposite, that the women and the aboriginal women have never done that well under the Charter of Rights. This can only be an improvement.

Mr. Speaker, I can only speak from my perspective as an aboriginal person in the Northwest Territories, when I look around and see...

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Gargan, you allotted time has lapsed. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would ask for unanimous consent to continue my statement.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays, please proceed, Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and honourable Members. Mr. speaker, I can only speak from my perspective as an aboriginal person in the Northwest Territories. When I look around and see the increasing number of aboriginal leaders, who are women, leaders such as Nellie Cournoyea, Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Rosemarie Kuptana, Erna Landry, Mary Simon, and Bernadette Unka. I know that aboriginal women are in the forefront of the fight for aboriginal rights, at least in the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Members' statements. Mr. Nerysoo.

Member's Statement On Contributions Of Mackenzie  
Delta Residents

**MR. NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to continue to respond to some of the remarks that have been made about my questions, but even more so, Mr. Speaker, I

wanted to indicate to Members that on September 21, 1992, Mr. Speaker, I had an opportunity, after hearing of the tragic situation that occurred here in Yellowknife.

I heard about, like all Members, that a trust fund had been established for the families who had suffered in the tragedy during the Royal Oak Mine disaster. I wrote to my constituents, Mr. Speaker, asking them to come to the aid of the families and the children of those miners who perished. Mr. Speaker, I asked my constituents, and in fact asked my leaders, to participate in contributing to the trust fund for the families.

Mr. Speaker, I can tell you today, that my constituents have contributed, or at least committed to over \$2,000 to the trust fund.

---Applause

I hope, Mr. Speaker, this shows that there is compassion in Members of this House, compassion and understanding in other constituencies about the tragedies that involve the residents of the Northwest Territories. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Oral questions, Mr. Lewis. Sorry, Members' statements, Mr. Lewis.

Member's Statement On Government's Response To Proposed Airline Merger

**MR. LEWIS:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Over a week ago, I asked several questions about the proposed merger between Canadian Airlines International and Air Canada in question period, and the question is recorded in the unedited transcript as 777-12(2). I was very concerned at that time, when I asked Mr. Whitford about this proposed merger, to find that, in fact, this responsibility had been transferred to Mr. Pollard, the Minister of Economic Development and Tourism, because of the huge economic impact this kind of merger would have on the residents of the Northwest Territories, in fact, to all of western Canada.

Mr. Speaker, one week from now, on October 9, the three senior officers of both airlines will be meeting in order to decide how this merger will work, who will be the senior executive officer, and to work out the details of this merger. Since, very clearly, the

Government Leader, our Premier, has determined that this is of such a huge vital concern for all people in the Northwest Territories, that she has handed it over to her Minister of Finance and the Minister of Economic Development. I am somewhat alarmed to find that this government is the only government that, to date, has not responded to the requests of Canadian Airline International employees, who tried to get support all across the country, to save the airline and it disappoints me somewhat, that at least yesterday, we could not give them any kind of response.

So, it disappoints me that if it is such a huge issue for us and we recognize the impact it may have on us, that, to date, we have not responded to the requests of all the people that work for that airline to do something to help save it. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Members' statements, Mr. Kakfwi.

Member's Statement On Hon. J. Arvaluk's Visit To Sahtu

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, I would like to just make a short statement of appreciation to the new Minister of Education, Mr. James Arvaluk.

Earlier this year, when he was appointed as the new Minister of Education, many of my constituents asked some questions about him. They wanted to know who he was, and asked me to tell them a little bit about him. I told them that he was Inuk, from the Keewatin. I said that he was a very intelligent man who was very interested and excited about his work in education, and that he had a good sense of humour.

Last weekend, Mr. Arvaluk and myself went to my constituency, and in a day and a half, we went to Fort Franklin, Fort Norman, Norman Wells, and Fort Good Hope. I wanted to thank him on behalf of my communities and my constituents. They got to see for themselves the kind of person he is, and I want to thank him for showing the interest and taking the time out of his weekend to come and visit my constituents, and for not making a liar out of me. Thank you.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Members' statements, Mr. Allooloo.

Member's Statement On T.F.N. Land Claim Ratification

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

(Translation) Qujannamiik. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I want to make a brief comment concerning the Tungavik land claims settlement, and their destination for self-government in the future.

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Today, I was in my constituency, I mean I was there last week, in Igloodik, and they had many concerns about land claims. I want to say, Mr. Speaker, that our future and our own government is going to be our goal for the people from my region.

What I am trying to say to the people in our lands, on the day of election, that being November 3, 4, and 5, I urge them to vote "yes" because, of course, it would mean that if the "no" vote wins, we will not have our land claim, and as a result, we will not have our self-government in our future, which is our goal for 1992.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we are told that the aboriginal people of Nunavut are simply borrowing this land according to the laws of today. This land apparently belongs to the government. First, we want our own homeland, and that is why we want our own land claims.

We want legal recognition that this land is ours. The eligible voters will be aged 16 and up. I will urge them to vote "yes", so that we can have our own lands in the future because, as of yesterday, we are simply borrowing this land. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Members' statements, Mr. Pudluk.

Member's Statement On T.F.N. Ratification Committee Tours

**MR. PUDLUK:**

Qujannamiik. (Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Further to the comments made by my colleague, the Member for Amittuq, there are tours being done by the chief and committee. This is for our future, and it is very important. It is toward the vote.

If I was able to join them, I would be prepared to go along with the tours in my constituency. At this time, it will, of course, be up to the people to vote

whichever way they prefer, be it "yes" or "no", but I think that more people should vote "yes" as opposed to the "no" votes.

We have been working towards this for a very long time, and we are trying to look at it from the positive side. I think we will be better organized, and that is the way we are trying to look at it. When they decided on the boundary issue, the majority of the vote was for it. The positive vote prevailed, and this is another confirmation of that earlier vote, which is to decide on a positive vote.

We have to look at our past as well as our future, and we have to remember our descendants who will still be here many years after we are underground. There will be a better future for them, more opportunities for them, and that is the way that we want to vote. I urge the people from my constituency to vote.

I tell you there should be more of you to vote "yes" in the upcoming Nunavut Land Claims Ratification Vote. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Members' statements, Mr. Pudlat.

Member's Statement On T.F.N. Ratification Committee Tour

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Also, on the same issue, I have some concerns. The tour was in Lake Harbour recently. I am not sure if they are still there, but I send my apologies to my constituents for not being able to be at their communities, because I was interested in participating with the completion of the budget.

I have some concerns I have to address on this issue, so I want to send my apologies to the people in my constituency, particularly people from Cape Dorset and Lake Harbour. If I leave today, maybe I will be able to charter in, but I understand that they will be meetings in Lake Harbour over the weekend, and guess my constituencies will be using their freedom to vote either way. I also remind them that it is good to vote the "yes" vote.

I also want to reiterate my apologies. I was not quite sure what was happening on the land claims issue. Be that as it may, I know the people involved are working very hard toward it, and I cannot help it if I am not there. I am sure that the people on the ratification

committee are informing the people, as they need to be informed, and it will be up to each individual to vote the way they want.

I apologize that I will not be in that constituency. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 3, Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Morin.

**ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS**

Further Return To Question O906-12(2):  
Consultation With Home Owners Regarding Flood Damages

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Nerysoo on September 30, 1992, regarding consultation with Aklavik homeowners regarding flood damages.

During the flood in Aklavik in June 1992, the Regional Emergency Coordinating Committee was mobilized. The Department of Municipal and Community Affairs is the Government department mandated to coordinate emergency response and assistance.

The Department of Public Works provided support to this committee in several ways. One of the tasks during this period was to assist M.A.C.A. and the hamlet to carry out post-flood damage assessments. Following the instructions of the emergency coordinator, which was the regional superintendent of M.A.C.A., D.P.W. worked directly with Aklavik's senior administrative officer, and obtained a list of properties that were damaged by the flood.

Residents of Aklavik were encouraged by the hamlet to report to the hamlet any property damages that occurred during the flood. Based on the hamlet's list of people that had flood damage, the D.P.W. Area Maintenance Officer and the Settlement Maintenance Supervisor visited these people to determine the extent of their damages. D.P.W. then prepared a Flood Damage Assessment Report which included cost estimates of the damages. D.P.W. sent this report to the Superintendent of M.A.C.A. on July 2 for their review with the hamlet. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Returns to oral questions. Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question O853-12(2): Increase Of G.N.W.T. Aboriginal Employment

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, I have two returns. One is in response to a question asked by Mr. Zoe. I hope he is listening to this.

---Laughter

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It was a question regarding the increase of G.N.W.T. aboriginal employment. The Department of Health has a staff of Human Resource Planning Officers, who are working on a long-term strategic plan for increasing the number of aboriginal people within our territorial health administration. I have also assigned a Human Resource Officer from the Department of Personnel to provide support and assistance to the Department of Health.

Return To Question O868-12(2): Authority Responsible For Delivery Of Legal Documents To Board Of Inquiry

The second return is in response to a question asked by Mrs. Jeannie Marie-Jewell on September 28, 1992, I know she is listening. This is with regard to authority responsible for delivery of legal documents to the board of inquiry. With regard to the Member's question pertaining to a proceeding before a board of inquiry established under the Medical Profession Act, this independent board does have independent legal counsel being provided through government funding.

A notice of the hearing is required under the Act, and must state the substance of the allegations. It is not an appropriate task for the board's independent legal counsel to draft and forward this notice of the hearing for service. For that reason, the board's legal counsel asked legal counsel to the Department of Health and Health Boards to do so. As you know, the Department of Health's legal counsel is a lawyer with the Department of Justice.

That is why legal counsel from the Department of Justice initiated the service of this one document, the only document which has been served to date. This ensures that the board does not have advance notice of the allegations before the hearing. At the hearing, parties have the opportunity to be present, including the Doctor, the board, counsel to the board, counsel to the doctor, and counsel to present evidence of the allegations. Counsel presenting the evidence of the

allegations is generally a lawyer assigned by the Department of Justice, and will be, in this case. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Returns to oral questions. Mr. Whitford.

Return To Question O880-12(2): Surveys For Relocation Of Lake Harbour Airstrip

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have a return to oral question asked by Ms. Mike on September 29, 1992, concerning the relocation of the Lake Harbour airstrip.

On Tuesday, September 29, the Member from Baffin Central asked me if the Department of Transportation has done any studies to consider alternate locations for the Lake Harbour airport.

Mr. Speaker, in 1989, the department commissioned a study by the consulting firm of J.L. Richards and Associates Ltd., of Ottawa, to examine possible sites for a new airport in Lake Harbour. The study examined six alternate locations and recommended a site about three kilometres west of the community near Water Lake.

The Water Lake site would accommodate a 1,000 metre, that is a 3,000 foot, runway properly aligned for the prevailing winds in the area. Furthermore, the site is open for aircraft approaches and free of the large hills which interfere with the approaches to the existing airport.

For infrastructure planning purposes, the department has accepted the conclusion of the 1989 Lake Harbour Land Development Study, that the Water Lake site is the preferred location for a new airport.

However, this is a very expensive project. The Department estimates that the cost of the airport's construction would come to approximately \$14 million. By comparison, the final cost of the new airport in Paulatuk will be about \$4.2 million, and the major improvements planned for the Pelly Bay airport are expected to cost about \$3 million.

Given that Lake Harbour has an airport adequate for the community's air traffic, and that the airport meets Transport Canada's standards for V.F.R. certification, the department has deferred the Water Lake airport project until it has first brought all of its community

airports serving isolated off-highway communities up to Transport Canada's licensing standards. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Returns to oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Return To Question O731-12(20): Number Of Doctors From Saskatchewan

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a return to an oral question asked by Ms. Marie-Jewell on September 10. Mr. Speaker, on September 10, 1992, the honourable Member from Thebacha sought confirmation on the number of Saskatchewan doctors involved in the review of medical services, at the Fort Smith Health Centre.

With a knowledge of the size of the facility, and the services provided, no surgery or anaesthesia, and only low-risk obstetrics, the Saskatchewan College of Physicians and Surgeons drew upon its extensive experience in conducting such reviews, and selected two physicians to complete the review.

No written change was made to the terms of reference to state that two physicians, rather than four or five, would conduct a review. This decision to reduce the team to two members was made in advance, solely by the Saskatchewan College of Physicians and Surgeons, and communicated to the health centre more than three weeks before the review. No objection was made by the administration board, or medical staff.

The number of physician hours the Saskatchewan college used to perform the review is consistent with the estimate of the number of physician hours quoted to the health centre by the Alberta College of Physicians and Surgeons. In the view of the Saskatchewan College of Physicians and Surgeons to have had four or five physicians perform the review would have been unnecessary and very costly to the health centre.

The Executive Director of the Fort Smith Health Centre acted on the motion of the board of management of the Fort Smith Health Centre to have the view conducted by the Saskatchewan College of Physicians and Surgeons. While it was not explicitly stated in the minutes of the meeting it was implied that the Executive Director should initiate the drafting of the terms of reference.

The medical staff and the board's legal counsel had an opportunity to review the terms of reference before they were provided to the Saskatchewan college as final. Each member of the board was given a copy of the final terms of reference. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Returns to oral questions. Mr. Allooloo.

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Further Return To Question 907-12(2): Discontinuing Use of Leg Hold Traps

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral question asked by Mr. Antoine on September 30, 1992 regarding discontinuing use of leg hold traps.

Present statistics show that between 74-80 percent of the wild fur taken in Canada is sold in Europe. Without this market, there will be no fur industry.

The European economic community recently passed legislation that will come into effect on January 1, 1995. At that time, it will be illegal to import fur from any jurisdiction that still allows the use of the leg hold trap for any of the thirteen species. They are: beaver, coyote, lynx, raccoon, fisher, marten, otter, wolf, bobcat, muskrat, badger, mink, and Russian sable.

Originally, this legislation was to come into effect in 1992. However, because of successful lobbying by the Fur Institute of Canada, Indigenous Survival International, Members of our government, and many others, the European economic community agreed to delay this legislation for three years.

By changing the way our trappers trap we will be ready to keep our share in the European market after 1995. The change over to quick kill traps is a small price to pay to keep trapping alive in the Northwest Territories.

In 1988, knowing of the European Economic Community legislation, all Canadian wildlife Ministers agreed to implement 12 changes recommended by the Fur Institute of Canada to keep trapping a viable lifestyle for all Canadians. Our government decided to phase in those 12 recommendations over four years. Other governments have also been introducing these changes.

We chose to delay the requirement for quick kill traps for small fur bearing animals until the third year of our four year plan to change trapping regulations. This allowed us time to inform our trappers and show them how to use new traps. Throughout this time, trap exchange workshops have been offered throughout the western territories. To date over 30,000 quick kill traps have been exchanged and 1,600 trappers have attended workshops.

As well, we have publicly advertised our intention to require to use quick kill traps for small fur bearers for the past three years.

The new legislation came into effect on October 1, 1992 on the use of leg hold traps for small fur bearing animals. The regulation states, "while hunting fur bearing animals, no person shall use a trap on land, other than a quick kill trap, box or cage, for beaver, fisher, marten, mink, muskrat, skunk, squirrel, weasel, or wolverine."

The use of the leg hold trap will still be legal in drowning sets for aquatic species, and for large fur bearers like fox, wolf and lynx.

Next year, we will introduce the last change which is that all first time trappers will need to take a trapper training course.

During a live phone-in program held by C.B.C. radio on September 30, 80 percent of the trappers that called in were in favour of the new legislation and supported the use of quick kill trapping systems.

The department's regional staff will continue to assist trappers with the change over. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Returns to oral questions. Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question O877-12(2): Transfer Of Social Assistance Responsibility

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, I have a late arrival here. This is in response to a question asked by Mr. Antoine on September 29, 1992 in regard to transfer of social assistance responsibility.

As indicated by the honourable Member, Dennis Patterson, in his reply to the Member's earlier questions on the same topic, the Ministry of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs will

coordinate the government's response to requests from Fort Liard for the transfer of social assistance responsibility.

Mr. Patterson advises me that he has approved the band's request for funding to participate in the transfer process. Officials from the Ministry of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs, will be in contact with the Fort Liard Band within the next two weeks to discuss the proposal and to arrange for a time to meet to begin discussing the proposal. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Returns to oral questions. Mr. Alloo.oo.

Further Return To Question 807-12(2): Amount Expended On Flood Damage

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral question asked by Mr. Nerysoo on September 17, 1992.

There were no expenditures on flood damage incurred in the communities referred to the by honourable Member. However, the 1992 spring breakup in the western Arctic led to the activation of emergency response procedures in several communities in designated flood risk areas on the Hay, Liard and Mackenzie Rivers to prepare for potential flooding or the evacuation of residents.

As a part of these activations, the Department of Social Services expended \$1,466.22 in Hay River and the Hay River Reserve. No G.N.W.T. departments incurred expenses in Fort Liard during the flood alert period. The Town of Hay River expended \$55,834 in flood preparations in 1992 and some of these expenditures may have been eligible for cost-sharing under the flood control assistance policy. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Returns to oral questions. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Pudlat.

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question O912-12(2): Legislation On Solvent Abuse

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a long question, so when my time is up, just let me know.

My question is to the Minister of Justice. I am concerned about the problems experienced in the eastern Arctic with respect to solvent abuse. Recently, the Hamlet Council in Cape Dorset discussed the fact that alcohol, and solvents, are both problems.

Although the Liquor Act gives us some weight to control the amount of liquor shipped to the community, we have no way to effectively control the availability of solvents.

In the past, the idea has been raised that the Government of the Northwest Territories should develop legislation to control the use of solvents,

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and better counselling services should be developed for solvent abusers.

This idea has been put forward in the past by Pauktuutit and by several alcohol and drug projects. Can the Minister of Justice indicate whether his department would be able to introduce legislation that creates stiffer penalties for abusers and for people who supply solvents to abusers?

One of the main problems we encounter is that solvent abusers and their families resist going for counselling. Is the Minister willing to consider introducing legislation that would allow a judge or a justice of the peace to make an order forcing the solvent abusers to receive counselling by experts?

This has been a concern for a long time, so I wanted to bring this up. Often solvent abusers cannot change their ...

**MR. SPEAKER:**

After you have actually asked a question, then it is not appropriate to carry on with a preamble. I think you have made yourself very clear, and Minister of Justice, would you like to respond?

Return To Question O912-12(2): Legislation On Solvent Abuse

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, the Member addresses an area of social concern that is in the responsibility of health in some



instances, and social services, but those parts that he read to me, I can try to respond to.

The fact is, as far as I know, as a lay person, I do not know of how we can legislate availability of commercial products and restrict the sale of commercial products because certain members of the community are abusing the use of them? There are ways in which, I think, communities, like Cape Dorset, can, by itself, find ways to restrict the availability at a local level. I do not know that we can find legislation that can do that.

I believe the best recourse is for the community to discuss with the appropriate government officials how they could negotiate some agreement with the outlets at the community level to restrict the availability of these products.

As far as whether or not we can find legislation that would make it mandatory for solvent abusers to take counselling, again, I can ask the department to prove me wrong, but it seems to me that I do not know how we can force anyone to take counselling, to make it mandatory for anyone to take counselling because these are things that only work if the individual in question is willing to participate. If they are willing to admit they have a problem, and that they want to work as much as they can towards addressing the source of the problem.

So, that is the response that I have. I understand that it is a major concern for the Member, but I am not certain that passing legislation would be an answer, aside from the fact that the problem would still be there. It would just make it a crime, perhaps, an offence, to continue to do so. Perhaps, then, our best approach would be to look at ways in which we could respond to the Member's concerns by discussing with officials who may be able to advise the community on what they can do themselves to get some handle on the nature of the problem. To seek, and identify the source of the problem that gives rise to young people, and adults abusing their bodies, and their minds through the use of solvents. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral question, supplementary, Mr. Pudlat.

Supplementary To Question O912-12(2): Legislation On Solvent Abuse

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am just trying to give some ideas to the government as to what should be done because this is a big concern in the communities, and this was discussed also during the Pauktuutit Conferences. I know that this is a concern all over the Northwest Territories, not only in Cape Dorset.

If legislation cannot be made, I think there should be ways of dealing with these problems to try to stop the people from abusing solvents. I know that all over Canada there have been deaths with regard to solvent abuse. Will this be dealt with in the future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 912-12(2): Legislation On Solvent Abuse

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, I think that what I will do is take note of the Member's concerns, the ones that he raised in his first question, and in the supplementary, and ask the Minister of Social Services, and Health, to assist me in getting a more detailed response to the Member at a later date. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions. Mr. Dent.

Question O913-12(2): Negotiations On Block Funding Agreement

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question today is for the Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs. Earlier this session, I was advised by the former Minister that the department was working towards concluding negotiations with at least one municipality for a block funding agreement for the next year. I was wondering if the Minister could advise me as to what progress has been made toward this end?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Alloofoo.

Return to Question O913-12(2): Negotiations On Block Funding Agreement

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Our officials from the department and also from the municipalities have concluded talks. It will be up to the politicians now to finish the deal. The paperwork is very well prepared for me to take to Cabinet but we have not had time, really, to deal with the agreement. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Dent.

Supplementary To Question O913-12(2):  
Negotiations On Block Funding Agreement

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Supplementary to the same Minister. Will the Minister, again, confirm to the House that the goal is to have this agreement completed for the next year?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Allooloo.

Further Return To Question O913-12(2):  
Negotiations On Block Funding Agreement

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In short, yes, but I would like to conclude the arrangement as soon as possible.

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**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions. Mr. Koe.

