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**The Honourable Michael A. Ballantyne, Speaker**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Hon. Titus Allooloo, Mr. Arngna'naaq, Mr. James Arvaluk, Hon. Michael Ballantyne, Hon. Nellie Cournoyea, Mr. Dent, Mr. Gargan, Hon. Stephen Kakfwi, Mr. Koe, Mr. Lewis, Hon. Rebecca Mike, Hon. Don Morin, Hon. Richard Nerysoo, Mr. Ningark, Mr. Patterson, Hon. John Pollard, Mr. Pudluk, Hon. John Todd, Mr. Whitford, Mr. Zoe

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

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

Good afternoon. Prior to Item 2, Ministers' statements, I wish to make a brief ruling.

Speaker's Ruling

On Friday, February 26, 1993, the Member for Thebacha submitted two written questions. Written Question 22-12(3) seeks information from the Minister of Health on the number of patient visits to each of the physicians on contract with the Fort Smith health centre from 1989 to 1993. Written Question 23-12(3) seeks a summary of travel of all board members of the Fort Smith health centre during the period 1988 to the dissolution of the board. I have reviewed the written questions and the terms of reference of the public inquiry into the Fort Smith health centre, which was tabled on September 30, 1992, and is Tabled Document 106-12(2), and rule that both questions contravene rule 35(g)(ii) of our rules, which prohibit debate on any matter that is before any quasi-judicial, administrative or investigative body constituted by the Assembly or under the authority of an act of the Assembly where any person or persons may be prejudice in such matter by the reference. In addition, the public inquiry was established as a result of adopted Motion 30-12(2) of this Assembly. On reviewing the terms of reference, it is clear the public inquiry established under the Public Inquiries Act is to review the provision and quality of medical services at the Fort Smith health centre. It is also mandated to review the role and responsibility of board members with the public. The inquiry is also mandated to review the events leading to the resignation of the board. In addition, the inquiry is to conduct a comprehensive review of various features of the administration of the Fort Smith health centre over the

last five years and the relationship between the facility and the community it serves.

Accordingly, Mrs. Marie-Jewell's questions are directly relevant to the matters the inquiry is to review and report on and are, therefore, a contravention of our rules and the sub judice convention. The fact that these issues were raised by written questions and not in oral questions or in debate is not relevant, as the same rules that apply to oral questions apply to written questions.

I would like to quote citation 427 from Beauchesne's, 6th edition, "The Speaker, in common with the duties of supervision over the proceedings of the House, may rule out of order any question which violates the rules or practice of parliament in the same way as irregularities in motions and amendments are dealt with." It is the chair's responsibility to ensure that the rules are enforced. The chair believes that wide latitude should be given Members in asking questions. However, when questions, either oral or written, are obviously an infraction of a specific rule, and since the rules are the rules of the Legislative Assembly, I will enforce the rules. Then, accordingly, I rule Written Questions 22-12(3) and 23-12(3) out of order.

Item 2, Ministers' statements. Mr. Allooloo.

ITEM 2: MINISTERS' STATEMENTS

Minister's Statement 46-12(3): Meeting With European Parliamentarians

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On March 2, 3 and 4, I plan to travel to Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island to meet with four representatives of the European Parliament, who have been invited by the international fund for animal welfare to learn about harp seals. Members of this Assembly will recall that the international fund for animal welfare recently sponsored the full page advertisement in Canada's newspapers requesting a ban on seal hunts.

Mr. Speaker, I intend to inform the members of the European parliament about the impact of the European ban on importing sealskins on our northern economy and peoples. I will also explain our life-style and the benefits that our northern renewable resources provide to us. The chairman from the Clyde River hunters' and trappers' association will

accompany me to meet these people and he will also emphasize how we live.

By teaching other people about how we live, we help ensure that actions will not be taken to adversely affect our way of life. I will provide a full report upon my return. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 2, Ministers' statements. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome, once again, to the Legislative Assembly, the Speaker of the Alberta Legislative Assembly, Dr. the Honourable David Carter and Mrs. Carter, also accompanying the Speaker are four members of the Alberta legislative interns' program.

---Applause

I would like to welcome in the gallery the Member of Parliament for the Western Arctic, Ethel Blondin.

---Applause

Page 664

Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Gargan.

**ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS**

Member's Statement On The Death Of Harriet McKay And The Need For Public Housing

**MR. GARGAN:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to mention that Harriet McKay, an elder from the Hay River Reserve passed away last week.