Question O914-12(2): Recognition Of Metis As  
Distinct, Aboriginal People

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs. In the Constitution Act, section 35 recognizes the rights of aboriginal peoples of Canada, and under section 35-1, existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed. In section 35-2 of this act, aboriginal peoples of Canada include the Indian, Inuit and Metis peoples of Canada.

My question to the Minister is, does the Minister recognize the Metis as distinct, aboriginal peoples?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question O914-12(2): Recognition Of  
Metis As Distinct, Aboriginal People

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions. Mr. Lewis.

Question O915-12(2): Economic Plan For  
Yellowknife

**MR. LEWIS:**

Yes, I would like the Premier, who is taking on the responsibility for the Economic Development and Tourism portfolio, a question. In light of the fact that both gold mines in Yellowknife are going to be operating with far, far fewer people in future, in fact, we all recognize that these are non-renewable resources. Eventually, they will no longer be with us, and since our government has already begun to decentralize functions out of Yellowknife and plans to do more. What is there in the economic plan of this government, as revealed in that budget, to help the area that I, and other Members in this Assembly, represent, so that we can have an economic future in this city?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Return To Question O915-12(2): Economic Plan For  
Yellowknife

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I take it that the question relates to Yellowknife. Mr. Speaker, in all the government's involvement, and even with decentralization, certainly with Yellowknife, it continues to grow. I do not think that there has been any decline. We heard, just the other day, about the lay-off of Nerco staff, miners, and workers.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to suggest that, even though Yellowknife might have some foreboding feeling about

being left out, or not being considered as a viable economy, that is not the case. Mr. Speaker, Yellowknife will continue to be a central area, which will benefit, much like Edmonton, in terms of forming other avenues to northern parts of the country.

As we develop any kind of economic approach in other parts of the Northwest Territories, it seems that there is always something left and some role for Yellowknife, in whatever happens, particularly in the western part of the Northwest Territories. Certainly, what I would see is that, with the continuing exploration of mining, that Yellowknife will play a big role in the supply area, and a focal point in distribution.

We see, even with hydro development, a lot of the spin-off benefits will come to Yellowknife mainly because of the infrastructure that is here. In terms of any other kinds of development, it seems that Yellowknife has a role to play, and does get spin-offs as a support community to other communities in the western part of the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Lewis.

Supplementary To Question O915-12(2): Economic Plan For Yellowknife

**MR. LEWIS:**

Recognizing the fact that the economy of this community, originally was based upon a non-renewable resource that would eventually disappear, and in light of the fact that much of the development that has taken place over the last 25 years has been as a result of the growth of government. I would like to ask the Minister, in view of the fact that we know that this kind of economy will eventually decline at some point in the future, what is there specifically in this budget, in that economic development budget, that recognizes that this is a capital city, which is of paramount importance for the economy of the whole of the Northwest Territories?

What, specifically in this budget, has this government done to ensure the economic well-being of this community?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question O915-12(2): Economic Plan For Yellowknife

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I guess that question can be answered so many different ways. In terms of government, specifically, whether anyone is planning it or not, even though there are decentralization and some work-force adjustments, because of the population and the forced growth, there are 80 new positions that have been developed in Yellowknife, in education and different places, because of the general formulas that we have.

In terms of specific areas, I think that when we go to the Business Incentive Policy, many of the companies in Yellowknife have their headquarters here. So, even though there are other companies in the Northwest Territories, the companies that exist in Yellowknife automatically benefit from the Business Incentive Policy, because it happens that the major focus of their home operating base is in Yellowknife.

In terms of transportation routing into other areas, Yellowknife continues to thrive, because everything passes through Yellowknife. If we do something for Inuvik, Yellowknife generally benefits from it. There has been no direction to change the course of where medical patients from the Kitikmeot go, so the increased benefits, better facilities, comes to Yellowknife, and as a result, there has been the Kitikmeot Boarding Home, in which people come here, they enjoy the city, and take advantage of the business development. Also, because of the Yellowknife hospital, another facility was developed for the Dene people to come here, which in turn, Yellowknife benefits from the fact that it is a focal point. So, I think that no matter what we do, being a capital city, and one of the communities with most of the population, and most of the enhanced facilities, I do not believe that anything that is done outside Yellowknife, Yellowknife does not benefit in some way or another.

There are some economic proposals that are coming forward. I cannot be specific like Mr. Pollard could be to you, but I think there are some domestic type things that are being planned, and people are taking part.

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I know that, as well, the aboriginal women's group has joined together with Robinson's Trucking to put up a

type of motor hotel in Yellowknife next to the airport. I cannot exactly tell you point by point, but there are activities here that other people, and aboriginal groups, have established themselves, out of Yellowknife.

So, I believe that whether specifically, or indirectly, Yellowknife tends to benefits on all counts. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Lewis.

Supplementary To Question O915-12(2): Economic Plan For Yellowknife

**MR. LEWIS:**

I will just follow up then. My final supplementary, Mr. Speaker, on one issue raised by the Minister.

Since we do have a Business Incentive Policy, I know in contracting local communities which have local businesses, they are allowed a 15 percent kind of discount, if you like, or reduction, and if it is a local group they have an extra five percent.

Will the Government Leader assure me that policy of this government will apply for those companies that apply on contracts in Yellowknife, that they will also get that five percent extra, since they would be local companies that would be bidding on government contracts, because that is the government policy. Will she assure me that will continue to happen, in the future, for Yellowknife companies.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mrs. Cournoyea.

Further Return To Question O915-12(2): Economic Plan For Yellowknife

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I think that the word was assure, you know, and I think that I can say that what exists today, I can assure that there is no plans to change the policy to reap benefits, or giving benefits to Yellowknife contractors. The Minister responsible would like to add on to my comments. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question O915-12(2): Economic Plan For Yellowknife

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would just like to assure the Member that the spirit and intent of the Business Incentive Policy will be implemented, and the spirit and intent of the policy is to equalize things. To give northerners 15 percent so that they are equal in bidding against their southern counterparts, and the five percent local preference is to equalize for local communities, when it is implemented.

For example, there is a portion of the policy that says it has to follow the spirit and intent of the policy, that is to create jobs for northerners, and to equalize it. So, in some cases the five percent local preference is waved in order to follow the spirit and intent of the policy, and in those cases, for example, a bridge contract where the contract may be \$1 million, and six or seven hundred thousand dollars of that contract, is steel that is manufactured in Edmonton, that portion will not get the five percent, for the simple reason all bidders have to bring it out of the same area. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions, Mr. Pudlat.

Question O916-12(2): Shortage Of Supplies For H.A.P. Owners

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Minister of the Housing Corporation in regards to the H.A.P. Housing Program.

It is very appealing for people, especially when there is a shortage of public housing. I seem to notice now, or be more aware, that the people who get H.A.P. housing, it is not because they make errors in the building, but sometimes they are short of lumber.

Around 1980, I know that they were applying for H.A.P. housing, and if they were short of materials, then they were able to get more. Now adays, even when they are short of materials, even if they ask, it seems to be getting harder to obtain the material that they are short of, because they can only own it after five years of living in it.

I know it is not just with the housing authority, or the recipients. I wonder if this has been dealt with, if they

can provide more material if there is a shortage.  
Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Morin.

Return To Question O916-12(2): Shortage Of  
Supplies For H.A.P. Owners

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When the H.A.P. clients receive their material package, they have a materials list that accompanies the package, and they are supposed to check off the list all the materials they have. If there is any shortage they are supposed to report it to the Housing Corporation and the Housing Corporation will ensure that shortage of material is given to them. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions, supplementary Mr. Pudlat.

Supplementary To Question O916-12(2): Shortage  
Of Supplies For H.A.P. Owners

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A lot of times, when they start building, they do not open all the material right away. They seem to be treated differently now. I wonder if he can find out about this?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question O916-12(2): Shortage Of  
Supplies For H.A.P. Owners

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would be happy to look into any specific matter the Member has, maybe later on today when we have a meeting, he can advise me of specifics, and I will take care of it. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions, Mr. Koe.

Question O917-12(2): Use Of Humane Traps

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Renewable Resources regarding the use of humane traps, or quick kill traps.

In his statement today, or response to a question, the Minister stated that there will be a delay in the exchange of traps, but I have got a concern that it is becoming costly for trappers to participate in the exchange program, and I know it is going to be law that they do. In a lot of cases, new traps are not readily available, and they are especially not

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readily available in the size that they need for the different animals that they trap.

My question to the Minister is, can the Minister assure trappers that there are going to be enough traps of the sizes that are adequate for their needs?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Alloo.oo.

Return To Question O917-12(2): Use Of Humane  
Traps

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. At this point, I cannot assure the Member that there will be enough traps available. For that reason, the manufacturers are manufacturing as fast as they can. We were able to get, so far, 300,000 traps for our trappers. I think, for a short period of time, there could very well be a shortage of traps. I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, we are able to get 30,000 quick kill traps for our trappers. Mr. Speaker, there could very well be a shortage of traps for a short period of time, until the manufacturers are able to produce enough traps for our trappers. We will try to make sure that there are enough traps, but that depends on the manufacturers. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Koe.

Supplementary To Question O917-12(2): Use Of  
Humane Traps

**MR. KOE:**

I guess it just expounds on the problem that we are trying to introduce new laws and new legislation, and we do not have all the resources available for the

trappers. One of the complaints that I have received from trappers, is that it has costing them money. They do not have enough traps and they are obliged to trade in their existing traps. The new traps are not available, or if they are, they are too heavy, too bulky, as was mentioned by Mr. Gargan the other day.

What financial assistance is available to trappers to compensate them for loss of trapping if they do not have the proper traps available, the new traps?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Allooloo.

Further Return To Question O917-12(2): Use Of Humane Traps

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is a trapper exchange program that the department runs. The trapper will give the old leg hold traps to our Renewable Resources, or in some cases to the Hunters and Trappers Association. The trapper is then given the new traps, the quick kill traps. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Koe.

Supplementary To Question O917-12(2): Use Of Humane Traps

**MR. KOE:**

It seems to me then, that this is an opportunity for entrepreneurs in the north. When I was in the business of trying to promote economic development, there were some investigations on manufactured traps in the north. Has there been any further work done in this regard, to look at the possibilities, or feasibilities of manufacturing traps in the Northwest Territories?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Allooloo.

Further Return To Question O917-12(2): Use Of Humane Traps

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Yes, I believe there was a study done to see if the traps could be manufactured in the Northwest

Territories. I will work with the Economic Development Minister to see how far that study has gone and how viable it is to produce traps in the Northwest Territories. I am sure it could be a boost to our economy. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

This is your last supplementary, Mr. Koe.

Supplementary To Question O917-12(2): Use Of Humane Traps

**MR. KOE:**

Will the Minister please provide Members with the research and information that is available, and what he finds in this regard?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Allooloo.

Further Return To Question O917-12(2): Use Of Humane Traps

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Yes, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions. Mr. Pudluk.

Question O918-12(2): Planning Strategy For Regional Councils

**MR. PUDLUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask Madam Premier this question. In regard to the regional councils, I know there was legislation established in September 1983, and also the established their policy for funding in July 1984. Today, looking at the operating and maintenance budget, there will be a cut of \$128,000. What is the government's planning strategy in the future on the regional councils?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Cournoyea.

Return To Question O918-12(2): Planning Strategy For Regional Councils

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, like every other part of the government, we looked at the areas where there could be some basic cuts without harming the operation of various boards and agencies.

On the regional councils, there was a 10 percent cut, except for Baffin, who received a higher decrease. What we made sure of, was that each regional organization could operate, could have the meetings they require, and some support. There is no plan to take away how they operate and under what mandate they operate. All the cuts were done, basically, for fiscal restraint and each region was given enough money to have the same number of meetings and support staff to keep them going. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions. Mr. Ningark.

Question O919-12(2): Travel By Court Circuit

**MR. NINGARK:**

(Translation) Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker. I have a question to the Minister of Justice. In the smaller communities, if there are people who have to go to court, the court circuit usually comes to the community, and it takes them a long time. Once they get into the community, a lot of times they are there for only half a day. Even if there are a lot of

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people that have to be dealt with, a lot of the times, they do not complete the community.

Can this, in the future, be given consideration, that once the courts go into the communities, at least, if they could stay overnight, then they would be more appreciated from my constituents. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question O919-12(2): Travel By Court Circuit

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, I will take the Member's concern and pass it on to the appropriate people within the justice system. Mahsi.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions. Mr. Koe.

Question O920-12(2): Strategy For Social Housing

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. A question to the Minister of Housing. Can the Minister advise this House as to what active strategy he is taking to lobby the federal government, with regard to the social housing dilemma. When the issue was raised, a motion was passed, many of the native organizations expressed their support. I am just wondering what action has the Minister taken to incorporate all the advice and assistance that he was offered?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Morin.

Return To Question O920-12(2): Strategy For Social Housing

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since we had that debate in the Assembly, I have written to the Minister responsible, the honourable Elmer MacKay. The Premier has also written to the Prime Minister, Brian Mulroney. I have also put together information packages for all the major national aboriginal organizations, and presented that to them while they are here in the House.

I am also putting together the packages for all of the ordinary Members, and all of the other native organizations in the Northwest Territories, so that we can all be attacking from the same front. I will keep the Members informed as we move along. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Koe.

Supplementary To Question O920-12(2): Strategy For Social Housing

**MR. KOE:**

That is all well and nice, I guess, to provide everybody with information, but a lot of us are aware of the issue and the concerns. I guess I am looking for action and whether or not the Minister has called the Prime Minister, or the federal Minister of Housing, or have

any people gone down to lobby them directly, in this regard.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question O920-12(2): Strategy For Social Housing

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been in contact with the Minister responsible for the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the honourable Elmer MacKay. I have talked to him on the phone. Our officials have gone to Winnipeg, I believe they are there now, or they did go last week, to meet with other jurisdictions, to see if we can come to any understanding of where we would go from here.

As the Member is aware, all the provincial jurisdictions did support us, and I have also written to the honourable Elmer MacKay to ask him if there was any surplus of funding with the C.M.H.C. programs. Around this time of year, it so happens that some provincial jurisdictions do not spend all of their C.M.H.C. funding, so if there is any surplus, he would look at reallocating that surplus to the territories. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions. New question, Mr. Koe.

Question O921-12(2): Department Of Education Human Resource Plan

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Education. Since he is not here, I will direct it to the Government Leader. The other day in this House, I raised some questions about hiring practices in the Department of Education. The Minister, in one of his responses, said that these arrangements were part of the department's human resource plan.

My question, I guess, is whether, or not, this House can have a copy of the Department of Education's human resource plan.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Cournoyea.

Return To Question O921-12(2): Department Of Education Human Resource Plan

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I think over the last while we have made sure that as much as possible to the Members, I do not see any reason why you cannot, and I will make sure that the honourable Member receives a copy of the human resource plan.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Oral questions. Mr. Pudlat.

Question O922-12(2): Cost For Travel To Appear In Court

**MR. PUDLAT:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a question to the Minister of Justice. It is in regards to whether the legislation is the way it is about people that have to go to court in a different community. The individual that has to go to court has to go to the community he is asked to come to, and it is very hard, financially, for individuals to go to court in another community.

The majority of the time, depending on the airline route, they are usually late for their court date. Sometimes, if it is a young person, the parents have to pay. Is that following the legislation, that the individual has to pay for their own way to go to court? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

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

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Question has been taken as notice. Oral questions. Item 6, written questions. Item 7, returns to written questions. Item 8, replies to opening address. Mr. Gargan.

ITEM 8: REPLIES TO OPENING ADDRESS

**MR. GARGAN:**



Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had to think long and hard about whether to give my reply to the opening address today. I realize that it has been a very busy and, at times, emotionally draining session, however, there are some things that need to say, and I can

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only develop those thoughts within the free context of this item on the order paper.

I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that I am aware that the House has its sights on completing its business, so that honourable Members can return to their home communities, and I do not wish to prolong this. In fact, Mr. Speaker, I believe that a good reply is like a ladies' evening gown. It should be long enough to cover the subject, but short enough to be interesting.

Seriously, Mr. Speaker, I will not object to people looking at their watches while I am speaking today, but I strongly object if they start shaking them to see if they are working. I hope the Premier heard that, Mr. Speaker.

Over the past nine years that I have been privileged to serve as a Member of this House, I have tended to give replies in which I have attempted to comment on a wide range of issues. This one will be different, Mr. Speaker. Today I want to talk about education.

Mr. Speaker, honourable Members will be aware that over the past few weeks, I have made a number of comments on this subject. Those honourable Members who read the Yellowknifer newspaper, and listen to C.B.C., may have heard some negative reaction to these comments. It is always discouraging when people misunderstand you when you are trying to say something important.

It is even more discouraging, I think, when that misunderstanding arises as a result of out of context reporting, and local politics. To me, it is an important issue, maybe one of the most important issues I have tried to raise during all my years as a politician. I believe that it is important to try one more time, or a hundred more times, if I have to, to get this message across.

Since I was in my teens, I have enjoyed reading the works of Mark Twain. One of his best sayings was, "Get your facts first, then, you can distort them as much as you please."

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, I feel that some of the individuals who have commented on my position have

not bothered to look into the facts. Here are some facts:

1. First, I have never argued for an immediate cancellation of the cultural education programs without our public school system. I have a different vision about how our aboriginal youngsters should learn about their traditions and their Dene, Inuit, or Metis lifestyles;

I hope that, over time, we will see some changes in the prevailing model, and I say that, because I believe in some ways the prevailing model is wrong;

I would not like to see my comments interpreted as suggesting that we should immediately slash funding for our existing programs;

If changes occur, they should take place gradually, and with the consent of the communities;

2. Here is the second fact. I believe in the importance of mainstream education. Self-government, economic development, political evolution, those words will hold no promise at all, unless aboriginal people are prepared to do business with the rest of the contemporary world;

Look at my voting record in this House, Mr. Speaker. I have never failed to support any reasonable appropriations of educational programming, including the existing cultural inclusion programs in our schools.

3. Here is the third fact. I have been a strong supporter of the Report of the Traditional Knowledge Working Group, which advocates using elders to enhance existing cultural education programs in schools, and including "traditional knowledge" within the school curriculum.

4. Here is the final fact. I am proud of the record that Elizabeth Ward School, and our Community Education Council have developed in terms of preparing our young Dene to move on to secondary education.

I have noticed the hard work that has been done by Margaret Thom, and Margaret Van Dell, in developing language and cultural education programs for our school. I want to be clear about this, Mr. Speaker. Whenever I have commented about looking for a different way of educating our Dene youth in Fort Providence, I have never meant to sound critical of the contribution that these talented, and hard working, teachers have made.

---Applause

When I hear of the way professionals like Margaret Thom and Margaret Van Dell have been acknowledged nationally, it makes me feel good about what they are doing. At the same time, I have a different vision of philosophy of the model, on which our education system is based.

I guess it is based on the belief that the Northwest Territories is a place where different cultures come together and co-exist, but where one culture does not swallow up the other. I believe that the Northwest Territories has never been, and should never become, "a melting pot."

I do not think that the ways we Dene, Inuit and Metis have lived for thousands of years, and especially, the way we have raised our children, should be considered second rate when compared to non-native education systems which white people have brought into the north.

Mr. Speaker, the two part challenge facing young people in small northern communities today is to learn how to succeed as a traditional aboriginal person, and how to succeed within the modern ways economy and environment.

Our youth are having to learn how to think and feel like grandparents did. They must also be able to think and feel like the accountant, the lawyer, the social worker, or the electrician they are going to become.

Some people have suggested that the school system is not working well enough to prepare our young people for these wage economy challenges:

1. My honourable colleagues from Keewatin Central and North Slave have questioned whether we are graduating competent students;
2. The Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards and Commissions found some areas where apprenticeship training and pre-vocational requirements ought to be improved; and
3. An article I tabled yesterday written by Jim Shirley of Nunatsiaq News suggests that there is a need for better training in communication skills and commerce skills within our schools.

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Those are some changes that have been suggested in the ways we prepare our young aboriginal people

to "think like Canadians." What I am saying is that now is the time to examine the way we are preparing our young aboriginal people to think like Dene, or like Inuit or like Metis. We should be returning to the teaching system which has worked for our children for thousands of years.

Throughout history, it has been the responsibility of the elders, the uncles, the aunties, the community as a whole, to show our children their aboriginal ways of life.

I believe that if we plan now, we can eventually build an education system, not a school system which returns responsibility for socialization, and learning to the communities, and to those traditional ways.

Mr. Speaker, when I grew up, I grew up in a tent. I was born in a tent in the Red Knife area. We never had any doctors, and it was one of those trips where my mom and dad had to go into Fort Providence to pick up supplies, and somewhere along the way, I was born. I was the second born. My sister was first, and I was born about fifteen minutes later.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Late again, eh?

---Laughter

**MR. GARGAN:**

My parents taught me a lot while I was out on the land, and one of the things they taught me was if you are going to do something, do it now, and mom did it, when she was ready to do it.

When times were hard, my dad used to go down to the barrenland, and my dad is not a very big person. He is less than five feet tall. He used to go down from Red Knife, and up the Horn Mountains, down the other side, and he used to go down to the barren lands to harvest caribou when you could not find moose in our area. A lot of times, even when I grew up, I used to have to carry rifles and bags for my dad, I was quite small and I used to mumble, and complain a lot about the heavy loads. Even when we used to go visiting rabbit snares, my dad does not think like a white man, so if he caught a rabbit, he would pick it up, and dump it into my bag. So, by the time we got to the other end, the bag that I was carrying was loaded up, and I would have to carry it all the way back, instead of him going right to the end, and working our way back.

So, those are some of the things that I went through. My dad, I owe him my life. All the values, and the compassion that I have within me, comes from this man. Also, I know that a lot of Members here in this House have grown up in that same kind of environment. I do recall seeing Nellie on T.V. fishing on the ice. I have also seen her in McLean's Magazine driving a boat. A lot of the things I have learned through my people, Mr. Speaker.

My dad used to own a kicker. A five and a half horse kicker and a boat, and at that time my dad was one of the first persons who owned a kicker. Not too many people in Providence had kickers in those days, and they used to rely on borrowing my dad's boat, and kicker, to go hunting, but my dad would never let it go unless, I was driving the boat. So, that was the way I learned a lot, too.

We used to go out and drop people off in different creeks and that, and would work our way back, but we always would get a moose or some other animals.

Mr. Speaker, the philosophies that underlie learning to the Dene are different from those involved with learning to be a Canadian. There is no way around it. That is a fact. Throughout history, Euro-Canadian culture has stressed individual success, aboriginal culture has stressed collective survival.

Euro-Canadian culture has viewed child development as a series of stages in which one has to struggle to accomplish certain goals. Aboriginal culture has viewed it as a continuous process of moving closer to a sense of harmony with self, others and the natural world. Euro-Canadian cultures has developed a system which emphasized learning through instructional technologies and teaching methods. Aboriginal culture imparts knowledge through holistic experience.

Euro-Canadian education is based on the most part on learning to succeed by manipulating thoughts and objects. Aboriginal people learned to become part of the environment.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the opportunity to experience both kinds of learning. So have many of the northern aboriginal people in my generation. Interestingly enough many of the non native educators, and experts, who have criticized my views, have not experienced them. I know that the two educational frameworks are different, they feel different. Each has evolved from a different purpose.

The contemporary education system can expose students to curricula that informs them about what it is like to be Dene or Inuit. Make no mistake about it, our Department of Education and the divisional boards have made incredible progress in terms of developing absolutely beautiful books and teaching methods which they do. People like Fobbie Tatti, Margaret Thom, Judy Tutcho, Chuck Tolley, Joe Handley and many, many others are to be complimented and congratulated on their contribution.

Plainly and simply there are some vital things about being Dene or Inuit that cannot be taught in the schools. I fear that our youth are not learning how to live like aboriginal people.

What I am referring to, Mr. Speaker, is that I can only use my experience for an example, that I have a boy that is really interested in the wilderness. I have brought him to a lot of places, but I have to do everything for him. He is interested, but those are the things that you cannot teach in the schools.

The other thing, is for songs, for example, every time we have a feast in Fort Providence, for example, we have to get people from Fort Rae, Hay River Reserve, or some other community, where people who are good at those things. I still have yet to see a graduated Dene, that graduates because of his skill as a Dene.

The other thing, is syllabics. I have here a book, done in the Sahtu area, it is called the "Sahtu Dene Long Ago", a good book. I read the material, I could read this stuff and be able to interpret it. Read it in English and interpret it. I also, look at the other part of it, and it is written in roman orthography. I cannot read this, Mr. Speaker. I have to have a degree in linguistics in order for me to interpret what is here. It is all in roman orthography, with little dots and lines. I cannot read this, Mr. Speaker. I do not mind turning it around, reading it in English, and interpreting it.

Syllabics used to be a part of my culture too. That has been lost. We have several people in Fort Simpson who still could do it, and I think we have one in Fort Providence, I am not even too sure on that one. Syllabics used to be sort of a universal language for the aboriginal people. I remember my granny, back in 1960, used to read syllabics to me. She used to read books about Huckleberry Finn, Tom Sawyer, and those are not books that were developed up

here, I am sure. They must have been done in the Mississippi somewhere by aboriginal people there, but she was able to read it. I would think that, even as the English language is universal, I think the aboriginal language is also universal. I think we also should take an interest in saying that syllabics is part of the aboriginal language, and we should try to reinforce it. It really pleases me that Inuit people can still write syllabics, and be able to communicate, I am really proud of those people, for hanging on to their syllabics.

Unfortunately, I am not proud to say that it is happening in the west. In fact, I think syllabics is dying in the west. It is not being reinforced. What we have, is a method, a white man's method translating into English, into aboriginal languages, and it is different.

Children in the schools are learning about their culture and where they are from, but they never go out there. Half the kids that go to school in Fort Providence, do not go out on the land and see where mom and dad used to live, or where their uncle used to live. Landmarks for them do not exist, because there is nobody there to tell them where the landmarks are. You refer to them when you are teaching. For example, Red Knife River in my own language, if I tell that to my son, he would not know where that is, unless I take him over there to show him.

One of the things, in April, about dog team expeditions from Pangnirtung to Lake Harbour, Alan and Rene will be following a traditional route that was regularly used by Inuit, throughout the history as people. I know that this was the same road used by my own great grand parents, in travelling to Igloodik area from Pangnirtung.

For many years Baffin people have been quite fearful that our culture might pass away with the passage of time, that we might forget the knowledge of tradition that have sustained us as Inuit for centuries.

By travelling this route, Alan and Rene have kept a link with our past, have assured that they landmark forms, and guideposts of this traditional pathway to the west coast of Baffin Island, so this will remain fresh in our minds for other generations.

This is good, this is what I am talking about, Mr. Speaker. As a Member, I have stressed this time, and time again, that it is good to teach our culture in the schools, but the kind of teaching that you should be teaching in the schools, for aboriginal people, is

before Christopher Columbus came, this was the way things were in North America, the Aztecs, the Mexicans, the Navahos, those are the things that should be in the curriculum, but it is not there. What little we do teach is not part of the school curriculum, it is a program by itself. If you go into social studies, for example, you do not see anything about Dene people in the curriculum itself.

You only have a small little problem, by itself, within the school system. It is not part of the school system. It might as well be out of the school system, and controlled by the communities. In the past, our youth would have learned these things by sharing time with elders, by accompanying uncles or parents on the land, by listening to what they have to say, and by watching and becoming part of the natural environment around us.

Now they are trying to learn those things from books, from maps, writing essays, or going to short field trips with their teachers, and maybe one or two elders. Mr. Speaker, it is not the way it should be. Why is it that any time we aboriginal people have had a different way to doing thing, we are told that it better to do it the way it is done in the rest of Canada. Why is it that over, and over, we are given the message that white is right? Why is it that even our own communities are beginning to believe that the white system for teaching children is better than the one we used for centuries, even for showing them how to live like Dene?

What is the solution, Mr. Speaker? Since 1988 I have been saying that we should restructure the educational system to allow the community to take the lead role in educating our youth about their own cultural values and traditional knowledge.

Surely, with the creativity we have shown in other areas, we can build an education system which has appropriate mechanisms to allow both types of learning to take place, within their own cultural framework.

We may, for instance, want to establish a system where young people can take leave from school, to accompany their families, or community hunters and trappers into the bush, and learn the traditional ways.

These should be available for several months at a time, but there would be a firm understanding that the student would not be penalized upon returning to school, and that mandatory attendance provisions of the Education Act would not apply.

Perhaps, with a stronger effort to develop distance education technology, youth who were with their parents on the land, or in the bush, could take their academic studies over the radio and stay in touch with the schools at certain times.

There is a wide range of options, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, one of the things when I grew up, too, is that I was born Catholic and the missionaries did not do their missionary work based on getting their flocks to go to a certain centre. The missionaries went out to the outpost camps and to the small settlements to do their missionary work. I did not go to Grandin College, but I know Steve did, and the first time the intent was, to develop aboriginal people to become priests or brothers. The saying at that time, or in the bible, is that many are called, but a few are chosen. Sometimes the Bishop used to get mixed up and say, many are cold, but a few are frozen.

---Laughter

I am sure that, with the creative people in our communities, and in the local education authorities, there are many solutions that could be developed at the local level.

I should emphasize, Mr. Speaker, that this new vision of cultural education is not my own idea, it is not just based on my personal views, but rather, the wishes of my constituents.

That is what some of my political critics have said. Let them tell the press whatever they want. The fact is, that I consult with the people in my community far more than the most vocal critics of this position do.

I do not go to their meetings and make grand speeches, or listen to their complaints about all the perceived flaws in our system of government, or listen to some of the southern trained teachers blame their classroom problems on the way Dene children are brought up at home. No, I do not do those sorts of consultations, at least not any more than I have to.

I do spend time listening to our elders and checking with them about the positions I am taking in the House. Mr. Speaker, just about a week ago, the Friday before last, when I made that

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statement about the educational aboriginal program, I heard Charlie Barnaby on the radio, and he supports me on my own views about what I meant when I said

that the cultural programs should be the responsibility of the community, not the school. At least once or twice during each year, I meet with the Deh Cho students who are attending school in Yellowknife. Often we have a chance to talk as we drive back and forth to Fort Providence. I stay in close touch with the band councils, and chiefs in my constituency.

Mr. Speaker, what I hear over and over is a quiet concern that our current approach to cultural education is not working. At the same time, there seems to be a reluctance to criticize it in case current program funding will be cancelled and we will have nothing in its place.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I am not the only one to share the vision of an improved cultural education framework. I listened in the House when Mr. Pudlat, my honourable colleague from Baffin south, made the following comments on September 22 of this year, "Education is something that we are working hard towards, as parents, especially as father, because we used to be taught, but we do not teach life skills any more. Nowadays, we have handed over our children to the education system, and it has caused stress on both parts."

I also noted the comments made in the press article, I tabled yesterday, by my honourable colleague from Kivallivik. Mr. Arngna'naaq said, "I feel our culture is a way of life, and not a subject in a classroom. Inuit did not learn or live in buildings, so I do not see how we could study our culture in a building. It is taught out on the land. That is where we lived, and that is where it should be taught."

I also know that this issue is not confined to the Northwest Territories.

I have been reading many accounts in the educational and native cultural literature that talk about new approaches in the field of cultural learning. I have tabled some examples of these, Mr. Speaker, and I would urge honourable Members to take a look at them.

The Harmony Foundation, for instance stresses a holistic approach to helping teachers from Canada, Peru, Mexico, Kenya, Pakistan, and the Philippines learn about the environment.

The American Indian Magnet School near St. Paul, Minnesota has experienced unprecedented success in working with "high-needs" native children. Their whole approach is based on the concept of placing

education into culture, rather than placing culture into education.

Finally, some exciting new research was brought to my attention courtesy of Dr. Dan McDougall of the University of Calgary. This research was carried out by two west coast educators, with non-native children, in the north Vancouver school district.

The research study compared grade four students who had an opportunity to participate in an immersion program, where they actually lived in a Squamish Band long-house with other students who had studied a classroom curriculum.

The results showed that the children who lived in the long-house had a much deeper and far-reaching understanding of the cultural values and practices than those who had take the classroom program.

No, Mr. Speaker, these are not Sam Gargan's ideas. These are things that many people are beginning to realize throughout North America. To make this vision a reality, however, we will need leadership from the Minister.

While the specific school programs for greater community inclusion should be developed at the local level. I believe that an atmosphere that will encourage the community to come forward with innovative plans must be established by the Minister. This may not be easy.

I have read that Dr. Lawrence J. Peter, a Canadian educator who worked to reform the education system in the late 1950s, and early 1960s, was found as saying, "The bureaucracy defines the status quo long passed the time when the code has lost its status."

However, I know that we finally have a Minister of Education who knows how to overcome the bureaucratic hurdles, and who understands the importance of making sure our aboriginal culture remains alive in the north.

I would urge him to give these thoughts some serious consideration, and I would be happy to give him any assistance I can. Mr. Speaker, that concludes my comments on the educational system.

In closing, I would like to thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would also thank Mr. Hamilton and his staff. I understand they were angry with me yesterday. I also want to thank my family and members of my constituency, and I would also like to send my

sympathies of the families of the people that lost their families in the mine. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER (Hon. Ludy Pudluk):**

Thank you. Before I call the replies to opening address, I would like to remind Members, at this time, in rule 13(4), out of respect, new Members shall pass beating the chair, and the table, when the Mace is on the table.

The Government Leader insisted that a few minutes ago, and it is in our rules, and we should respect these rules. At this time, I will let it go because, Madam Premier, it is your first offence.

--Laughter

Madam Premier.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I would like to apologize, because in the work that I was doing, I thought we were in committee of the whole.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Replies to opening address. Mr. Nerysoo.

**MR. NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I am going to be, I think, a little shorter than my colleague who spoke just a few minutes earlier.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to raise a number of concerns, and a number of issues, but before that I want to put on record, Mr. Speaker, my appreciation to two individuals in my constituency, Hazel Nerysoo from Fort McPherson, and Roxanne John from Aklavik.

Earlier today, I made mention of the fact that I had sent a letter, and requested that contributions be made to a trust fund. These are the two individuals that are working in my constituency to seek

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contributions to the trust fund, and I thank them for the work they have done so far. I also wanted to thank, Mr. Speaker, and those constituents that have taken their money, and have been generous enough to have contributed to the families, and to the children

of those miners who have suffered the loss that they did.

I say this, particularly, because in my constituency, as much as 60-70 percent, probably even higher than that, are unemployed right now, and are probably looking to find jobs in the near future. I think that it shows that there is generosity among the people, like all aboriginal people, they have the tendency of coming to the aid of those who need support most, and I just wanted to make mention of that.

There are, Mr. Speaker, a number of issues that I wanted to raise. Again, I want to go back to this matter of the Charlottetown Consensus Report, the referendum that we are embarking upon, and going to vote for, or against, I should include, on October 26.

I wanted to raise a number of concerns. Mr. Speaker, I will be tabling all the questions that I wanted to ask, or have the committee ask. They are legitimate questions and they need some answers. I also wanted to raise a number of issues.

It is with regard, Mr. Speaker, to the matter that is raising a great deal of concern in the minds of aboriginal women, and women generally across Canada. I know that the Minister of Aboriginal Rights and Constitutional Development, and the Government Leader, or the Premier, have indicated to Members that fear should not be a factor in the decision making and voting. I guess I should say, the Minister said that there should be no fear in supporting the Consensus Report. I think that I must remind Members here that the concerns that have been raised by women, generally across the country, are important for us to consider.

They are important, because they have raised the issues they themselves think that the concerns they have raised are important for us either to address or resolve. I think that the fears they have, particularly, as they apply to the matter of the notwithstanding clause, are because of our experience with the application of the notwithstanding clause used in circumstances where it has created a storm of controversy about the fact that it has allowed the interest of the majority to trample on the rights of the minority groups.

That has been the historical evidence. I think that where aboriginal women are concerned, the notwithstanding clause could be used by First Nation governments to deny aboriginal women's rights, that are protected for non-native women by the charter.

Now it is important for us to not overlook these things concerns. It may be that in our own minds, and our own assessments, that these fears can be addressed. We must address them. We cannot ignore them, and I think for us to get the support of the women across this country, and aboriginal women, then it is incumbent upon us to respond to their concerns positively, and with a certain amount of commitment, that justice will be served in terms of responding to their concerns. I think it is only fair that we deal with those issues.

Mr. Speaker, I want to also deal with one other matter that I think is important for us to deal with. A few days ago, I rose in this House, Mr. Speaker, to deny the consideration of a report of a committee, and I did not do it simply to be a stumbling block in the process of the proceedings of this House. I think there is a principle that has to be acknowledged, and that principle is, in fact, the Speaker ruled at one time in fact in 1989, in a session in the Assembly in Norman Wells, that one of the fundamental rights that Members have, is to be understood in the language that they speak, or in the language that they best understand.

I think that principle is important no matter what we do, and I would encourage our Members to respect that right no matter what situation we are in, and I ask all Members here to be vigilant about that principle in this House, because we, in this House, have argued long and hard about the protection of aboriginal languages. We have argued against the unilateral implementation of bilingualism in the north, because we wanted to protect our aboriginal languages, and I think that we must ensure that we do not retract from the commitment that we made to our own aboriginal languages. The remarks made by Mr. Gargan, a few minutes ago, that he wanted to ensure that our culture was respected and that the cultural education was a matter that should be improved upon. I agree with that. I think the responsibility of that commitment also has to be applied here in our Legislature.

Mr. Speaker, I normally have not, over the past few years, gotten up to speak in this particular area, because I always thought that it was necessary for me, if I had questions and concerns, to address them with the Ministers through questions, or written questions. I think at times we get up just to speak to hear our own voices being heard.

On one matter of policy, Mr. Speaker, I want to make this point. I do not have a problem at any time defending policies of this government. As long as

they are fairly applied to all people. I will even go to my constituency and tell people that they cannot get funding for a particular area, if all people are told that same thing.

It makes it very difficult for me to justify the application of policies and programs, if in one constituency they hear that dollars are being expended, and in another it is not. I think, that it is important that we get rid of these kind of rumours, if they are rumours, or for that matter unfair application of policy. I think it is necessary in order for us to be a successful government.

I say that, because I do not always agree with some of the decisions that are made by the government, but if they can be justified, I think that it is only reasonable that they be made. Having served in the government, I can understand that when there is time to make a decision, then there is a time when the responsibility rests with Cabinet and with the Executive Members.

I think that it is important that nonetheless, that you listen to what we have to say on this side of the House. We do not have a monopoly on solutions and we do not have a monopoly on ideas. The one advantage of a consensus government, is the ability for all of us, at least at this particular juncture, to get up and speak and voice what might be solutions to some of the problems that we are encountering. That is not the case in other jurisdictions.

I must say to Mr. Lewis, Mr. Speaker, that I have to agree with the remarks that he made yesterday, with regard to the idea of partisan politics. I think that we cannot ignore, on an ongoing basis, the ability of people to associate in the political process. I do not necessarily agree that I will join a particular party, but nonetheless, we should not be taking that right away. I think it is a fundamental right that has been guaranteed by our own Constitution and I think we must change our rules to ensure that, that is reflected.

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On a more positive note, I do not know if I have said anything major, or negative so far, but maybe I should say one thing, and it is this, that I am not certain, Mr. Speaker, if I can agree with everything that Mr. Trudeau has to say about the constitution. I just wanted to make mention of that. I do respect the man, I have always respected Mr. Trudeau. I was only in high school, I was not even in high school when Mr. Trudeau became the leader, and had a great deal of respect for him. I respect his intelligence

and respect his ability to articulate his concerns with regard to the constitution. I do not necessarily agree with those remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I do not have much more to say, and I do not want to take much more time. Except this, I want to continue to thank our translators and the staff that work for us, the Clerk, Clerk Assistants, and the staff that are never recognized. The Hansard staff, who provide an opportunity for us to be placed in historical documents that many others will read about us, maybe a 100 years from now, they may wonder what in the world we were talking about at the time, but nonetheless we will be recognized. Perhaps for things we should not have said, but we did say them.

I want to say in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, that I do still have some major concerns about the constitutional issues. I would like further explanation, but I hope that I can get that from our Ministers and from the staff as we embark upon trying to find solutions to some of the concerns that the people across the country have, so that we can alleviate their fears, and concerns. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. 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. Item 12, tabling of documents. Mr. Kakfwi.

ITEM 12: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have two documents that I wish to be tabled. Mr. Speaker, the first document, Tabled Document 121-12(2), is the Victim Assistance Committee Annual Report, 1991-92. The second document, Mr. Speaker, Tabled Document 122-12(2), that I wish to table is the Family Law Review, Report of the Ministerial Working Group and Family Law Reform, dated September, 1992. Mahsi.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Tabling of documents. Mr. Nerysoo.

**MR. NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to table, Tabled Document 123-12(2), a letter that I received from the Status of Women's Council of the N.W.T.; Tabled Document 124-12(2), a press statement titled "Talking



Back on the Senate"; Tabled Document 125-12(2), a document titled "Debunking the Myths", and, Tabled Document 126-12(2), a document titled "People and Communities".

Further, Mr. Speaker, I would like to table, Tabled Document 127-12(2), a letter that I wrote as M.L.A., to all leaders, and constituents, in the Mackenzie Delta constituency, regarding contributions to the trust fund for families of the Royal Oak Mine disaster.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Tabling of documents. Mr. Patterson.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table, Tabled Document 128-12(2), an Implementation Plan for Recommendations of the Abortion Services Review Committee. Qujannamiik.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Tabling of documents. Ms. Mike.

**MS. MIKE:**

Qujannamiik, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table today, Tabled Document 129-12(2), a report by a Detroit diesel technician on Chicago Lake Original Cause of Failure.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you. Tabling of documents. Item 13, notices of motion. Item 14, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Item 15, motions. Item 16, first reading of bills. Item 17, second reading of bills. Item 18, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Tabled Document 9-12(2), Strength at Two Levels; Tabled Document 10-12(2), Reshaping Northern Government; tabled document 62-12(2), Report on Northwest Territories Operations at Expo '92 as at May 31, 1992; Tabled Document 66-12(2), "Working Towards a Common Future" Commission for Constitutional Development; Tabled Document 70-12(2), "The Justice House" Report of the Special Advisor on Gender Equality; Motion 6, Discussion on Sobriety Clause in Contribution Agreements; Committee Report 17-12(2), Report on the Review of the 1992-93 Main Estimates; Committee Report 20-12(2), Special Committee on Health and Social Services Interim Report No. 2; Bill 33, Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1992-93, with Mr. Ningark in the Chair.

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

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

The committee will now come to order. When we concluded yesterday, the Minister of Social Services just finished his remarks. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, I would recommend that we proceed with the budget, immediately after our lunch break.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

The committee will now recess until 1:30 p.m., precisely 1:30 p.m.