The Hay River reserve was first established in 1974. They have been requesting for public housing for many years. I have even written to the Government Leader and before that to the Ministers of Housing, Tom Butters and Nick Sibbeston. To date we have not seen any results. The people who most deserve public housing, the poor people, do not seem to get these houses. If these people who are in need of housing were to get these houses, incidents such as this would not happen. The elder I am speaking about still burned wood and had no electricity. The house which she passed away in was an old shack. If these conditions continue there are going to be more incidents such as this one on the Hay River reserve.

The senior citizens' home will be opening this Friday.

This is the request that I would like to put forth. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Pudluk.

**MR. PUDLUK:**

Mr. Speaker, this is not going to be a Member's statement, it is going to be an announcement only.

(Translation) Mr. Speaker, I have been requested by our colleague Mr. Kenoayoak Pudlat, MLA for Baffin South, to inform the House that he would not be here today because two of his relatives passed away this past weekend in his constituency. As well, his brother-in-law is in critical condition. For that reason he will not be in the House today. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Patterson.

Member's Statement On Gymnasium For New School In Apex

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Speaker, overall I am very pleased with the progress which has been made towards the new school in Apex since the tragic fire last fall. I am pleased to report to the House that renovations on a temporary school in a former duplex/residence are progressing well and occupancy of that temporary school is expected to take place March 31. I am told that DPW officials in the community have worked above and beyond the call of duty to see that this moves ahead.

Also last week, town council approved in principle, construction on the existing site of the burned school following a meeting in Apex. There was a good turnout and unanimous support from the community for rebuilding on the existing site. Virtually everyone was there, they were very pleased that council accepted their recommendations and that the Department of Public Works would be applying for a development permit for that site. I am very pleased with all of this, Mr. Speaker.

However, I do have one concern. Niaqunguut education council and members of the community are concerned that the new school should have a gym. The old school, which burned down, had a good size

gym. The Niaqunguut education society had been told the government had insurance on the school and that this insurance entitles the government to replace the destroyed property with property of "like kind and quality." I think that is a provision of the GNWT's all-property blanket insurance policy. Mr. Speaker, the people of Apex are expecting the new school will also have a gym and Members who have been there know the school has always been a focal point for community meetings and activities. I will be asking the Minister of Education to work with myself and the community to ensure the new school has a gym. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Patterson, your timing was impeccable. Item 3, Members' statements. Item 4, returns to oral questions. Mr. Todd.

**ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS**

Return To Question 336-12(3): Coast Guard Insurance

**HON. JOHN TODD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral question by Mr. Gargan on February 24. Mr. Gargan asked me if the Department of Transportation has insurance for its ferry, the MV Merv Hardie. The ferry carries full marine insurance for operations in Canadian minor waters. This includes operation anywhere in the Mackenzie River watershed.

The insurance covers collision, striking, stranding, sinking, fire and the discharge of pollutants.

The vessel itself is insured for a value of \$5.1 million. Its third-party liability is unlimited and, in the event of a discharge of pollutants, the coverage is up to \$170 million.

All ships owned by the federal government, whether Fisheries and Oceans, Department of National Defence or the Canadian Coast Guard, are self-insured.

In the incident of October 23, 1992, neither vessel sustained any damage or loss which would constitute a recoverable claim.

Return To Question 312-12(3): Classification of Drivers' Licences

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to a question asked by Mr. Pudluk with respect to the classification of drivers' licences.

On Tuesday, February 23, the honourable Member for High Arctic reported a problem his constituents were having in applying for class three drivers' licences and receiving class five licences instead. I told Mr. Pudluk that I would look into the problem for him and report back to the House.

The registrar of motor vehicles has reviewed all the class five licences issued over the past six months in the communities of Arctic Bay, Grise Fiord, Nanisivik and Resolute Bay. Over this period, 18 class five and no class three licences were issued in these communities. Four of the class five licences were

Page 665

issued to new drivers and the remaining 14 were licence transfers from jurisdictions outside the Northwest Territories. The registrar could find no instances of converting an application for a class three licence to a class five instead.

The motor vehicles division does change class three applications to class five licences under three circumstances. The application may have been sent to Yellowknife without proof of the practical road test portion of the driving examination. The class three licence requires medical certification and this may not have been included with the application. In some instances, the holder of a class five licence may be issued a restricted class three licence. A condition is added to the back of a class five licence which allows the driver -- this is ridiculous -- to operate a class three single unit truck within the Northwest Territories. Who wrote this?

To the registrar's knowledge, none of these circumstances have occurred in the Member's constituency over the past six months.