--LUNCH BREAK

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

The committee will come to order. Yesterday, when we concluded, the Minister of Social Services had just finished his statement, and I believe the Standing Committee on Finance will have some comments. Who is making the comments on behalf of the standing committee? Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The comments that the committee wanted to make are basically preambles to resolutions that we are going to present, and so we need to have a quorum in order to proceed. I might suggest that the Minister be invited to bring in his witnesses, and hopefully by that time we will be ready to proceed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Sergeant-at-Arms, would you escort the witnesses, please? Mr. Minister, for the record would you please introduce your witnesses?

Department Of Social Services

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Mr. Chairman, thank you. I am pleased to introduce Mr. Dave Tyler, Director of Finance; and Ms. Maureen Cochrane, Acting Deputy Minister, ordinarily an Assistant Deputy Minister. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent, you have a presentation for us.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, if I could suggest that we go to general comments, and I will proceed after that.

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. General comments on Social Services. General comments? Mr. Nerysoo.

**MR. NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will not take up too much time. I just want to deal with one particular matter that deals with the policy initiative. I probably could raise it under the alcohol and drug area, but I would rather raise it here, as a matter of policy.

I know that Members in this Assembly have not, I might say, debated the matter of the Sobriety Clause and contribution agreements, and it is a matter that is going to arise, probably during the next session. I do want to raise a concern about where that particular requirement is being made. It has always been my view that the communities have an employee/employer requirement, and what concerns me is this notion that you are tying public dollars and, in fact, in some cases, dollars that were originally identified to deal with aboriginal people, and requiring them to abide by a policy initiative on the part of this government, that they themselves cannot apply to their own staff.

In other words, you are telling the communities that they must apply to their employees, but you cannot do it here as a matter of policy on alcohol and drug workers in the public service. Now, I think that is wrong. The fact is, the former Minister made it quite clear that there were some legal impediments, and negotiated agreements that would not allow them to do it. Now, it would have been a lot easier had I seen the communities being able to apply that policy. I think it is a policy that probably should be supported generally, but it concerns me that we are requiring it as part of our financial agreements, or contribution agreements, with the community.

Now, I hope that the Minister will review this particular matter. I do not expect him to say "yes" or "no" I will support it today, or he probably does, but I would ask him to review it, and look into whether or not there are potential legal situations that could arise if someone,

in fact, challenged and really refused to sign an agreement with the community boards. My view is that you are really putting their programs in jeopardy. We are not putting our programs in jeopardy in terms of our employee arrangements, but we are putting the programs in jeopardy. I would ask that you review that situation, so that we do not create a situation where programs in the communities suffer because of what we consider a policy initiative on our part.

So, I just wanted to raise that, have the Minister review that with his colleagues, and with his legal advisors, as to how we might be able to best deal with that situation.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Any further general comments? Mr. Minister.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

I thank the Member for that advice, and I will take that advice and review the matter further. Until then, the policy is in place. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, I will proceed with the Standing Committee on Finance recommendations now.

The first one has to do with a social services strategy. The previous Assembly approved a motion to fast track the development of a social services strategy, to guide its future program delivery based on extensive public consultation, and to enter into negotiations with communities to devolve authority for the delivery of social service programs.

The government responded by deferring to the process of reshaping northern government and the Special Committee on Health and Social Services. In addition, the department has been without leadership for some time, and has no objectives in the 1992-93 main estimates in this regard.

Given the difficult social issues faced in the Northwest Territories, this gives the committee considerable concern. We do not believe there is the luxury of time for the department to do nothing, while awaiting the results of the community transfer committee, which is only taking an organizational approach, and the

Special Committee on Health and Social Services. At this rate, we may go through another couple of Minister, Deputy Ministers, and change in government while suicide, violence and welfare cases escalate instead of improving.

Committee Motion 218-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 86

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that, the merger of the Department of Health and Social Services take place April 1, 1993, and is reflected accordingly in the 1993-94 main estimates; a Deputy Minister be appointed as soon as possible to provide suitable leadership and direction; a social services strategy, healthy community model, and implementation timetable be developed by October 1993; The Special Committee on Health and Social Services consider providing input and recommendations on the major social issues facing the Northwest Territories.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Your motion is in order. I do not see a quorum in the committee. Mr. Clerk, ring the bell, please.

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our next resolution has to deal with affirmative action. If there is one department more than any other that should be a representative of the people it serves it is the Department of Social Services. The history of non-aboriginal intervention in aboriginal social and cultural issues is one of utter failure.

The committee finds it difficult to believe that a person from the south, however well intentioned, can effectively counsel a native person in a small, remote community, on issues such as child or spousal abuse, alcohol and drug abuse, suicide, and low self-esteem.

However, there is still a majority of the people in the Department of Social Services and Corrections that are not aboriginal, and none of the senior

bureaucracy that met with this committee are aboriginal.

Committee Motion 219-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 87

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee recommends that the Assembly establish a goal of significantly increasing the number of aboriginal people in the Department of Social Services and Correction activity by 1997. Further, the committee recommends that the department review options, and develop an action plan with the 1993-94 main estimates, to accomplish this goal, including: job redefinition to use talents available in the north; development of career pathing; and advertising and

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recruiting in the south on an exceptional basis only.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Dent. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question is being called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are three areas that the committee felt needed more resources, and not less. They are programs for dealing with child sexual abuse, suicide prevention, and equitable wages for alcohol and drug workers. Members noted that community alcohol and drug workers generally get paid less than government clerical staff and do not feel this is appropriate given the critical nature of their work.

Throughout this report the committee has stressed the need to spend more resources on preventative programs, and building human resources.

Committee Motion 220-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 88

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Department of Social Services budget more resources in the 1993-94 main estimates for child sexual abuse, suicide prevention programs, and to pay a fair wage to community alcohol and drug workers.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Koe. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be very brief. I have no problem supporting the last motion, because it involved a policy change that would not cost any money. I would like to ask the committee when it makes these recommendations to change things does it calculate how much it is going to cost to the government, if in fact, we were to support this motion?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

To the motion. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, in response to Mr. Lewis, the concern was raised at the committee because, in the main estimates presented to the committee of the whole, you do not get see the individual tasks. The task summary for suicide prevention services showed a decrease in funding that we thought was quite significant this year over what was spent last year in both the main estimates and the revised forecast.

We felt that this was inappropriate, given the fact that suicides in the north tend to be on the rise, and not on the wane. We thought any excuse for cutting back on that area should have to be supported by statistics showing that suicide was on the decrease, and not on the increase.

Basically, the same is true in all areas where we have recommended that this be looked at. There has not, necessarily, been a direct examination of what the cost would be to achieve a satisfactory level. The concern, though, is that perhaps the priorities are not properly expressed in the budget, if areas as important as suicide prevention services are seeing their funds cut.

There may be other areas where it may be more appropriate to find the money from, in order to make sure that this important service is not cut.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

Would the Member of the committee confirm, then, Mr. Chairman, that in all the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Finance, when they make recommendations to increase budgets, that they do not make any calculation about what this would cost the government? Can we get confirmation that is the case?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, for the most part, the Standing Committee on Finance does not have the resources available to it to calculate what exact costs might be. In many cases, we ask the department to give us an estimate of what the increase in costs would be, but it has been our view that it is up to the Minister to take our recommendations as policy recommendations, and try and work within his budget, to find ways to achieve the emphasis that we think should be there, if we are not satisfied that he has demonstrated that in the budget.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our next resolution has to deal with alcohol and drug strategy. The committee was shocked to learn that up to 25 percent of the children in some communities are affected by parental alcohol abuse, including fetal alcohol syndrome.

We can assume that similar statistics may appear in the rest of the Northwest Territories. If ever we were unsure of how to measure our performance as a government, and a society, we now know. Up to 25 percent of our children have special needs and problems which will affect them, and us, for the rest of their lives, and we do not have a strategy to deal with it. What is the long-term cost of doing nothing?

Committee Motion 221-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 89

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Department of Social Services develop a strategy to deal with the alcohol and drug abuse epidemic, by October of 1993.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our next resolution has to deal with after care. The committee is concerned that there is no after care programs for people released from jail, and, as a result, the circle of violence continues.

Committee Motion 222-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 90

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Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Department of Social Services initiate a program of after care, for people released from jail, as a measure of prevention against additional offenses.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our next resolution has to do with the Land Skills Survival Program. Committee Members were impressed with the success of the Land Skills Survival Program run by the Baffin Corrections Centre and believes similar programs would prove beneficial in other correctional centres in the Northwest Territories.

Committee Motion 223-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 91

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Department of Social Services initiate land skills survival programs at all correctional centres.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

Just a brief question, Mr. Chairman. Does this mean, then, that right throughout the territories, where we do have people in correction facilities, that they will be supplied with guns and ski-doo's, so that they can, in fact, be on the land and learn how to use those machines and weapons?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

In those cases where it is considered appropriate the committee felt that because of the success that has been shown with this program, and its impressive record in decreasing people coming back into the correction system, it was worthwhile program. It means in the long run we are going to pay less.

Since the program has been very effective at the Baffin Correctional Centre, we are recommending that, yes, programs throughout the territories be modeled on that one.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

I do not mean to be humorous, Mr. Chairman, but it could be a fact that they will not return to the facility, if you give somebody a ski-doo, a gun, and a highway, they keep on moving. Baffin Island is very difficult to get off, once you are on that island, it is a very big island, you know, and it is very hard to get to Montreal by ski-doo.

However, I can imagine in the Yellowknife Correctional Centre, if you decide that you are going to implement this program, that there could be people that would not return. I find it difficult to accept a universal affirmative motion, which says that all

correctional facilities should be provided with that program.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

To the motion. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think we make sure that we only give out snowshoes in areas that are too accessible. Seriously, I would expect that the program, like any program in corrections, should be drawn up with proper consideration for the people who would be given the chance to take advantage of it. It was our expectation that you would not find dangerous criminals necessarily being offered a chance for this. In particular, people who have been granted work release, and are able to leave the confines of the facility for certain periods of time, have demonstrated a certain reliability, and would probably be the only ones who would be given the opportunity to partake in some of the activities.

I think that we have to expect that, in the long run, common sense is going to prevail. We have to hope that it will. The bottom line though, is that if we can come up with a program that will help people learn life skills that will enable them to stay out of a correctional facility, that we are further ahead to take some chances on occasion.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our next resolution has to deal with the presentation of a realistic budget. The committee was concerned, when they were told that the department was not allowed to budget for increments. By the way, Mr. Chairman, this was not the only department in which we had this concern.

As a result, the department's budget for 1992-93 shows virtually no increase from the 1991-92 revised forecast. We know that in many cases the department's main estimates are not realistic, and supplementary funding must be provided. It seems to

us, Mr. Chairman, a rather fruitless way to prepare a main estimate, and we know that we are not seeing figures that represent a real budget.

Committee Motion 224-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 92

Therefore, I move that this committee recommends that the Department of Social Services prepare its 1993-94 main estimates budgeting for known increments, as realistically as possible.

Further, the committee recommends that the Financial Management Board take a more critical look at departmental budgets in comparison to the revised forecast, to ensure everything is budgeted for, as realistically as possible, and departments should comment in the S.C.O.F. document on significant changes from the 1992-93 revised estimates to the 1993-94 main estimates.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The final resolution from the Standing Committee on Finance has to do with measuring output and effect. The committee wishes to know what the department will accomplish with the money put into Social Services Programs.

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Committee Motion 225-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 93

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Department of Social Services report, as a minimum, the following performance measurements in the 1993-94 main estimates: social assistance statistics and trends; public satisfaction with social services, and programs; rates of suicide, alcohol and drug addiction; local employment in social services; social services cost containment; and, social services facility utilization.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

I believe that concludes the motions from the committee.

**MR. DENT:**

That is correct, Mr. Chairman. That completes our motions.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. We are dealing with the Department of Social Services. Any further general comments? Should we go line by line?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Page 15-10, directorate, total O and M \$11.442 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Family and children services, total O and M \$13.815 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Correctional services, total O and M \$19.497 million. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is this department in the right place, or is it supposed to be in Justice?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman. The Member does ask a good question. The operational transfer has taken place to the Ministry of Justice, the Minister of Justice is running the correctional services, but the Member is correct the budget is still within the Department of Social Services. It will be transferred out at the next opportunity through a supp. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Correction services, total O and M, \$19,497 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, for the record, because there may be a potential for conflict of interest, I will not participate in or vote on discussion of page 15-13.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Dent. That is noted and recorded. Correction services, total O and M \$19,497 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Alcohol, drugs and community mental health, total O and M \$10,862 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Community and family support services, total O and M \$36.902 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, just one concern, and that is with regard to our senior citizens. In Providence we do not have a class one, or whatever it is called for elders that require care. We have two people now in Hay River that are under that category, or fit that category. I would think that not too far in the distant future, we may get more elders in that same position. They are being taken away from the communities, I want to tell the Minister that it is a concern, and I am sure it is a concern in a lot of the communities where they do have senior care facilities, and Fort Simpson has a facility right in the community to care for them. Hay River is the same way, Yellowknife is the same way, possibly Inuvik, but in those other communities, you run into a situation of elders being put out of the community. I really do not appreciate that, and I am just wondering if maybe the Minister might be able to look into it and see if we might be able to address that issue so that we do not have to have our seniors move out of the community.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you kindly. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased that the Fort Providence Dene Band does deliver a Homemaker Program for us which, I think, is providing useful service to elders in Fort Providence. I am aware of the Member's concern. I will review the situation in Providence to see whether there are people who cannot be adequately looked after through the Homemaker Program, and then we will have to see if the numbers would justify a personal care facility of the kind that the Member is describing.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Community and family support services, Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Now, Mr. Chairman, I am not criticizing the home makers program. I am expressing that we have senior people in my community that are removed from the community and put in institutions like Hay River because they do not have those kind of services in Fort Providence. It is that category of people that I am concerned about, and I wish the Minister would somehow be able to address it so that the few remaining years of those senior citizens are with their

family and their community where they were brought up. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I understand the Member's point. We have been establishing regional facilities as a first priority and we will now have to look at where the numbers justify it, where we can establish community facilities, and I will certainly look at the number of elders who would or could be housed in such a facility in Fort Providence, and then we can look at it in the context of our capital plan. I will review those numbers, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Community and family support services. Total O and M \$36.902 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, the Minister announced that the senior citizen supplement benefits are going up, and it is going to be retroactive effective April 1. Has that been done yet?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The honourable Minister.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Mr. Chairman, the Member is referring to the announcement made by the Minister of Finance, I believe, the increase that was announced in the budget address. I am told, Mr. Chairman, that we will not be able to actually pay those monies out until the necessary supplementary estimate has been approved by this House, and then it will be done on a retroactive basis. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**



Thank you. Community and family support services.  
Total O and M \$36.902 million.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

One final point. Mr. Chairman, I wrote, on behalf of two individuals in Fort Providence, regarding their disability. I am sure there are communities where, you know, we do have disabled people who are disabled, not through their own fault, but through birth or sickness, and I think I have two people that fit that category. One of the things that is happening, they are tried like social assistance recipients, they get food allowance, they also get \$125.00 extra for their disability, but my concern is that it is still done on the basis of a food voucher. People do not get \$125.00 cash or anything like that for their disability and I would hope that for those people who are in their condition, the Minister allows for the social worker to do it on a monthly basis. They just send them cheques once a month, because they know that those people are not going to get employment, nor do they hope to get employment. They are a very special category of people who we really should try to address with regard to social assistance. They are not people who would spend money indiscriminately, so I would hope that the department would change its policy so that those people are given their food vouchers and that the \$125.00 for their disability be given on a monthly basis as a cheque, just like a regular pension cheque.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Yes, I will review the policy, and take the Member's suggestion on advice. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Community and family support services.  
Total O and M \$36.902 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Next page. Details of grants and contributions. Grants, \$290,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

On page 15-18, contributions. \$16.435 million. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Just with regard to the daycare emergency grants to provide start up funds to centres and homes for community daycare. Is that a dead issue? We do not allow any monies for that program?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

The policy is alive and well, Mr. Chairman. We allow start up funds, and also there are ongoing operating costs allowed. I think what is dead, is the possibility of the federal government doing a national child care program, but our policy is working, and has resulted in a number of daycare spaces being opened up in communities. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. We are on 15-18. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, based on that response, why is it then, that we do not have anything to reflect the dollars in that item?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mahsi. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Mr. Chairman, I could refer the Member to page 15-16, under family and children services, daycare centres, start up funds are \$313,000 and daycare centres in homes are \$925,000. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

On page 15-18, contributions \$16.435 million.  
Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Grants and contributions \$16.725 million.  
Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Page 15-19, detail awards performed on behalf of  
third parties. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Page 15-20, revenues, recoveries, and transfer  
payments. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. We are on page 15-9, program summary,  
total O and M \$92.518 million. Do we agree?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Does the committee agree that this  
program summary is concluded?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

I would like to thank the Minister, and his witnesses.  
What is the wish of this committee? Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, I recommend that we continue with Bill  
33, and look at Workers' Compensation Board's  
budget next.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Do we have the concurrence of the committee that we  
deal with Bill 33?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Workers' Compensation Board. On page  
08-16 we have an information page, Workers'  
Compensation Board. Mr. Patterson, have you found  
your seat? Are you ready to make the presentation?

Introductory Remarks, Workers' Compensation Board

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I am  
please to be able to present the budget of the  
Workers' Compensation Board for 1992-93.

The major concerns of the board and their staff for the  
current year are presented in the written material  
which has been previously presented to the House,  
the annual report, and the Auditor General's Report.  
Concerns include:

- The development and delivery of workplace safety  
education programs, to emphasize the importance of  
a safe workplace for workers and employers;
- The enhancement of rehabilitation services to  
facilitate the return to work of injured workers, and  
reduce costs in the long-term; and
- that the appeal process for claimants and employers  
ensures fair and equitable treatment for all concerned.

Mr. Chairman, the budget represents both  
administrative and program expenditures. Whereas  
the administrative budget is very carefully planned  
and implemented, the expenditures for compensation,  
medical aid, pension awards, and rehabilitation  
programs are driven by the number and severity of  
claims made to the board.

The level of these costs are determined by the benefits defined by policy and legislation.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would be pleased to answer any questions the Members of your committee may have. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent, do you have any presentations on behalf of the Standing Committee on Finance?

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, as is usually the case our comments are in the form of the resolution. Seeing as we do not have a quorum right now, maybe we could ask the Minister to bring in his witnesses and go to general comments, before proceeding with the S.C.O.F. recommendation.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Does the committee agree that the Minister bring in his witnesses?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Sergeant-at-Arms, will you escort the witnesses, please? Thank you. Mr. Minister, for the record, would you introduce the witnesses to the committee?

Workers' Compensation Board

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have with me Ms. Dorothy Chattel, Manager of Financial Services for the board, and Mr. Brian Roberts, Chairman of Workers' Compensation Board. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Are we ready to make a presentation? General comments. Do we have general comments from the floor? Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Mr. Chairman, with all due respect to Members, we do not have a quorum.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

The lack of a quorum has been called. Mr. Clerk, would you ring the bell? We now have quorum in the committee. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For the Standing Committee on Finance, the review of the Workers' Compensation Board is somewhat of a futile exercise in that we do not really get to review their budget and have much in the way of input, seeing how it is operating at arms length from the government. I think it would be safe to say that the majority of Members on the Standing Committee on Finance support the resolutions that came out of the Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards, and Commissions final report on the Workers' Compensation Board.

We did have one resolution to do with measuring output and effect. The Standing Committee on Finance wishes to know what the board will accomplish with the money put into the Workers' Compensation Programs.

Committee Motion 226-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 97

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Workers' Compensation Board report, as a minimum, the following performance measurements in the 1993-94 main estimates: a trend in assessment rates; backlog statistics; accident statistics; and, worker and employer satisfaction.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

The question is being called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, that completes the resolutions for the Standing Committee on Finance.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Dent. We are dealing with the Workers' Compensation Board on page 08-16. Any general comments on the item? This is just the information item.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Agreed. Does this committee agree that this Workers' Compensation is concluded?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Since we brought this high priced help here, taking time out of their busy schedules to meet with us, we should ask them one question. Can the Minister advise us what the status is of the numerous recommendations made by the Standing

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Committee on Agencies, Boards and Commissions, in our last report on the Workers' Compensation Board.

One of the recommendation was to create the workers' advisor position, or transfer it from a contract position to a full-time position, and I know there was a recruitment process under way. What is the status of the recruitment of the workers' advisor?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and may I say that the board and myself are taking the extensive recommendations of the A.B.C. Committee seriously. As to the workers' advisor position, it was established as a permanent position as recommended by the

committee from the ad hoc contractual arrangement that is now in place. It would require a legislative amendment to recognize that in the act, and that will come, but in the meantime, the position has been advertised. Arrangements have been made to house the position within the Department of Safety and Public Services, although I hasten to emphasize that it is independent, and the reporting relationship to the Minister responsible for the W.C.B. will not be affected by that physical arrangement. It is a matter of convenience, and providing support services and aspects such as improved security that are now not in place.

As to the selection of a permanent indeterminate workers' advisor, interviews are occurring this afternoon, I am told. So, we are close to making an appointment. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Workers' Compensation Board, this is an information item. Mr. Nerysoo.

**MR. NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to make one comment, and it is the result of some concern that I might have with regard to rate increases, and I know there has not been any determination or decision at the moment, but I do ask the chairman, the board, and the Minister, to be cognizant about the consequences of major increases to the business community. I know that we may somehow embark on a decision that some of the rates that are being paid are not fair, or not as high as the provinces, but I still ask you to be cognizant of the high cost of doing business in the north, and what that might mean to the success, or even the existence, of a small business community in the Northwest Territories.

I have not heard any details about that particular decision, and I think it is a matter for you to consider. I have heard some, what you might say are rumours, and it just causes me concern that may happen.

So, I just want to put that on record, and you can maybe deal with that particular matter however you wish.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Workers' Compensation Board. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Members know, and as I think Mr. Dent pointed out, decisions like this are exclusive jurisdiction of the board to determine. I can tell the honourable Member that the board is very actively dealing with the 1993 rates question, and I am told they may soon have a decision made. I can only say to the Member that Mr. Roberts is here, certainly he and I are both hearing the concern, and are aware of the fact that we are in a recession in the north. It is a difficult time for businesses in this operating climate, and I trust that will be taken into account by the board when they determine the 1993 rates. I thank the Member for that advice.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Workers' Compensation Board. Information item. Agreed? Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Just one comment, Mr. Chairman, and that is regards to this spring, we did approve an increase so that people that are working in the higher salary brackets are given a fairly good premium, or remuneration. We have people that are injured while they are working. There is one person that is making about \$7,000 a year on compensation. He, I guess, injured his back. He has a family of five, he has no other help, because he does have an income, so Social Services does not help him, and he does not have enough to go take another course.

I am just wondering whether or not they are going to be addressing that category of people, because I think the compensation is too low. They get by but they do not have enough to pursue another career.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask Mr. Roberts to respond. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Roberts, please proceed.

**MR. ROBERTS:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I hope I understood the honourable Member's question clearly. The ceiling matters, which we referred to the yearly maximum

insurable enumeration, is the maximum benefit on which people that are injured at work can be paid. All compensation is based on actual wage loss that occurs subject to this ceiling, so consequently, any worker in any industry, if their earnings are \$10,000 a year, and they are injured, their compensation is based on that \$10,000 a year. If it is \$40,000 a year, it is based on the \$40,000 a year. If it is \$55,000 a year, it is based on the \$47,500 because that is the ceiling and maximum benefit that could be payable. There should be a minimum compensation payable to all workers, possibly, that would address the problem being encountered. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Roberts. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate the response. I believe that at the time of the injury, the guy must have been in the job, for about four months, or something like that, six months he was in the job and he got hurt. It was based on what he was making at the time he got hurt, that he got compensation for. He made up to \$7,000, or whatever it was that it was based on, not the whole year that he was earning. He started the job, he got hurt part way through the job, that is what I am saying.

I am just wondering whether the compensation is based on the actual money he earned at the time that he got hurt, or is it based on what he could have got, if he was to work that full year.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Roberts.

**MR. ROBERTS:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The remuneration that is used on normal calculations would be the year preceding the accident. What we are obligated under the Act to do, is to use the period of time that more accurately reflects the persons situation at the time. Unfortunately, I am not aware of the individual case that the Member refers to, but we would certainly be prepared to look into that.

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Workers' Compensation Board. Mr. Koe.  
Thank you. Workers' Compensation Board,  
information item. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Does the committee agree that this information is  
concluded?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Thank you to the witnesses, Mr. Minister.  
What is the wish of this committee? Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, I recommend that we continue with  
consideration of Bill 33, reviewing the Department of  
Transportation budget next.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Is the committee agreed that we deal with the  
Department of Transportation?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The Minister for Transportation, do you  
have opening remarks on behalf of your department?

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Proceed, Mr. Minister.

Introductory Remarks, Department Of Transportation

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to bring  
before the Legislative Assembly the proposed 1992-  
93 main estimates for the Department of  
Transportation. These estimates provide the funding

required to ensure that our existing transportation  
infrastructure is maintained to an adequate level of  
safety and service.

The O and M budget proposed a total expenditure for  
1992-93 of about \$40 million. This is about half a  
million less than the main estimates and subsequent  
approvals for 1991-92. The department's  
establishment has also been reduced by 9.3 person  
years.

Despite these reductions, the department has  
achieved a number of significant objectives during the  
year thus far.

For the first time, the main estimates for 1992-93  
show the \$7.8 million in O and M expenditures that  
the Department of Transportation now spends  
annually on the 38 territorial airports transferred from  
the federal government in 1991.

Another important initiative, is the department's  
highway dust control program. Through this program,  
over half of the gravel surfaced roads on the territorial  
highway system are now dust free. Dust control  
provides better driving visibility, and is an important  
factor in increasing highway safety.

As a result of the Department of Transportation's  
efforts, and the cooperation of the Canadian  
hydrographic service and the Canadian Coastguard,  
charting of a safe marine access channel through the  
ice to the community of Pelly Bay has been  
completed. Marine re-supply of fuel to Pelly Bay  
could begin as soon as the 1993 shipping season,  
followed by dry cargo re-supply in 1994. This will  
have a significant impact on supply costs to the  
community.

The Departments of Transportation, and Energy,  
Mines and Petroleum Resources, are participating  
with the federal government, and several  
transportation and resource sector companies, in a  
study of marine shipping possibilities in the  
Kitikmeot's Coronation Gulf area. This may lead to  
major economic developments in the region, provide  
employment and business opportunities, and reduce  
supply costs for communities in this region.

In summary, the department is pursuing the  
objectives of the transportation strategy through  
improvements to the operations of N.W.T. road, air  
and marine transportation systems which are so  
important to the social and economic well being of  
northerners.

Those are my opening remarks, Mr. Chairman.

---Applause

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Any general comments? Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman. Is this where you also address highway patrols.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Prior to proceeding, if I could ask the Minister if he wishes to invite witnesses? Mr. Minister.

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman. I will ask two of my department officials to be at the witness table with me.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Is that agreeable with the committee?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Sergeant-at-Arms, will you escort the witnesses in, please? Thank you. General comments? Mr. Dent, for the Standing Committee on Finance.

Department Of Transportation

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As is the usual case, the comments from the Standing Committee on Finance come before preamble to the motions. The first has to deal with the transportation strategy.

Transportation infrastructure Canada historically has been a joint federal provincial effort to enable people to move, be it east and west, or north and south. For example, the Queen Elizabeth Way was not paid for by Ontario, and the cost of the Newfoundland ferries is not borne solely by Newfoundland. The federal government also has a large role to play in the Northwest Territories transportation strategy. However, discussions at the political level need to be revitalized.

Committee Motion 227-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 94

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Department of Transportation increase the political priority to negotiate a significant federal presence in funding new transportation infrastructure, and report by March 31, 1993.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Motion is in order. We do not have a quorum in the House, Mr. Clerk.

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Thank you, I do not want to interfere in the business of Members leaving the committee, but I do want to remind Members that we do not have the numbers that are normally here, with the absence of Members who have returned to their constituency. I would ask that Members bear with us as we get through the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Finance. A note of concern from the Chair, about Members being present.

To the motion. Mr. Dent. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our next resolution has to do with make work projects. The committee supports highway initiatives, if they create jobs, economic development and community access.

Committee Motion 228-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 95

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Department of Transportation work with the Departments of Social Services, Justice, Education, Economic Development, Employment Canada, and communities, to develop creative approaches to transportation infrastructure projects, to put people to work and open up the north.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Motion is in order. To the motion.  
Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our final resolution for the Department of Transportation, has, as usual, to do with measuring output and effect. The committee wishes to know what the department will accomplish with the money put into transportation programs.

Committee Motion 229-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 96

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Department of Transportation report as a minimum, the following performance measurements in the 1993-94 main estimates: average transportation costs, by community; more accessibility, for examples, roads or other infrastructure; and, local employment in transportation development.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion.  
Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, committee Members also expressed concern that departmental hiring decision were being made at headquarters, and hence, not maximizing local hiring. Just a note that we will be following up on this in the review of the 1993-94 main estimates. We just wanted to give the Minister fair warning.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Does that conclude the report of the Standing Committee on Finance? Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman, it does.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. What is the wish of the committee? Detail? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Directorate, total O and M \$2.371 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Transportation and engineering.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Transportation and engineering, total O and M \$2.484 million. Mr. Nerysoo.

**MR. NERYSOO:**

Thank you. Mr. Chairman, there are a couple of small concerns that I want to raise in this particular area, it happens to be with regard to the matter of the Dempster highway. I wanted to indicate to the Minister, and through him to the staff, that I do have a concern about the actual quality of the road, and also the quality of the gravel material that we are using on that highway.

Another point that I wanted to raise, is that I did write to the former Minister about the use of equipment on the highway. That was particularly, how we were using equipment, like packers and I was told, Mr. Chairman, that we do not use packers because of the type of material we place on the highways. I noted with interest, in my own driving experiences in the southern parts of the Northwest Territories, that we do use packers. I was kind of curious why we are not, in fact, using packers when we are reconstructing the highway, and also in terms of the maintenance of those highways. The comparison that I asked about was the Yukon, and the suggestion was that there was a different type of material that was being used.

It is interesting to note that I had discussions with a lot of the contractors, who have been working on the highway, and they indicate that there is no reason why we should not be using packers at all to, in fact, pack down the road hard, so that the granular material that we are using does not end up on the



side of the road, rather than staying on top of the road. I just wanted to raise that particular concern.

I do not necessarily think you can answer or deal with the issues at this particular time, but I do want the department, over the next few months, to address how we might be able to improve the quality of that highway. Particularly, since this year was, I believe, one we had a great deal of tourists travelling on the highway. In fact, we had more on the highway in the Mackenzie Delta area, than we actually had coming to Yellowknife. I would ask you to review that situation, and maybe develop a plan, or response, as to how we might improve that particular highway.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank the Member for bringing those concerns to the forefront, and yes we will look at the problem as he has presented it, to improve on the ways and means of building roads. We certainly appreciate the comments and we will take those under advisement.

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Transportation and engineering, total O and M \$2.484 million. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would just like to make a comment, and I know that we are not dealing with capital, but it does deal with engineering and planning of highways, and the eventual construction. The concern that I have, and it has been raised, I am sure, many times over the years, is on the actual maintenance and construction of roads, the tendering processes and, in some cases, the negotiations of contracts.

I wish to express my concern to the Minister, and his senior staff, that as much as possible we should try to ensure that the contracts are let locally, involve as much local business, and get them to hire as many local employees as possible to do these contracts.

This goes for both all-weather roads, and ice roads.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Any comments? Mr. Minister.

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we agree that we will be working closer with local and northern employers, and businesses, in trying to ensure that every opportunity is used in the territories to keep the money north, and that regional people are able to benefit from these contracts. We will do everything we can to ensure that happens.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you, just one follow up to that. In a lot of cases, a lot of our community operators, contractors may be too small to do any one specific job. I think just about every community has a contractor with equipment, and maybe a combination of groups, joint ventures, between the different businesses within the regions, can be just as effective, and probably more effective than bringing in someone from the outside.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we are examining ways of ensuring that smaller, more local, companies are able to benefit from contracts. One of the ways is to make sure that the contracts are not so large that local firms are not able to bid on them, to make them into smaller bite size contracts. That way the local firms are able to take on some of these pieces of work, whereas previously they were not able to because the contract may have been too large.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Any other general comments? Transportation engineering, total O and M \$2.484 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Marine services, total O and M \$4.060 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Highway operations, total O and M \$18.985 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Providence is out. Hey, Mr. Gargan? No, thank you. Arctic airports, total O and M \$9.336 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, just for the record, there may be a potential for conflict of interest for me on page 11-13, so I will not participate in discussion, or vote on that page.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you, very much, Mr. Dent. All those that drive vehicles here, or own vehicles?

---Laughter

Motor vehicles, total O and M \$1.837 million. Agreed? Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

There is just one comment I would like to make regards to the license plates. Right now, the plates are designed so you can only use five letters and I want to put more than five letters. People do not just limit their names to five letters, you know, so I want to see if you might be able to put some extra space to allow for at least one extra letter.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Sam is three letters, so we are okay.

---Laughter

Mr. Minister.

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The plates can accommodate six, so they get all of Mr. Gargan's on it. With the design that we have, and the standard that North American vehicles have, it is a little difficult, because they are usually encased in an indentation on cars to accommodate a certain size. It is a little difficult to do that. Maybe the Member will have to be imaginative, and hyphenate.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Total O and M \$1.837 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Highway Transport Board, Total O and M \$150,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Transportation planning, total O and M \$734,000. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a question. In the department's definitive objectives, I see under transportation planning that they are going to do regional transportation plans for the Kitikmeot, Keewatin and Inuvik regions. I hope that is not the priority that these plans are going to be done in, in terms of traffic and road planning. If you are doing boat planning, I guess it is different, but in terms of highway planning, I hope that more emphasis would be placed on some of the existing road links.

In terms of where the traffic is going, as mentioned in the acting Minister of Tourism's speech the other day, the Dempster highway has had a tremendous amount of traffic. There is also a tremendous amount of planning activity that has to go into it which differs from just a plain road. There is a lot of infrastructure, a lot of facilities have to be developed.

I guess I can put my dibs in here for the Mackenzie highway from Wrigley up through to Inuvik, and maybe to the Beaufort. I know that it is in the transportation strategy, but I have not seen any information. I am not sure where it is in the overall planning. I think it should be a priority.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Did you want to respond, Mr. Minister?

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The comments are good comments, in that in the capital plan, the road will be, by the end of 1994, open as far north as Wrigley. Beyond that, it depends on federal funding for the Mackenzie Valley highway, it is something that we are working on, and we are hopeful.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total O & M \$734,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Detail of work performed on behalf of third parties.

Total department \$3.634 million. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

I am not too good with geography. Where is this Jackfish Lake access road?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Mr. Minister. Mr. Gargan, do you still want to know where Jackfish Lake is? Mr. Koe has informed you, I believe. Thank you. Total department \$3.634 million. Detail of work performed by third parties. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Revenues and recoveries and transfer payments. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Distribution of budget. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Program summary. Total O & M \$39.957 million. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just with regard to some difficulties that Hay River is having. Between transportation and M.A.C.A., we have never been able to resolve this whole issue of who is actually responsible for the access road. The reserve does not have any source of gravel, either. They do have heavy equipment, a grader, a loader, and a gravel truck, but no source of gravel. I am just wondering, most of the communities and their highway systems do get a supply of gravel, like the Providence has a big stock of gravel that has been hauled during the winter months.

Actually, there is nothing there, so that is one problem that I hope will be resolved soon. The other ones with regard to the ferry operations, I have cancelled them. I know that Jim is not here, but I understand there is supposed to be a ferry in operation there. I want to know, when?

There is an old C.N. bridge that is going to be dismantled on the Hay River, and I would like to know if there are any plans for that bridge, and whether or not you are going to buy it for a dollar and maybe use it at another location?

The third one, is whether there are any plans for the Willow Lake bridge. Again, that is not my constituency, but I thought maybe I should bring it up, too. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (MR. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not sure if I have all of the questions, but I will do the easy ones first.

The access road into the reserve at Hay River is a road that we are responsible for maintaining, but into the community, that is a different matter. We are not responsible for that part of the road, and I think that access road is an older road. It was built, I believe, by Arctic College, it used to be called A.V.T.C. at the time, and they built that road in there for that community way back in the 1970s, I think, or certainly the early 1980s. Again, we are responsible for upgrading it, keeping it open, and we are doing that as best we can.

The other question about the ferry operation, over the next year and a half, and a retrofit, we anticipate the Johnny Berens will be back in operation in 1994. That is when it is scheduled for, right at Camsell Bend, and the other question about Pine Point Bridge.

Yes, Mr. Chairman, that department is aware of the interest by the reserve in an all-weather crossing right at the community, and there has been some suggestions that we should take advantage of C.N.'s offer of this bridge that is located across the Hay River, and the department has already started a study in the early part of last month on the feasibility of this suggestion by taking advantage of this bridge. It is a fairly long span, Mr. Chairman, and it is not easy to relocate, but again, the study will give some idea of the costs and the possibilities. It is being looked at, and we should have a report back probably before the end of November.

The Willow Lake River should be completed by the target date of spring of 1994.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

One other thing, Mr. Chairman, the road that goes into Hay River, goes past the airport, and goes into Vale Island, I think it is. All of that section of road is considered a highway, and I am just wondering why the same thing does not apply to the road that is going into and through the reserve?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Member is correct. The highway does extend through the town of Hay

River, down to the old town, and the new town, but the main transportation depot is located on Vale Island, and that is where a lot of the freight goes through, which is the reason for it. It is not a municipal part of our plan. It is an access road, a part of the highway, a continuation of the highway, and not a community access road. It is because the destination of the vehicles using that road, go to the harbour.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, I am not sure, but is this where I address highway patrols? I have not seen any section on that yet, but I am just wondering if that is also supposed to be in this one?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

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**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you. I think it comes under motor vehicles operations.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you. I am wondering why the department has not singled out highway patrol, as one area. I know they operate quite a few vehicles, and most of them are on the MacKenzie River between Hay River and Yellowknife, so I wonder why it is not an item by itself? I am interested in finding out, I was talking to the Member from Inuvik, and he does not seem to recall having seen any patrol vehicles in his area, on the Arctic Highway either, so I am just wondering if it is restricted to only that one area?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. We do have a lot of major arterial parts of our highways. That is, I think,

the area that the Member is referring to, is probably our busiest chunk of road. That is where most of the traffic is situated, the type of traffic that we are interested in, to the largest extent, is the heavy truck traffic.

We also do have highway patrol on the Dempster as well, in the Inuvik area, although they just seem to be more visible on the Hay River to Yellowknife stretch of the road.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Program summary, Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do you have any patrols on the Liard highway, from the border up?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, the highway patrol does go to the border, from the Alberta border, to the British Columbia border, to the Liard highway. The frequency of their travel depends on the volume of traffic. A few years ago, when they were building the pipeline, there were a lot of trucks travelling to Fort Simpson, and consequently, patrols would have been stepped up in that area, to accommodate that larger volume.

They do go from border to border.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. How do you determine whether, or not, there is the volume there? In Fort Liard, we do not have anything there to determine volume, you do not even have a weigh scale. I do not know if you have any way of determining the weights of vehicles that are travelling on our highways, I do not recall seeing any there.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are able to determine quite a number of the things that the Member does ask about. There is a major truck stop on Highway 1, just outside of Enterprise, or right on the boundaries of Enterprise. There are also traffic counters on the highways, so we can determine numbers of vehicles using those routes, but that is also visual.

When a vehicle passes by, or vehicles pass by, we are able to determine their destinations by a number of ways. Certainly, by their checking in to the weight scales to be weighed, and by compliance with our highway requirements. That is how we determine how the patrols are conducted.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Where are the check points for the vehicles that go onto the Liard Highway? Is it in Fort Nelson? You must have check point where the vehicles are weighed, the diameters, the types of goods, and the dangerous goods, that are being transported. You must have a check point somewhere that determines that sort of thing.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are two permanent facilities. One is located, as I said earlier, at Enterprise, it is right at the edge of the town of Enterprise. That is a kind of junction point, going into Hay River, formerly to Pine Point, or Fort Smith, and also branching off to go north to Yellowknife and Fort Simpson.

There is also a permanent facility located at Inuvik. That catches traffic arriving and departing the Inuvik area for the Dempster. At one point, Mr. Chairman, there was a facility located on the Liard, but it was discontinued because of the low volume of traffic that was using that facility.

Most of the vehicles going to northern communities either pass the Enterprise route, going to Fort Simpson, or else they go into the Yukon, up to the Dempster. The very small volume of traffic coming in from British Columbia into the Northwest Territories was discontinued. There is also provisions, Mr.

Chairman, for a portable weigh scales if it is deemed necessary under certain conditions.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Any other comments? Program summary, total O and M \$39.957 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Does the committee agree that the Department of Transportation is concluded?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. We will deal with the next department, Department of Safety and Public Services. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I did not have an opportunity to introduce my two witnesses at the commencement. I have my acting Deputy Minister, Mr. Gamble, to my left, and to my right is our Director of Finance, Jim Wilson.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you for all your advice, that you have given us, and I thank you for appearing. That concludes that department. Thank you, Mr. Minister.

Could I deal with Safety? Page 08-8. Minister's statement.

Introductory Remarks, Department Of Safety And Public Services

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I have a few opening remarks.

I am pleased to present the proposed 1992-93 O and M budget for the Department of Safety and Public Services. For 1992-93, the department is requesting \$6.354, compared to last year's budget of \$6.690, for a net reduction of \$336,000. In order to meet the

government's guidelines for expenditure reductions, the following actions have been taken:

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1. Two person years were cut, with a net reduction of \$109,000;
2. A reduction of \$194,000 in travel. The majority of this reduction was for travel outside the Northwest Territories;
3. A reduction of \$25,000 in materials and supplies;
4. A reduction of \$29,000 in professional development;
5. A reduction of \$54,000 in contract services; and
6. A reduction of \$63,000 in grants and miscellaneous O and M.

The department has no forced growth increases to offset the \$474,000 reduction. However, the department did receive supplementary funding of \$138,000, as reflected in the revised forecast.

The majority of this is a \$105,000 increase in funding to the Public Utility Board, resulting from the split with the Highway Transport Board.

There will be minor reductions in services the department provides. Scheduled air flights will be utilized instead of charter aircraft, wherever, and whenever possible.

In closing, Mr. Chairman, the department has three major initiatives under way. First, work is proceeding well on drafting the new mine safety legislation and regulations.

Second, the department is finalizing a series of discussion papers on labour standards that will be distributed for public comment later.