If Mr. Pudluk could give me more detail about a particular case, I would be only too pleased to have the department staff look into it for him. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 4, returns to oral questions. Ms. Cournoyea.

Return To Question 334-12(3): Status Of BRC Audit

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, I have a return to oral question asked by Mr. Pudluk on February 24 regarding the status of the Baffin regional council audit.

The audit team has completed its on-site audit of the BRC and has begun to prepare its report on the audit findings.

The report is expected to be completed by Friday, March 19, 1993. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 4, returns to oral questions. Ms. Mike.

Further Return To Question 282-12(3): Inclusion Of Sobriety Requirements Of Alcohol And Drug Workers

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to oral question asked by Mr. Gargan on February 19, 1993, regarding the sobriety policy.

Mr. Gargan asked on February 28, 1993, that the Minister "direct his officials to make a report to other alcohol and drug organizations about the success of this important policy." The Minister at that time undertook to "share the success of this policy with our counterparts in southern Canada."

The policy related to sobriety for alcohol and drug workers has been in place for almost a year and a half. Provincial alcohol and drug commissions were advised of our policy during federal/provincial meetings in Newfoundland in May, 1992.

In order for the adequate assessment and evaluation of the sobriety clause policy to be carried out to effectively measure its success, a significantly longer period of time for the policy to be in place will be required. It would be appropriate to carry out an assessment and evaluation of its effectiveness in 1995, which would be five years after its implementation. In the meantime, I will be instructing officials in the department to monitor the impact of the policy on an ongoing basis. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

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

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 382-12(3): Report For Meeting In Charlottetown, PEI

**MR. ARVALUK:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister of Renewable Resources a question. As he indicated, he will be leaving to go to Prince Edward Island. I assume that since he is leaving shortly, he must have some kind of report which he will be presenting during the meeting. Does he have a written document for presentation which he would table in this House to keep us informed of what he intends to present at his meeting? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Allooloo.

Return To Question 382-12(3): Report For Meeting In Charlottetown, PEI

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The presentation I will be making is not completed as of yet. It is being documented at the present time. I will be at the meetings for two days. Members from the European parliament will be in attendance, and members from the IFAW will also be in attendance. The meetings begin at 2:00 pm. The European parliament members will be having a dinner meeting in the evening. My agenda items are not all in written form. I do have documents which are being completed right now. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Whitford.

Question 383-12(3): Communities' Lack Of Participation In Alcohol And Drug Treatment Program

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Social Services regarding the alcohol and drug program. How many communities formally involved in the contribution agreement are no longer participating in the alcohol and drug treatment program as a result of the sobriety clause inclusion?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Mike.

Return To Question 383-12(3): Communities' Lack Of Participation In Alcohol And Drug Treatment Program

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There are two organizations which were originally funded, one is the Pangnirtung alcohol and drug education committee and the other one is Tuvvik. They are no longer funded through this program. Thank you.

Page 666

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Whitford.

Supplementary To Question 383-12(3): Communities' Lack Of Participation In Alcohol And Drug Treatment Program

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a supplementary question for the Minister regarding the groups who are no longer participating in that contribution agreement. How are the good people who need services in those communities being taken care of?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Mike.

Further Return To Question 383-12(3): Communities' Lack Of Participation In Alcohol And Drug Treatment Program

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The honourable Member, Tony Whitford, is well aware that when I was an ordinary Member I was a very strong advocate of this policy for the reasons the community of Pangnirtung is encountering at the present time. I am keeping in touch with them. We have ongoing talks. I have been encouraging them to comply with the sobriety clause. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Could I ask Ministers to try to contain their responses to government policy and not to what they might or might not have said or done before they became Ministers. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Whitford.

Supplementary To Question 383-12(3): Communities' Lack Of Participation In Alcohol And Drug Treatment Program

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Mr. Speaker, I have not had a response to my question. I appreciate the fact the Minister is communicating with the group. However, I am wondering how the people who depend on alcohol and drug treatment are being served? I think that was the question.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Mike.

Further Return To Question 383-12(3): Communities' Lack Of Participation In Alcohol And Drug Treatment Program

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am trying to encourage the hamlet of Pangnirtung to make their proposal to the department so that the problems in the community can be addressed. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Whitford.

Supplementary To Question 383-12(3): Communities' Lack Of Participation In Alcohol And Drug Treatment Program

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It seems that I am not communicating very well. I am wondering if the group itself is being responded to. What about the people who were previously receiving counselling, are they receiving counselling from anyone in either of those two communities, Pangnirtung or those previously being served by Tuvvik?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Ms. Mike.