Third, the department is reviewing the lottery and gambling areas.

Those, Mr. Chairman, are my remarks, and I would be pleased to answer any questions that the committee may have.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Standing Committee on Finance.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As is the usual case, our comments are contained in the preambles to motions that we will be presently. The first one has to do with the office of the Fire Marshall.

Mr. Chairman, this Assembly approved a motion that Cabinet re-examine the relevant safety acts, and that a process be put in place to ensure reasonable safety standards are followed. The office of the Fire Marshall is monitored and an expeditious appeal mechanism is put in place.

The Minister has advised Cabinet that the motion should not be followed. However, the Minister did not outline the reasons for this position during committee hearings. Acknowledging that the current legislation follows a southern model, that may not consider unique N.W.T. conditions, and that further discussion is required with local fire chiefs and industry participation.

The committee recognizes that the N.W.T. has some of the highest fire loss statistics in the country, and does not wish to take away from the personal safety requirements. We also recognize that the federal fire code has a major part to play. However, the committee has been told by the public of examples that call the current system into question. For example, doors that exit outwards are not practical in eastern Arctic snow storms, requiring two layers of gyproc for fire protection, and permitting them to be covered with more flammable pine, is contrary to the trades recommendation, of gas inspectors, insisting on a non flexible propane connector. This has actually led to a dangerous uncoupling situation, and requiring 1.5 R-rated fire doors that remain open all the time, and requiring 1.5 R-rated fire doors connected to a more flammable separating wall, of over 5/8" gyproc. Trades people believe the rules change irrationally for different situations and different days, and businesses have had to spend additional funds, or lose sales as a result of rules in what appear to be non life threatening situations.

We fail to understand the governments reluctance to put a process in place to ensure reasonable safety standards are followed, to allow appeals and to monitor the office of the Fire Marshall.

Committee Motion 230-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 82

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Department of Safety and Public Service put a process in place to ensure reasonable safety standards are followed to allow appeals and to monitor the office of the Fire Marshall. These standards should recognize, be reflective of unique northern circumstances, and should be developed in consultation with, and responsive to, local and regional input, including trades people, the business community, Public Works, local fire chiefs, and other affected people.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our next resolution has to do with labour standards complaints. The committee was impressed that the department was able to provide detailed performance indicators for the labour services division, when requested. Among other things, this data indicated that 67 percent of complaints were concluded within 60 days. However, the division was not able to conduct the minimum number of educational visits and payroll inspections expected. The committee is concerned with the turnaround time of the 33 percent of complaints that take more than 60 days, and service provided to employers and employees.

Committee Motion 231-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 83

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Department of Safety and Public Services improve the turn around time of the 33 percent of complaints that take more than 60 days, and provide an indication of user satisfaction with the 1993-94 main estimates.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. To the motion. The motion is in order. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The next resolution has to do with inspection travel. In a number of instances, the budget for safety inspection travel was reduced. The committee is concerned that the ability of

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the department to inspect safety conditions may be impaired.

Committee Motion 232-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 84

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the ability of the Department of Safety and Public Services, to inspect safety conditions, not be impaired with reductions to the inspection travel budgets.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our final resolution regarding this department, as usual, involves measuring output and effect. The committee wishes to know what the department will accomplish with the money put into Safety and Public Service programs.

Committee Motion 233-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 85

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommend that the Department of Safety and Public Services report, as a minimum, the following performance measurements in the 1993-94 main estimates: accident or safety statistics by type; response turnaround time; and, client satisfaction.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you, Mr. Dent. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That concludes the remarks from the Standing Committee on Finance.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

The next item is general comments, however, I will take a 15 minute recess, and I believe that the Special Committee on Constitutional Reform will be getting together for a few minutes.

---SHORT RECESS

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I will.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Is this committee agreed? Proceed, Mr. Minister. We are on the Department of Safety and Public Services, page 08-8, directorate. For the record, Mr. Minister, would you like to introduce your witnesses at this time?

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Qujannamiik, Mr. Chairman. I would like to introduce...

---Applause

Department Of Safety And Public Services

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you. I would like to introduce my Deputy Minister John Quirke, and also the Director of Finance, Henry Dragon, to my right.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Danke, Mr. Minister. General comments? Is this committee agreed to go into detail?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.



**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Directorate, total O & M \$784,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Just prior to your consideration of page 08-9, I would like, for the record, to state that there exists a potential for conflict for myself on this, so I will not participate in the discussion or vote on this page.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Consumer and corporate affairs, total O and M \$764,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Page 08-10, safety, total O and M \$2.310 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mine safety, total O and M \$793,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Fire safety, total O and M \$740,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Labour board and labour services, total O and M \$480,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Public utilities board, total O and M \$547,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Details of grants and contributions. Grants, \$15,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Grants and contributions \$15,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. We have completed the Workers' Compensation Board already, and detail of work performed on behalf of third parties. Renewals, recoveries, and transfer of payments. Description of budget. Go back to program summary, page 08-7, total O and M \$6.354 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Total department.

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**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. I would like to thank the Minister, and the witnesses at this time.

**HON. TONY WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to thank my staff for the work that they have put into the budget, and the committee for approving it so speedily. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

What does the committee wish to do now? E.M.R., is this committee agreed? Okay.

Page 16-7, I wonder if the Minister would like to make opening remarks? Mr. Minister.

Introductory Remarks, Department Of Energy, Mines And Petroleum Resources

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. By way of introduction, Mr. Chairman, it is important to outline the significant changes to this year's department from last year, then we can turn to some of the department's priorities over the next fiscal year.

Mr. Chairman, you will note an increase in the proposed budget of just over \$600,000, or approximately 17 percent.

The major reason for the increase is the new Minerals Initiative Program, which began in 1991 as a replacement program for the Mineral Development Agreement. This is a five year program which, like the old M.D.A., is funded under the Canada-N.W.T. Economic Development Agreement.

The Minerals Initiative Program includes four components: geoscience mapping; minerals technology; public information, and, prospectors' assistance and training.

The Prospectors' Assistance and Training program was recommended by M.L.A.s in the review of our 1990-91 budget. Its purpose is to increase the participation of northerners in the mining industry, by developing an educated, and experienced group of N.W.T. prospectors, who will give local communities a stake in the mining industry.

Assistance is provided for salary and benefits for 12 weeks through the Department of Education and Canada employment and immigration programs.

Grubstake funding agreements have been entered into with eight experienced prospectors for the current

fiscal year. These agreements will provide from \$4,000 to \$8,000 for eligible activities this summer and fall. One half of the funds have been advanced, with the balance to be paid in November. Prospectors are being supported in Fort Rae, Arviat, Rankin Inlet, and Yellowknife.

Minimal field work was carried out in 1991-92, because it was the initial year of the new agreement, and many projects were in the start up phase. 1992-93 will be the first year of a full program, accounting for a substantial increase in funding requirements.

The department's budget increase of \$1.2 million and 2 person years, resulting from minerals initiatives, is offset by the termination of one-time funding for the Colville Lake Electrification Project, and restraint measures, in response to the government's fiscal situation.

Mr. Chairman, a survey by the Chamber of Mines indicates that mineral exploration has increased by more than 30 percent between 1991 and 1992. This is significant, because exploration levels are down across Canada as a whole. The survey was done prior to the diamond discovery at Lac De Gras, 200 kilometres north of Yellowknife.

Two companies, BHP Mineral Canada, and Dia Met, have announced the discovery of a diamond-bearing kimberlite. It will take the companies several years to determine the economic feasibility of the discovery. Statistically, better than one in ten kimberlites of this grade are proven economical to develop.

Several companies have responded to the initial news by staking an area approximately 270 kilometres by 200 kilometres in the vicinity. Expenditures are estimated at \$25 million to date, with one half of this remaining in the N.W.T.

The department is currently reviewing the diamond marketing and cutting industry, in order to see if the northern benefits can be maximized.

The diamond discovery has overshadowed work being done on a base metal deposit, 200 kilometres south of Coppermine at Izok Lake. Two companies, Minnova and Metall, have done some preliminary exploration work with very encouraging results.

A joint industry/government study is looking at the feasibility of shipping in the Coronation Gulf. If this proves feasible, the G.N.W.T. could realize significant

savings in the resupply of Coppermine and Cambridge Bay.

A student, under the guidance of E.M.P.R. and Executive, has upgraded employment data in the Coppermine area. A benefit agreement is being negotiated between Minnova and the Kitikmeot Inuit Association. This is a critical step, as the N.W.T. must receive a net benefit before the government will support the opening of any new mines.

Mr. Chairman, because the G.N.W.T. does not benefit from royalties relating to non-renewable resource development, we continue to pursue the Northern Accord which would see the devolution of responsibility, for oil and gas and minerals management, from the Government of Canada to the G.N.W.T..

Most issues related to the negotiation of the Northern Accord have been resolved, however, one of the outstanding problem areas is the fiscal arrangement.

First, the funding available for the program transfer is not enough.

Second, under the federal proposal the share of royalties that would be retained by the G.N.W.T. is too low, ranging from 40 to 20 percent.

Third, the proposed treatment under the formula financing agreement of tax revenues from oil and gas exploration and development make the federal position even less attractive. Increases in tax revenues from sources such as corporate income tax, fuel tax, and property tax, resulting from oil and gas activity, reduce the amount of the formula financing grant.

Furthermore, the application of the tax effort adjustment factor, the perversity provision, meant that the G.N.W.T. loses approximately \$1.30 in the grant for each \$1.00 of new revenue generated. Rather than providing the G.N.W.T. with a net fiscal benefit, increased exploration and development would result in the G.N.W.T. being financially worse off.

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It continues to be the G.N.W.T.'s position that a development fund is required to finance new infrastructure for oil and gas transportation and local use of N.W.T. oil and gas resources. We are prepared to have the federal government jointly manage the fund.

Considering the general feeling that we have been short-changed on previous transfers from the federal government, it continues to be the department's position that the G.N.W.T. must be prepared to forego oil and gas management responsibilities, until adequate funding is available.

Since April of this year, the N.W.T. Power Corporation has been under the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Board. The department has represented, and will continue to represent, the government in all P.U.B. hearings.

The department was involved in the review of the N.W.T. Power Corporation's O and M expenditures, which was completed in June, and is presently involved in a review of capital expenditures, which will be completed this fall.

The department is also involved in the development of new utility rate structures.

The Dogrib Nation and the N.W.T. Power Corporation, are working together to identify, and develop new hydroelectric supply in the North Slave Area.

The Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources is taking the lead in coordinating the participation, and involvement, of G.N.W.T. departments in any hydro development project, which may be proposed.

Mr. Chairman, consistent with previous Standing Committee on Finance recommendations, responsibilities for public programs related to energy conservation were transferred from the Department responsible for Government Services and Public Works in August.

This transfer included two PYs, and a small O and M budget. The department will now be responsible for the promotion of energy awareness, and for providing energy management advice to all energy users in the Northwest Territories, other than those whose energy costs are paid for by the Department of Government Services, and the Department of Public Works.

As a result of this transfer, the department will integrate energy policy and programs under a single division. These organizational changes will help ensure that the G.N.W.T. will be able to respond more effectively to increased demands for energy conservation information, advice, and services.

I will now answer any questions that honourable Members wish to pose. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Ms. Mike, for the Standing Committee on Finance.

**MS. MIKE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have a couple of resolutions.

Northern Accord. The committee is pleased to learn that the government anticipates a final agreement on the Northern Accord, by March 1993, as there is a great sense of urgency. It is incumbent on the committee, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Financial Management Board, to examine and recommend the terms and conditions of any agreement relating to financial arrangements, with the Government of Canada.

The committee is concerned that, in the past, benefits float south, and little is accrued to the Northwest Territories. This shows the economic agreement simply has not worked. More political preservation is required to ensure that benefits stay in the north, including resource revenues, jobs, infrastructure, and taxes, etc.

Committee Motion 234-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 29

Therefore, I move that the committee recommends that the Chairperson of Financial Management Board consult with the committee at an appropriate time prior to finalization of the Northern Accord, so that the committee may have meaningful input.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Motion is in order. Order to the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? Opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Ms. Mike.

**MS. MIKE:**

Mr. Chairman, the other motion is measuring output and effect. The committee wishes to know what the department is going to accomplish with the money put into energy, mines and petroleum resource programs.

Committee Motion 235-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 30

Therefore, I move that the committee recommends that the Department of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources report, as a minimum, the following performance measurements in the 1993-94 main estimates: economic and employment indicators; resource revenue sharing; industry investment; and trends in power and field cost by community.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour. All those opposed. Motion is carried.

---Carried

Ms. Mike.

**MS. MIKE:**

Mr. Chairman, that concludes the resolutions.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. General comments. Is it the wish of the committee that we deal with general comments?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

General comments. Mr. Nerysoo.

**MR. NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to raise one particular concern with regard to the Northern Accord, and I know that Ms. Cournoyea, as a Minister, knows it is an issue with the Gwich'in. The Gwich'in have been concerned about what you might say is no agreement being reached on the Northern Accord issue mainly because it is part of their final land claims agreement. They have asked me, and I believe Mr. Koe, to express some concern that it does have a bearing on the final legislation, and if some resolution can be made with regard to the issues related to benefits, that the Minister should consider that, and look at the various options that might accommodate that final agreement.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Ms. Cournoyea.

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**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, we are very aware that this is a major concern to the Gwich'in claim and I intend to raise it again when Mr. Siddon is here tomorrow, before he leaves. I will tell him that there is a matter of some urgency and some commitment on his part and that there was supposed to be a resolution of this some time ago.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. It is the wish of the committee that we go into detail? Agreed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total O and M, \$4.490 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Details of grants and contributions. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi. The development impact zones, I see there is \$40,000 in the budget. Which zone is receiving money this year, which zones are operational?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Ms. Cournoyea.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I think the Member realizes that Beaufort Delta impact development zone office has been closed down. Presently we are funding the Sahtu D.I.Z. organization.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Just before you continue with questions, maybe I should ask if the committee would agree to allow for witnesses to come into committee. Is that agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Ms. Cournoyea. Sergeant-at-Arms could you escort the witnesses, please?

Thank you. Madam Minister, could you introduce the witnesses, please?

Department Of Energy, Mines And Petroleum Resources

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Pierre Alvarez, Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, and Eugene Kenny, Director of Finance for the department.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My colleague, Mr. Nerysoo raised the concern that I wanted to raise and we are all aware of, the fact that the Northern Accord, the provisions for oil and gas development in the Delta was a very key component to the Gwich'in land claim and to the Inuvialuit land claim, and that any progress on the Northern Accord concerns all the residents of those areas.

In terms of the Northern Accord contributions, I see that funds are made available to aboriginal organizations. There is \$144,000, who is receiving these contributions? Who are scheduled to receive these contributions?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, the amount of funding is in the budget, but because there has been little or no activity there has been no funds released, or no funds that have been sought from any of the organizations.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

That brings about this question, are they aware that this money is available?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Ms. Cournoyea.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I believe that everyone is aware of the funds that are available. What is required, is that a proposal has to be put in, as to what they are going to use the funds for, because the initial work has been done on the accord and there have not really been any changes. If there is any movement, we are committed to consult with the organizations to let them know that there is some movement, and we need their input and their involvement.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Any other comments? Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

If the money is available, maybe some of the organizations can help your department in doing some of the negotiations.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. I believe that was a comment. Grants and contributions, total contributions. Sorry, Mr. Ningark.

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Madam Premier, under the Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources contributions, in 1991-92, \$180,000 was provided to Colville Lake for the electrical services, but in 1992-93, is there no more requirement. I see there is no money budgeted for that community. Is there no more requirement to provide electricity for Colville Lake?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, it was a one time government of the Northwest Territories capital contribution for the electrification of Colville Lake. The Power Corporation now runs the O and M, so there are no further requirements under this budget.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Grants and contributions, \$1.244 million. Agreed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Information item, Northwest Territories Power Corporation. We are going to deal with that particular matter under the next item. Detail of work performed on behalf of third parties.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Northern oil and gas action program, \$285,000. Agreed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Total department, \$285,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you, we cannot at this particular time, conclude this particular department. We will conclude it

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after we have had the discussion with the Northwest Territories Power Corporation.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

I would like to thank the Minister and the witnesses. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Are we moving into the N.W.T. Power Corporation now?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Yes, we are moving into the N.W.T. Power Corporation. Government Leader.

Introductory Remarks, N.W.T. Power Corporation

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, in regards to the Northwest Territories Power Corporation, effective April 1, 1992, the Corporation became fully regulated by the Northwest Territories Public Utilities Board. Until then the government was directly responsible for setting the rates charged by the Corporation to its customers. As a self-sustaining entity, the Corporation does not receive government funding, rather it returned in 1991-92 to a shareholder the government of the Northwest Territories, \$2.709 million by way of a dividend.

For the year 1992-93 it is expected a dividend in excess of \$3 million will be paid to the government.

In the fiscal year 1992-93, the Corporation plans to continue its program of repairing and replacing its capital assets. Considerable progress has been made in respect to the last few years, however, much remains to be done. The Corporation has identified areas where plant replacements will be constructed in a more cost effective manner. The corporation continues to search for alternatives to diesel fuelled electrical generation. It has commissioned studies on hydro locations from the Sylvania Grinnel River on Baffin Island, the Coppermine River to the Snare River northwest of Yellowknife. Further, it is cooperating with the Science Institute on wind generation and photo projects in various locations.

In terms of day to day operations, the corporation is focused on improving the efficiency of its operations, through acquisitions of more fuel efficient engines and technological advances, in engine monitoring. The corporation expects to see reduced consumption of both litres of fuel, and also of staffing time. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. The Standing Committee on Finance. Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the N.W.T. Power Corporation, I have some recommendations here. The committee has previously requested that a value for money audit of the N.W.T. Corporation be undertaken. The corporation provides an essential service, however, until recently there has not been a second opinion on how the corporation is operating or whether there is good value for money.

Committee Members have indicated concerns about the corporation's growth. This Assembly approved a motion for the corporation to develop a corporate strategy and a report on the feasibility of merits of privatizing the corporation for presentation to the 1992 fall session. The government provided the corporation's 1991 to 1996 Corporate Plan for committee review, and indicated that a privatization option paper would be tabled during the 1992 fall session.

The 1991-96 Corporate Plan falls far short of the committee's expectation of what should be included in a corporate strategy.

Committee Motion 236-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 68

I move that the committee, again, recommends that the N.W.T. Power Corporation develop a corporate strategy by March 31, 1993, that includes the following information, as a minimum: background information; environmental scan; S.W.O.T., an analysis summary with its strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats; corporate directions for the period 1993 to 1996 and; beyond 1996, tables and figures with key operations trend indicators.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Power Corporation has not reviewed the feasibility of linking N.W.T. communities with a B.C. power grid, in order to reduce energy costs.

Committee Motion 237-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 69

I move that the committee recommends that the N.W.T. Power Corporation review the feasibility of linking N.W.T. communities with the British Columbia power grid, in order to reduce energy costs.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Motion is in order. To the motion? Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Thank you. Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you. The committee wishes to know what the corporation will accomplish with the money put into its programs.

Committee Motion 238-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 70

I move that the committee recommends that the N.W.T. Power Corporation report, as a minimum, the following performance measurements in the 1993-94 main estimates: the trend of average power costs per community; customer satisfaction; extent of local employment and expenditures, and; power outage statistics.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Thank you. Mr. Antoine, does that conclude the report of the Standing Committee on Finance?

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman, that concludes it.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Is it agreed that the Minister bring in witnesses? Agreed?

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**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Sorry. Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I was advised by the Standing Committee on Finance it would not be necessary to bring officials. However, if there are any questions I can answer, I will endeavour to do so.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Are there any general comments? Detail? Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Just a couple of points I would like to raise. I am sure the Minister, and all Members, are aware that when the Government of the Northwest Territories purchased the Power Corporation from the federal government there were many expectations of various things that would happen to benefit northerners. Key on the list, there was a great expectation that once this government would own the Power Corporation power rates would not be increasing as fast as they have been.

Another, was that there would be more decentralization of responsibilities and authorities, and more employment of local northerners. I am not so sure that all of these expectations have been realized. In some cases, I know they have not. It is an area that will be focused on, in terms of an audit, that has been requested by motion. Also, the Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards, and Commissions will be looking at some of the activities related to the Power Corporation, in future assignments.

I just wanted to make those comments. Mahsi.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Information item, N.W.T. Power Corporation. Mr. Nerysoo.

**MR. NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will not be asking any questions, as opposed to making several comments, and maybe raising a couple of concerns that I am hoping the Minister will address. Mr. Chairman, I want to indicate that when he first had the motion for the audit come forward, I would have supported the



motion. I think the idea of the audit is necessary. However, I do have a couple of other issues before we get on with concluding this particular item.

One, a more specific constituency issue, and that happens to be what is going to happen to the Aklavik plant? It is not clear yet. I do not necessarily need the answer today, as opposed to asking the Minister if she could have, at least, someone contact me as to what we intend to do.

Secondly, about a year ago I raised a concern with the former Minister about the increase in qualification that are being requested for plant supervisors, and area supervisors. There is still movement afoot, to move from stationary engineer, or those kinds of qualifications, into an engineering degree. I am concerned about that because what bothers me is, I have always been under the impression that those that have had 15 or 20 years experience in the system, know the system, and education does not necessarily mean being qualified as an engineer, or an engineering degree. It means that you can answer those questions, that most people who know and work in the plants understand and know about.

So, it still is a concern to me. The other thing is that it concerns me in that community people who have worked in the system, for many years are, in fact, going to be left out in the process. That may not have been the intention, but I can tell you that the facts are that people are being asked to leave jobs, and locations, because they do not meet the qualifications now being requested by the Power Corporation.

I think the suggestions in the requirements that are being requested are in some cases ludicrous, to say the least, and I think if the intention is to improve the quality of people, then my suggestion is at least train those that are on site now, so that they can manage the systems. I think it is wrong to not take care of those who have put in their time, and their efforts, bringing in new people from southern Canada, just to manage our system. I think we should take care of those who have made a commitment in the north first.

I will raise other concerns with the Minister, but those are just the two issues that I wanted the Minister to deal with. She does not have to deal with them now, Mr. Chairman, but I wanted to raise them now, and she can respond to me through a written ledger, or some information, if that is the way she wants to deal with the issue.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Information item, Northwest Territories Power Corporation. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Back to page 16-7 program summary. Total O and M, \$4.49 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Is the committee agreed that this item is concluded?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Now what is the wish of the committee? Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

I recommend that we carry on with the Department of the Executive.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The Department of the Executive. Government Leader.

Introductory Remarks, Department Of Executive

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to introduce the O and M budget for or the Department of the Executive, for the 1992-93 fiscal year, main estimates of \$17.366 million are proposed, and this represents a decrease of 13.4 percent from the revised 1991-92 estimates. There are 149 permanent person years proposed in 1992-93, compared to 152.7 person years in the 1991-92 revised estimates.

Restraint reduction initiatives of \$1.37 million, and 10.5 person years, have been included as the department's contribution to the government's

restraint initiative. Of this reduction, \$755,000. and 5.5 person years comes from headquarters.

One of the thrusts of this government has been to streamline the operation by removing layers of management. In this regard, we are eliminating one associate deputy minister in headquarters and all assistant regional directors plus associate support staff. All affected staff have either been redeployed within the government, or have opted to take advantage of the Work-Force Adjustment Program.

As Minister responsible for the status of women, it is my intention to help raise the profile in this area. The present directorate will be replaced by a special advisor on the status of women, who will report directly to the Minister. This position is about to be filled, and I would like to thank the Status of

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Women Council of the Northwest Territories for assisting in the process.

The proposed budget for regional council contribution is being reduced by \$213,000, from \$1.184 million in 1991-92, to \$971,000 in 1992-93. In order to mitigate the effects of these reduction, the regional offices have offered to share support services, and assist in other ways such as travel coordination.

Other restraint initiatives include a 10 percent reduction in travel, yielding a \$143,000, saving, and a reduction in the contribution to the Science Institute of the Northwest Territories of \$150,000. A \$52,000 reduction in the furniture and small equipment budget, general O and M reductions to the Audit Bureau and Bureau of Statistics of \$100,000 and \$25,000 respectively, and a one-time reduction to the Commissioner's Awards Program of \$23,000.

In line with this government's initiative to rationalize and streamline, much emphasis has been directed towards reviewing government operations, decentralizing a number of departmental divisions and agencies, and assessing the most appropriate method of transferring responsibility to the communities. In order to facilitate this exercise, it has been necessary to dedicate resources to this undertaking.

New funding of \$1.472 million, and 11 person years is being requested for the operational review, and the community transfer committees. It is anticipated that much of the work of these committees will be

completed within the current fiscal year, and that the funding requirement on an ongoing basis will cease. Furthermore, significant savings are anticipated to result from the functional analysis being conducted by the Operation Review Committee.

Another major initiative, of the department has been the creation of a separate ministry of intergovernmental and aboriginal affairs to bring together all responsibilities related to the negotiations and implementations of land claims, political and constitutional development, division, self-government, and the development of strategies to advance and achieve N.W.T. interest in development of an Arctic Council. The Ministry was formed using the existing resources of intergovernmental affairs, aboriginal rights, and constitutional development, and the office of devolution.

In order to increase the profile of official languages and better coordinate the resources dedicated to this program, certain official languages responsibilities were transferred to the Department of the Executive, effective August 4, 1992.

This transfer is not reflected in the main estimates. It entails the transfer of five person years, and associated O and M, including one assistant deputy minister, and four support positions.

The official languages agreement information shown in the main estimates will be amended through a supplementary appropriation.

This 1992-93 budget submission was designed in an atmosphere of restraint, but it will enable the department to continue to fulfill its very diversified mandate. While the Executive is carrying incremental costs related to the restructuring of government, these are one-time costs only, and will result in significant savings over the longer term. Difficult decisions were necessary to streamline operations, and keep program impacts to a minimum.

Those are the opening statements for the Department of the Executive, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As is the usual case, the comments from the Standing Committee on Finance

are contained in the preamble to resolutions, which I will proceed to present right now.

Our first one has to do with objectives of the department. The committee is concerned that the objectives listed in the 1992-93 main estimates, do not give a clear picture of where the Executive is leading.

Committee Motion 239-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 31

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that, the Department of the Executive improve disclosure of its objectives, in the 1993-94 main estimates.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, just for the record, if people have been following along in the Committee Report there was a motion titled Community Transfer Initiatives that we will not be proceeding with at this time, as it has already be dealt with in previous Committee Motion No. 59, which has the effect of recommending that M.A.C.A. take the lead role in community transfer initiatives in the Nunavut region.

I will proceed directly to our concerns about women's directorate funding reductions. Mr. Chairman, the committee was concerned, in spite of the government stating that they intended to enhance the priority or visibility of this directorate, about how that was possible given that they were cutting the funding by \$83,000 or 14 percent over last year, and also eliminating two person years. We are not convinced that the government's announcement of how they are enhancing the visibility of this position, can actually be the case.

Committee Motion 240-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 33

Therefore, I move that this committee recommends that the Department of the Executive present an

action plan on women's issues, in the 1993-94 main estimates.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our next resolution has to do with Delury and Associates Ltd. contracts. The committee is concerned with three contracts, spanning a two year period, from November, 1989 to December, 1991, totally \$530,279. They were sole sourced with Delury and Associates Ltd. of Burns Lake, British Columbia.

We were informed that Mr. Delury was one of very few people with experience in the negotiation and implementation of a land claim settlement. The committee questions the practice of the sole sourcing, and value for money in these circumstances. In

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addition, the amount reported by the department did not agree with the G.N.W.T. contract listing.

Committee Motion 241-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 34

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Standing Committee on Public Accounts review the contracts awarded by sole source to Delury and Associates Ltd. to ensure proper accountability and value for money in these circumstances.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As usual, the final committee motion for this department has to do with measuring output and effect. The committee wishes to know what the department will accomplish with the money put into Executive programs?

Committee Motion 242-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation No. 35

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Department of the Executive report as a minimum, the following performance measurements in the 1993-94 main estimates: an indicator of the level of satisfaction of departments and agencies with Executive department direction and support; an indicator of the level of public satisfaction with the government; an indicator of responsiveness to Legislative Assembly motions; and, an indicator of government productivity.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. The motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent, does that conclude the recommendations?

**MR. DENT:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman, that concludes the recommendations from the Standing Committee on Finance.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Is it the wish of the committee that we deal with general comments? Detail. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. We will get into detail. Total O and M, Commissioner's office, \$206,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Minister's offices, total O and M \$2.677 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Executive Council Secretariat, total O and M, \$5.089 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Ministry of Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs, total O and M \$2.191 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Audit bureau, total O and M \$1.418 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Regional operations, total O and M \$4.232 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Priorities and Planning Secretariat, total O and M \$578,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, before you get to page 2-17 and 2-18, I would like to indicate that for the record, a potential exists for a conflict of interest for myself, so I will not participate in discussion or vote on these pages.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

A man with many conflicts. Women's directorate, total O and M \$492,000. Agreed? Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Just one question, Mr. Chairman, the Status of Women Council of the Northwest Territories, that is not the Native Women's Association, is it? Are the Native Women's Association being funded by this government?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, the Native Women's Association does receive a healthy funding from the Northwest Territories. The Status of Women is a different group, they are funded to meet a number of times a year, and the Women's Directorate lends support to the Status of Women.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Just one final comment, who does the Status of Women Council in the Northwest Territories represent in general?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Women.

---Laughter

The President of the Status of Women is Rita Arey from Aklavik, and there are representatives from all over the Northwest Territories on the Status of Women.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Is the membership open to everybody?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

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**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I know there was a discussion at one time from a certain Member and I did ask them that question, would they receive an applicant from a male person, and the response that a number of them gave me was, yes, as long as they felt that the male person was in support of women.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Women's directorate, total O and M \$492,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Public affairs, total O and M \$483,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Details of grants and contributions, total grants \$665,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Contributions. Total contributions, \$2.623 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total grants and contributions, \$3.288 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Detail of work performed on behalf of third parties. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Revenues, recoveries, and transfer payments. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Distribution of budget. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Program summary, total O and M \$17.366 million. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the Members are aware, in the last few days, I have been interested in human resource planning. I guess comments should have come under general comments, but I missed those words when you spoke them, Mr. Chairman, I am sorry.

Does the Department of the Executive have a human resource plan? I am particularly interested in the staffing of executive assistants for Minister, there is an opportunity here that Ministers should be able to train, especially northern aboriginal people, to fulfil these positions. I was wondering if there is an active plan to do this.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I know over the years that some of the Ministers have brought in students to work in the office during their off months from school. In regards to the people who are hired by the Ministers, these are people that are chosen by the individual Ministers, themselves.

The executive assistants, and the executive secretaries are people that the Ministers seek, according to what they feel they require as support. There is no restriction for a Minister if he wishes to hire an aboriginal person, and have some help given to that individual. The political staff of each Minister really is up to that particular Minister, and the positions are at pleasure during the term of office of that individual.

From time to time, we have hired secretaries that have come from the regions, and try to train them, and give them the opportunity to learn. So, really, a lot of the political staff has to do with the individual Minister, because the individual Minister is the one who selects those people, and that is only for the term of his, or her, office.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

I understand what happens, but, again, I think action speaks louder than words. If this government is to promote and encourage aboriginal persons to be hired and work in this government, I think examples should be set, and examples should start at the top. Mahsi.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

I do not think that there are any of us that do not agree with that. Like we say, action speaks louder than words.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Any other comments? Program summary, \$17.366 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Does the committee agree that concludes the Executive? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Next item will be Legislative Assembly. If I could ask the Speaker and the Clerk to make the presentation, if of course, the Speaker wants to make any presentations. The committee may want to proceed. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, I am going to remove myself, because I am in conflict here.

---Laughter

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Well, actually, I just want to note that Mr. Dent is not here either, just in case he has a conflict, I want to put that on record.

---Laughter

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Ballantyne.

Introductory Remarks, Legislative Assembly

**HON. MICHAEL BALLANTYNE:**

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman and colleagues, I am pleased to present the operations and maintenance estimates for the Legislative Assembly.

This is the first full year of operational budget that I have had to present as Speaker to the 12th Legislative Assembly. Budgets for the Legislative Assembly are driven by the Assembly itself. The Management and Services Board attempts to

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respond to the legitimate needs of Members and committees of the Legislative Assembly.

We see our role as providing the Members the tools they need to serve their constituents. The major factors that have affected the 1992-93 main estimates are: the increase in sessional sitting days; the increase in committee days; the extent of activities and meetings of standing committees outside of Yellowknife; increases to the Member's constituency living allowances, and constituency work budgets, by the annual legislative adjustment; decrease to the completion of the activities surrounding the general election; and, a zero increase to Members' salaries and indemnities.

Mr. Chairman, the estimates for the Assembly, once all the factors have been included, have produced a hold the line budget. There is no increase in person years, and a total of eight percent increase in O and M.

I would like, at this time, to recognize the work of the Members of the Management and Services Board, who have been vigilant in ensuring that the services that we provide are performed in an efficient, effective and economic manner.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my brief opening remarks. I would be pleased to answer any questions as to the detail of the Assembly estimates.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Any general comments? Is the committee prepared to go to detail. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Total O and M, Legislative Assembly, \$9.979 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Detail of work performed on behalf of third parties. Total department, \$310,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Revenues, recoveries, and transfer payments.  
Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Distribution of budget? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total O and M, program summary,  
\$9.979 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Does the committee agree that concludes  
the details of the 1992-93 main estimates?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

Committee Motion 243-12(2): To Receive Response  
Of Review Of 1992-93 Main Estimates Within 120  
Days

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee  
recommends to Cabinet that they provide their  
response to the report of the review of the 1992-93  
main estimates, within 120 days.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Motion is in order. To the motion.  
Question has been called. All those in favour. All  
those opposed. Motion is carried.

---Carried

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You have been very  
informative.

---Applause

Is the committee agreed that we go clause by clause  
on Bill 33, I believe. Bill 33?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Does the committee agree that we go clause by  
clause on Bill 33?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

Bill 33: Appropriation Act, 1992-93

Clause By Clause

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. If I could call the committee to order, to  
deal with Bill 33, Appropriation Act, 1992-93. Are we  
agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Clause one.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Clause two.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Clause three.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**



Clause four.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Clause five.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Clause six.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Schedule.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Operations and maintenance, total appropriation, \$961,819 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Does the committee agree that Bill 33 is ready for third reading?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Does the committee agree that committee report 17-12(2), Report on the Review of the 1992-93 main estimates by the Standing Committee on Finance is concluded?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you, very much. Madam Premier. What I was going to do was proceed to the report of the Special Committee on Health and Social Services. There is one recommendation in that particular report, if we can conclude that particular matter.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

Committee Report 20-12(2): Interim Report No. 2 Of The Special Committee On Health And Social Services

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

I call the committee to order. We are dealing with committee report 20-12(2), Interim Report No. 2 of the Special Committee on Health and Social Services. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will not take time with the preamble seeing how this report was read into the record, yesterday. The recommendation coming out of the report is this:

Committee Motion 244-12(2): To Adopt Recommendation From Committee Report 20-12(2)

I move that this committee recommends that the Executive Council consider showing its support to the workshop and conference for care givers by providing adequate funding to permit the conference to proceed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, that concludes the recommendations coming out of the Special Committee on Health and Social Services, Interim Report No. 2.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Does the committee agree that Interim Report No. 2 from the Special Committee on Health and Social Services is concluded?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, I move we report progress.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Motion is non-debatable. Motion to report progress. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

I will rise and report progress.

**MR. SPEAKER (Hon. Michael Ballantyne):**

Thank you. Item 19, report of the committee of the whole, Mr. Chairman.

ITEM 19: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 33, committee report 17-12(2), and committee report 20-12(2), and wishes to report progress with 27 motions being adopted, that committee report 17-12(2) and committee report 20-12(2) are concluded, and that Bill 33 is ready for third reading. Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the Chairman of committee of the whole be concurred with.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Seconded to the motion? Mr. Koe. Motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Ms. Cournoyea.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I would seek unanimous consent to go back to item 16, first reading of bills.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Cournoyea, I called third reading of bills, and I will take it from there. Third reading of bills. Ms. Cournoyea.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to give third reading to Bill 33.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to give third reading to Bill 33. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, please, Ms. Cournoyea.

ITEM 20: THIRD READING OF BILLS

Bill 33: Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1992-93

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I move seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu that Bill 33: Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1992-93 be read for the third time.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 33: Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1992-93 has been given third reading. Third reading of bills. Ms. Cournoyea.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to go back to item 16, first reading of bills.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to return to item 16, first reading of bills. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, Ms. Cournoyea.

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**REVERT BACK TO ITEM 16: FIRST READING OF BILLS**

Bill 34: Supplementary Appropriation Act, 1992-93

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I move seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu that Bill 34: Supplementary Appropriation Act, 1992-93 be read for the first time.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 34 has had first reading. First reading of bills, Ms. Cournoyea.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to go back to item 17, second reading of bills.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to go back to second reading of bills, are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed Ms. Cournoyea.

**REVERT BACK TO ITEM 17: SECOND READING OF BILLS**

Bill 34-12(2): Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1992-93

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that Bill 34, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 2, 1992-93, be read for the second time.

Mr. Speaker, this bill would make supplementary appropriation for the Government of the Northwest Territories for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1993.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Motion is in order, Ms. Cournoyea. To the principle of the bill. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried, and Bill 34 has had second reading.

---Carried

Bill 34 has had second reading and accordingly, the bill stands referred to committee of the whole, pursuant to Rule 65(3).

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to go back to item 18, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters to deal with Bill 34.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The Honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to go back to item 18, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters to deal with Bill 3, are there any nays? There are no nays. Second reading of bills. Item 18, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters. Bill 34, Supplementary Appropriation Act number 2, 1992-93, with Mr. Nerysoo in the Chair.

**REVERT BACK TO ITEM 18: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS**

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. If I could call the committee to order. I would just like to indicate to committee Members that the supplementary appropriation is in your documentation, your files, or your binders. It is behind Bill 34.

What is the wish of the committee? Madam Minister?

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I have a brief opening statement to Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1992-93.

Mr. Chairman, Supplementary Appropriation, No. 2, requests authority for a net additional appropriation of \$6.5 million. In addition, I will be making a motion at the appropriate time to amend the schedule to the bill, to increase the amount requested by \$250,000, to provide initial funding for the public inquiry into the services provided by the Fort Smith Health Centre.

The full cost of this inquiry will be determined later, and will be included in subsequent of supplementary appropriation requests. This supplementary appropriation consists of additional appropriations and capital in the amount of \$6.843 million, mainly comprised of a special warrant for \$5.359 million which was necessary to fully fund the cost of 100 H.A.P. units for 1992-93, to which government was committed before C.M.H.C. announced funding reductions.

Net reductions and operations and maintenance appropriation in the amount of \$343,000. The O and M appropriations include transfers between departments resulting from departmental consolidation. Those are the opening remarks on Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Standing Committee on Finance. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Standing Committee on Finance reviewed Bill 34, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1992-93, during its meeting on October 1, 1992.

Mr. Chairman, the committee had no major concerns about this supplementary appropriation. A large portion of the bill was for transfers relating to the reshaping government project currently under way. As the Minister noted in the opening remarks the bulk of the request for new funding was to maintain current commitments for homeownership assistance units. This funding was needed as a result of reductions in funding from C.H.M.C..

Mr. Chairman, due to the short time between our receipt of this bill and prorogation, the committee was unable to meet with the Minister, and his staff, to undergo a line by line review of this bill. As a result, Members of the committee will have questions on the specifics of the bill during committee of the whole today.

Mr. Chairman, the committee voted on October 1, 1992 to refer this bill, to committee of the whole for consideration. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. What is the wish of the committee? General comments? Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, one of the concerns that we had, was when we noted the dates on some of the special warrants in this bill, and we noticed that there were a number of special warrants in the bill, that were issued 14 days before the opening of session.

There is a bit of concern by the committee that close to session, they could have waited until the session was under way, and we could have had a detailed review by the Standing Committee on Finance. I was wondering if we could get an answer, as to why they did not wait for session to open?

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Minister.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, may I at this time bring in a witness to help me answer some of those specific questions?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Yes. Is it agreed, then? Witnesses then, Sergeant-at-Arms, could you escort the witnesses in, please?

Thank you. Government Leader, would you introduce the witness please?

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, Lew Voytilla, Secretary to the Financial Management Board. Do you want to proceed to have Mr. Voytilla explain the question that was asked by the honourable Member, Mr. Dent?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Voytilla.

**MR. VOYTILLA:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The primary reason for the urgency for some of these warrants, particularly, in the area of capital, was due to the summer construction season, the requirement to meet shipping deadlines, and to meet contractual obligations. So, in most cases that was the reason for the urgency. In particular, the one for the Housing Corporation, and the H.A.P. units.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have been told, previously, by the Department of Finance, that there would be an attempt to avoid, whenever possible using special warrants, and we recognize that there are sometimes reason for having to proceed with them.

We also had been advised that in the case of large special warrants the Standing Committee of Finance would be advised of the fact that they were going to be issued.

I would like to point out that the Standing Committee on Finance was meeting in the later part of August, and was not informed of any of these special warrants. I was wondering if we could find out what happened there? What mechanisms have been established to inform S.C.O.F., prior to the issuance of large special warrants?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I cannot give the details, but I am aware that in May, when there was a meeting in Coppermine that the Standing Committee on Finance was alerted, particularly to the Homeownership Assistance Program, and the problems that we might be coming into. As well as the need to do some adjustments to overcome the difficulties that we saw. I know Mr. Voytilla was at the meeting at the time, so he can explain the involvement, or the consultation or

the information that was given to the Standing Committee on Finance. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Voytilla.

**MR. VOYTILLA:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman, in May the Standing Committee on Finance was meeting in Coppermine and the Minister of Finance had the opportunity to brief the committee on the fiscal situation and on the surplus that the Housing Corporation had for the 1990-91 fiscal year.

At the same time, the Minister of Housing was able to identify to them the problem with the C.M.H.C. funding reductions and the potential need for using some of the surplus from 1990-91 to replace some of that federal funding, if, in fact, the federal cuts went ahead.

Although there was not a specific notification at the time of the warrant approval, there had been an alert provided earlier. Generally, the Member is quite right, it is the agreement between the standing committee and the Minister of Finance, that any special warrant over half a million dollars of formal notification will be provided.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. General comments? Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Voytilla is right, we were warned in a general way that there may be a need for extra funding to come up with. It is our concern that this took place at a time when the Standing Committee on Finance was close at hand, we could have been advised of the actual figures at that time. It is one thing to say three months in advance well we may have to do this, but we understood the undertaking to be a little more precise. Especially since we were in town at the time this was going on, we would hope that in future, the process would be a little more precise and allow for the Standing Committee on Finance to get the information in a more timely fashion.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I know the intent of the Minister of Finance, and certainly we made that undertaking and certainly we are committed to the arrangement that has been made. We intend to be more precise, hopefully this type of situation does not continue to happen to us, but we are committed to that original arrangement.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. General comments? It is agreed with the committee that we get into detail? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. The Executive, O and M, official languages not previously authorized, \$265,000. Agreed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total department \$264,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Culture and communications, O and M, directorate, not previously authorized, negative \$264,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Publications and productions, negative \$937,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Total department, negative \$1.201 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. I will just go back to Culture and Communications, total department, not previously authorized, \$1.201 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Personnel, O and M, staffing, not previously authorized, negative \$10,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Equal employment, negative \$859,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Employee benefits, \$128,000. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We noted that there is an additional \$265,000 for increased travel costs. We are wondering if we can find out what the is status of the review of travel costs being undertaken by the government?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I will have to take that as a request for information, because I do not have that information here at this moment.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Perhaps we could get that answer in writing to the Standing Committee on Finance, please.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Employee benefits, not previously authorized, \$128,000. Agreed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total department, not previously authorized, negative \$741,000. Agreed.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Justice, O and M, directorate, not previously authorized, \$672,000. Agreed. Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have questions on this particular subject. I would like to know why is there a need for an additional 5.5 person years, and \$539,000 needed for the transfer of corrections from Social Services to Justice.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, the way I read this is it is a total amount in person years and the funds that come from that program in the transfer.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

These positions and funding should be transferred from Social Services, but in the directorate you have three person years, plus \$280,000, and in corrections you have 2.5 person years, and \$259,000 for a total of \$539,000, and 5.5 person years.

The question is, why is there a need for these additional person years, plus the addition of costs?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader. Mr. Voytilla.

**MR. VOYTILLA:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the transfer of corrections to Justice there was five positions that were in Social Services that went over to the Department of Justice with the corrections function. In addition, it was determined that there was an interim need for an additional five positions, the three shown here as the prorated amount for 1992-93.

The reason that the five additional were needed on an interim basis is that the Department of Social Services needed to keep a certain core of admin staff for the remaining programs it had to operate and was not able to transfer, at this point in time, all of the resources that were needed to administer the corrections program.

Our intention is that we are going through a functional review process of the Department of Social Services, in preparation for a further integration of social services programs. We hope, and plan, through that functional review, that we will be able to identify the organizational changes that will allow us to free up additional person years in the Department of Social Services, which could then be used to transfer to the Department of Justice, and replace these interim resources that we found necessary to put in.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Any other questions? Directorate, not previously authorized, \$672,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Corrections, not previously authorized, \$19.400 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total department, not previously authorized, \$20.072 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Government services, operations and maintenance. Supply and services, not previously authorized, \$1.205 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total department, not previously authorized, \$1.205 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Public works, operations and maintenance, directorate, not previously authorized, negative \$280,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Accommodation services, not previously authorized, \$411,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Buildings and works, not previously authorized, \$927,000. Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On this buildings and works, in regards to the town of Iqaluit, there is going to be a decrease in the maintenance and utilities. Why does the town of Iqaluit not require the funding for maintenance and utilities, with the transfer of water and sewer, or is this simply an oversight?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I will try to explain this. It was an arrangement some time ago with the power plant in Iqaluit that there was excess heat, or services, provided through the special arrangement that has now been cut off now, because of the expense. Another arrangement is used, that the town of Iqaluit is organizing themselves. It is less expensive. They declined to continue to buy water and sewage that was supplied through the plant, because it was too expensive. So, that has been cut off, and they have another arrangement within the town of Iqaluit.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Buildings and works, not previously authorized, \$927,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Vehicles and equipment, not previously authorized, \$102,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Utilities, not previously authorized, \$1.551 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**



Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total department, not previously authorized, \$2.711 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Municipal and Community Affairs, operations and maintenance. Sport and recreation, not previously authorized, \$30,000. Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This amount, \$30,000 is quite small, and I was wondering why it could not be found within the existing resources.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, as part of the program, it is recognized that when a certain facility is completed that we fund this position. It is recognized that this is additional funding would automatically be assigned once the facility is in place. It is recognized that these are new funds, and departments are expected to come forward to put it in as a new expense item.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Sport and recreation, not previously recognized, \$30,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total department, not previously authorized, \$30,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Health, operations and maintenance. Territorial hospital insurance services, not previously authorized, negative \$4.858 million. Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As part of the arrangement between D.P.W. and the Baffin Regional Health Board, what type of arrangements have been arranged, between D.P.W. and the Baffin Regional Health Board, that will save us \$1.287 million?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, it is not a saving, it is just put into another department. It is transferred from Health to Government Services to do certain jobs, and from Health to Public Works to do certain jobs for the health boards.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Territorial hospital insurance services, not previously authorized, negative \$4.858 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total department, not previously authorized, negative \$4.858 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Social Services, operations and maintenance. Directorate, not previously authorized, negative \$392,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Correctional services, not previously authorized, negative \$19.059 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Alcohol, drugs, and community mental health, not previously authorized, negative \$487,000. Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. On the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Program, is this funding for the alcohol and drug treatment program recoverable from the federal government? Is it a new program?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, this is the non-insured services part of the agreement from Health and Welfare Canada. It is not a new program.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Antoine.

**MR. ANTOINE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is this the type of expenditure that got us into problems with the federal government, in the Health dispute. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

No, Mr. Chairman, this is separate from that, the area that continues to plague us, is in the area of billing back on uses of hospitals and medical facilities.

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Alcohol, drugs, and community health, \$487,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total department, negative, or not previously authorized, negative \$18.964 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources, O and M, not previously authorized, \$280,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Total department, not previously authorized, \$280,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Education, O and M, equal employment, not previously authorized, \$859,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total department, not previously authorized, \$859,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. N.W.T. Housing Corporation, capital, N.W.T. Housing Corporation, special warrants, \$5.359 million. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was wondering if we could get a listing of which communities are receiving H.A.P. units, broken down by community. You could

provide that to the Standing Committee on Finance in writing. Also, another question is, are H.A.P. units over designed, as it has been alleged in the press recently.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, on the information that has been requested in terms of the listing of the units per community, we can provide that to the Standing Committee on Finance.

In reference to the question regarding the Housing Corporation and whether it is our view that the housing units are over designed, I would defer that question to the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

The Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation, Mr. Morin.

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are presently looking at re-designing the H.A.P. units. We are having a workshops in both the east and the west to redesign the units. I am not convinced that we can buy, as the Member referred to the press, he must be referring to the statement by one local architect, saying you can build two for the price of one. I completely disagree with that. We can get a better bang for our dollar by having a little bit of imagination, I believe, and we will do that along with the private sector. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Any other questions? N.W.T. Housing Corporation, special warrants, \$5.359 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total department, special warrants, \$5.359 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Culture and communications, capital, museums and heritage, special warrants, \$115,000. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At the committee, we had some concern over the rationale for a special warrant to contribute \$150,000 to this friendship centre. Was this not a project that we knew about in advance? Why is this coming up as a special warrant? Why was it not included in the capital budget? It is not as if this is a brand new project that just got started this summer.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, the expenditure was not planned. This was a special request so that they can include the cultural centre, as the Member knows, that the community is highly commended for the type of program that they have put into Rae-Edzo and the amount of money they were able to raise on their own, and the special arrangement with the contractor. There was some difficulty in concluding the project, because of some particular problems they had in having to have extra expenditures, because of the electrical and heating systems, so this was unanticipated by them and unanticipated by us. They requested special funding, so this was in response to their request to conclude the friendship centre. It was not something that was anticipated by them and it was not anticipated by ourselves.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I guess the committee can understand a cost overrun of some thousands of dollars, but it just seems that \$150,000 is a fairly extensive overrun, if you will, or change in plans, or change in financing, and with this sort of change, maybe it represents a change in priority for the government. Does this represent a precedent if you will, so that all communities, if they have situations

and they are going to be \$150,000 short for something, should proceed to start building it, and then come in and ask the government for the money.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, this contribution or request was considered under an established program, under Culture and Communications and there is a certain amount of funding in there, in that one, in that section, and this is not to say that only the Rae-Edzo Friendship Centre would be considered and within established guidelines, anyone else can seek support. People do not always get it. This is not the only request we have, I think there have been several, but this one warranted, in terms of their proposal, a positive response because of the proposal they put forward. It is not an extra special thing that they are under an established program that they had applied for this.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

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**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do not think that my concerns have been totally answered. For the record, I would like to make it clear, that I am not critical of the Rae-Edzo Friendship Centre and say good on them if they are able to talk the government into getting some extra money. I do think that it will open the door for all sorts of requests, and if that is the case then, the government is going to have to be careful that dollars are apportioned fairly. That was one of the things that the Standing Committee on Finance was supposedly set up to look after, so I think it is a situation that the government should be very careful about capital funds to different projects.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, I also understood, with regard to friendship centres, I thought this was the responsibility of the Secretary of State. The other thing, is that

there is also a proposal that is coming, with regard to the Soaring Eagle Friendship Centre. I was just wondering, are we looking at two different programs, or I am correct in saying that those types of programs are usually done by the Secretary of State?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, we can provide the Member with the terms and conditions, under this cultural component, that this program was financed under, so that there is a better understanding of how the particular centre fits into that criteria.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Museums and heritage, special warrants, \$150,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Library services, special warrants, \$95,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total department, special warrants, \$245,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Justice capital. Corrections, not previously authorized, \$549,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total department, not previously authorized, \$549,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Public works capital. Buildings and works, special warrants, \$459,000. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At the Standing Committee on Finance, we have seen an awful lot of items related to the installation of individual boilers, and heating plants, in the G.N.W.T. buildings in Iqaluit. We are just wondering if there was ever a cost benefits study on the merits of dismantling the system that was in operation there?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, yes, this has been dealt with, ad nauseam, over the number of years that I have been a Member of this Legislative Assembly, what we are going to do with the high temperature, the hot water system, in Iqaluit. Even though the \$2 million capital expenditure was incurred, the O and M, yearly saving is close to \$2 million, so the return on O and M, off balance, is what we have spent on it. In the long-term, it was felt this change far outweighed the ongoing expense that this government was paying.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

I am not sure if I got an answer on whether, or not, there was a study done, but why do we need a special warrant. As we have just heard, we have been getting items on this, ad nauseam. Why could we not predict more accurately how much it was going to cost, and deal with it on a one, two, or three time basis, instead of continually have this item come back to us?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I do not know how much more detail Mr. Voytilla can give you, but, if you do not mind, I would like him to try, once again, to deal with this. My understanding is that it was difficult to finally come to a conclusion on what would be done, because there were several actors in the community who were involved, and the government as well. So, there were a lot of difficulties in finally trying to come to a conclusion.

A similar situation existed in Norman Wells, where we went through a great deal of time, discussion, meetings, trying to get people together, trying to figure out who was going to take over what responsibility. I would think that, if you do not mind, I would have Mr. Voytilla try to be a little more detailed in this response.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Mr. Voytilla.

**MR. VOYTILLA:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I cannot provide a lot more background to the Member, with respect to why the cost estimate was out by this amount, we could certainly get the detail on that. The reason it was a special warrant requirement, though, in our understanding, it was an existing contractual obligation that we were obligated to pay.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Buildings and works. Special warrants, \$459,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total department, special warrants, \$459,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Transportation capital. Highway operations, special warrants, \$100,000.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Not previously authorized, \$215,000. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, just with regard to this one here. I know that, just previously, we were discussing transportation, and one of the things is that certain roads in the communities are the responsibility of the municipality. I do not recall having seen a lot of roads going into the community of Fort Franklin. I am

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curious under what rationale the department is using to say that in Fort Franklin there are highways?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, the honourable Member is correct, there is not an all year road in there. At one time, N.T.C.L. used to provide freight services into Fort Franklin, and a number of years ago they discontinued that service. Each year, in order to ship material and supplies into Fort Franklin, these expenditures are going to the development of that winter road access.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Highway operations, not previously authorized, \$215,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Total department, special warrants, \$100,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Total department, not previously authorized, \$215,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Municipal and Community Affairs capital. Community works and capital planning, not previously authorized, \$75,000. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the committee we were wondering why M.A.C.A. is contributing \$75,000 to the Aklavik Community Corporation, and why was this not funded under another department, such as Culture or Social Services?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I will try to explain. On August 4, 1989, Cabinet approved 20 year leases for office spaces for the band councils at Fort Norman, Aklavik, Fort Providence, and Fort Smith. Previously, there was similar approval provided to the Fort McPherson Band Council.

Office space for the Aklavik Band Council was leased in the new office building of Koblunaq. Koblunaq is owned by the Inuvialuit Development Corporation, as a private corporation, and the value of the band council is over a 20 year period. There were difficulties caused in one community because there was leased space for the band council, and in the same community, it was felt that there was a great deal of pressure of the Minister responsible for Aboriginal Affairs as there was an inconsistency and an unfairness because one group of people had a lease, and there was no support for the other group who were in a similar situation. So this was a one time payment to get over the political complications of treating one group differently than the other.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Any other questions? Community works and capital planning, not previously authorized, \$75,000. Agreed? Thank you.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Total department not previously authorized, \$75,000.  
Agreed? Thank you.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Health capital and territorial insurance services not  
previously authorized, \$106,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Total department \$106,000. not previously authorized,  
agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Social services capitals corrections not  
previous authorized negative \$549,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total department not previously  
authorized negative \$549,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Education capital, schools, special warrants  
\$284,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Total departments \$284,000. special warrants,  
agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Does the committee agree that we are concluded with  
detail with regard to Supplementary Appropriation Act  
No. 2, 1992-93. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Does the committee agree that we deal with Bill 34  
clause by clause, agreed?

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Clause one. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Clause two. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Clause three. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Clause four. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Clause five. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Clause six. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

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**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Clause seven. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Clause eight. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

This clause eight, the actual being of coming into force, on April 1, 1992. Today is October 1, I think. Why is it necessary for this bill to assume that it started eight months ago.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, this is standard procedure to be in line with the appropriation act, and that date is standard.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Clause eight. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

I am sorry. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

I am just moving ahead. Sorry, I just have an amendment when you get to the schedule.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Well, if we can conclude clause eight then we can get to the schedule. Clause eight, agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Schedule part one, total capital, \$6.843 million.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Part two, operations and maintenance, Madam Government Leader.

Committee Motion 245-12(2): To Amend The Schedule To Bill 34

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a motion that schedule to Bill 34 be amended: in part two by increasing amounts set out opposite vote one, item 14, by \$250,000 to (\$4.608 million); in part two, by increasing amounts set out as total O and M by \$250,000 to (\$93,000); and, by increasing amount set out as a total supplementary appropriation in parts one and two by \$250,000, to \$6.750 million.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. That was negative \$93,000, I believe. Correct? For the record I wanted to clarify that.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. The amendment is in order. To the amendment. Mr. Dent.



**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman the Standing Committee on Finance is agreed to this figure, and we believe that the public inquiry can be accomplished for very close to this figure, and we will be rather skeptical of further amounts coming forward.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you, Mr. Dent for the report on Standing Committee on Finance. Madam Government Leader.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Chairman, I hope it is not too skeptical, because I am certainly, with the inquiry that has been held before, that the \$250,000 amount is rather short of what was anticipated, which was about \$500,000. We know that in this type of inquiry many people have to participate, and many people have requirements, so we have put the \$250,000, but we do anticipate that it will be more than that.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Part two, operations and maintenance. Total O and M negative \$93,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Sorry, I apologize. Let me get that in the motion first before we even get to the approvals. Motion is in order. To the motion. Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Now, I will deal with the detail. Part two schedule, vote 1, operations and maintenance, total O and M negative \$93,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Total supplementary appropriations and parts one and two, \$6.75 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Does the committee agree that Bill 34 is concluded as amended?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Does the committee agree that Bill 34, as amended is ready for third reading?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Thank you. Since there is no other business before the committee, I shall now rise and report progress...

---Applause

REVERT BACK TO ITEM 19: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 19, report of committee of the whole. Mr. Nerysoo.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nerysoo):**

Your committee has been considering Bill 34 and, Mr. Speaker, I wish to report that Bill 34 is ready for third reading, as amended and, Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the chairman of the committee of whole be concurred with.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Is there a seconder to the motion? Mr. Pudluk. The motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried.

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

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**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu, that bill...

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Cournoyea, to move to third reading, the bill requires unanimous consent. Ms. Cournoyea.

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent to proceed with third reading of Bill 34.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to proceed to third reading of Bill 34. Are there any nays? There are no nays, proceed please, Ms. Cournoyea.

ITEM 20: THIRD READING OF BILLS

Bill 34: Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 2, 1992-93

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Sahtu that Bill 34, Supplementary Appropriation Act No. 2, 1992-93, be read for the third time.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Your motion is in order, Ms. Cournoyea. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Bill 34 has had third reading. Mr. Patterson.

--Applause

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wonder if I could seek unanimous consent to return to oral questions?

---Laughter

Return to, Returns to Oral Questions. I have had enough oral questions, Mr. Speaker, this session, it is return to Returns to Oral Questions.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Patterson, you wonder if you can? You probably could if you asked to.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

May I please?

---Laughter

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to return to Item 4, returns to oral questions. Are there any nays? Proceed please, Mr. Patterson.

REVERT TO ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Return To Question 730-12(2): Challenge Of Public Inquiry

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Return to an oral question asked by Mr. Nerysoo, September 10, 1992 regarding challenge of public inquiry.

Mr. Speaker, as the Member knows, Section 30 of the Medical Profession Act states that a witness shall not be excused from answering a question on the grounds that the answer might tend to incriminate the witness, subject the witness to punishment under the Act, or tend to establish the liability of the witness, for example, in civil proceedings. However, any evidence which the witness is compelled to give cannot be used to incriminate him in other proceedings, except for perjury or for the giving of contradictory evidence.

With respect, the Member was therefore incorrect in stating that an individual "could not hid behind that kind of libellous evidence" in a public inquiry. As I am sure the Member also knows, although the wording is somewhat different, there is a similar provision in the Public Inquiries Act for protection of witnesses appearing before a public inquiry under that Act.

Section 8 of the Public Inquiries Act requires a board of inquiry to inform witnesses of the right to object to answer any question under Section 5 of the Canada Evidence Act, on the grounds that the answer may tend to incriminate him or tend to establish his liability to a civil proceeding. (Section 5 of the Canada Evidence Act similarly states that no witness can be excused from answering any question on the grounds that the answer may tend to incriminate him.) The

Public Inquiries Act goes on to state that no answer given by a witness can be used or is admissible in evidence against a witness in any trial or other proceedings against the witness taking place after the inquiry, other than a prosecution for perjury.

The effect of the two sections is the same with regard to protection of witnesses giving evidence in either of these two kinds of inquiries. It would not prevent an aggrieved party from suing or relying on evidence other than the evidence given before the inquiry in the support of the lawsuit. These protective provisions apply to all witnesses: board Members, Members of the government or a person against whom a complaint is made under the Medical Profession Act.

A shorter one, Mr. Speaker, a response asked by Mr. Ningark on October 1, 1992.

Return To Question 911-12(2): Job Description For Community Health Representatives

Mr. Speaker, on October 1, 1992 the honourable Member for Natilikmiot sought confirmation that the Department of Health has a job description in place for community health representatives. I am able to inform him, at this time, that a job description for these positions does indeed exist, and I will provide the honourable Member with a copy of the job description. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

That is all, Mr. Patterson? Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Mr. Nerysoo.

**MR. NERYSOO:**

After that answer, I want to know if I could get unanimous consent to return to oral questions.

---Laughter

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to, return to oral questions, but I think because Mr. Patterson has no more to give to this Assembly, at this time, he probably will not ask for it. Mr. Patterson.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, all I have left to give to this Assembly is a return to written question, and I would seek

unanimous consent to return to written questions. I withdraw that request, Mr. Speaker, thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. It will not be automatically tabled at this point, Mr. Patterson. Mr. Patterson.

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Could I seek consent to return to tabling of documents.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent to return to tabling of documents. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Proceed, please, Mr. Patterson.

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REVERT TO ITEM 12: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

**HON. DENNIS PATTERSON:**

Thank you, very much, Mr. Speaker. I wish to table the following documents, Tabled Document 130-12(2), return to written question asked by Mr. Todd, September 9, 1992, agreements with physicians under the Medical Care Act, and a return to written question asked by Mr. Nerysoo, Tabled Document 131-12(2), September 10, 1992, sealed court documents. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Before I invite the Commissioner to come in, I have a very short statement. We have sat for 58 days and on behalf of all Members I would like to thank the interpreters, the pages, the Legislative Assembly staff, the Cabinet, our new Hansard group, thank everybody that has made it possible for the Legislative Assembly to meet. To all of my colleagues in the Legislative Assembly, have a safe journey home. Thank you, very much.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Clerk, would you ascertain if his Honour, the Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, is prepared to assent to bills, and prorogue this session.

**COMMISSIONER NORRIS:**

Please be seated. Mr. Speaker, Members of the Legislative Assembly, as Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, I hereby assent to: Bill 9, An Act to Amend the Insurance Act; Bill 31, An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act; Bill 32, An Act to Amend the Young Offenders Act, No. 2; Bill 33, Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1992-93; and Bill 34, Supplementary Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1992-93.

At this time, I would like to confirm that the third session of the 12th Legislature will commence on Tuesday, November 17, 1992, in Yellowknife.

As Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, I prorogue this second session of the 12th Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, thank you.

**---PROROGATION**