Further Return To Question 383-12(3): Communities' Lack Of Participation In Alcohol And Drug Treatment Program

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To my knowledge, there is no counsellor presently in Pangnirtung under the alcohol and drug committee. However, there are counsellors provided for young people who are abusing solvents. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

Question 384-12(3): Office Space For Social Worker On Hay River Reserve

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question

for the Minister of Social Services regarding a letter written to me by the former Minister about leasing office space on the Hay River reserve. There was a commitment made by the former Minister to lease office space for the department so a social worker who goes onto the reserve has office space on the reserve. Has there been an agreement reached with regard to arrangements for this?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister of Social Services, Ms. Mike.

**HON. REBECCA MIKE:**

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

**MR. SPEAKER:**

The question has been taken as notice. Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Whitford.

Question 385-12(3): Payments For Firearms Acquisition Certificates

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Justice. Recently there was a concern expressed about the Department of Justice not accepting cash for transactions and, specifically, the transaction which deals with firearms acquisition certificates. On behalf of the people who are concerned, is this a territorial government policy to not accept cash for transactions which are conducted through the Department of Justice?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 385-12(3): Payments For Firearms Acquisition Certificates

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I understand it the RCMP have agreed to continue processing applications for firearms acquisition certificates. They are not comfortable with having large amounts of cash accumulating in their offices, nor are they particularly interested in taking in cash and converting it to money drafts or money orders at the end of each month when they are required to send in money to the Yellowknife office. The change has been made to accommodate that. It is asked that people, who apply for firearm acquisition certificates, make their application fees in the form of postal money orders or Northern Store money drafts.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Whitford.

Page 667

Supplementary To Question 385-12(3): Payments For Firearms Acquisition Certificates

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was a bit perplexed at this particular policy because if something is not safe in the hands of the RCMP I do not know where else it is going to be safe.

---Applause

Thank you. Is this the thin edge of the wedge that is going to introduce more programs into the territories that are not going to be accepting cash? Is this a territorial policy, to begin not accepting cash for transactions within the Department of Justice? There are many services obtained by the public, of the department, using small amounts of money, and in some cases, large amounts. Is the public expected to use a certified cheque and/or money order within the department? Is this government policy affecting other programs?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 385-12(3): Payments For Firearms Acquisition Certificates

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, I am only the Minister of Justice. I cannot speak for the government, but I suggest again to the Member that the RCMP had agreed to continue processing and receiving applications. They are not interested in having cash in their offices, which they would have to be responsible for, and which they would accumulate and send in at the end of each month. I am not sure if that is the primary concern but, at the end of the month, someone has to add it all up, account for it and send it through the mail. I think they are suggesting keep it simple, when you apply make it in the form of a money order or a money draft and that simplifies the process for everyone. It is convenient for people who come in when they are required to send in their application fee, but it simplifies the process for the RCMP and for officials at this end of the line. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Whitford.

Supplementary To Question 385-12(3): Payments For Firearms Acquisition Certificates

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Who is here to serve whom? Is this a policy that is just a northern RCMP or the Northwest Territories, or is this a policy that only we are following? Is this something that is going to be fairly unique, or is this happening elsewhere, Mr. Speaker?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 385-12(3): Payments For Firearms Acquisition Certificates

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, the majority of people in the small communities are aboriginal people, people who either have or are entitled to a general hunting licence, and whose basic life-style is to either hunt or trap. In those cases, there are no fees for firearm acquisition certificates. The fee, otherwise, has gone up to \$50 per application. If you take ten applications, that is \$1,000. It does add up fairly quickly. On the other

hand, for the majority of the people in the small communities, the fee is going to be waived at the application stage. So, there is, in fact, little money involved at the community level. It may be the larger centres where there are banking services and good postal services, that would be largely affected. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

Question 386-12(3): Access To Public Housing On Hay River Reserve

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister responsible for the Housing Corporation. In my Member's statement today, I mentioned the housing situation on the Hay River reserve. There is a new housing initiative by the Minister called access to housing. It still does not address the poor people and the people who cannot afford to maintain their own units. What has been done to address the situation on the reserve where they have not been given access to any kind of public housing?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 386-12(3): Access To Public Housing On Hay River Reserve

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The access to home ownership program was the HAP program and it has been changed to allow lower income people to access the program because we have the maintenance portion in the program now, so the incomes are lower. We also have, in the access program, special projects, mostly to elders who cannot afford to operate a unit with running water, a furnace and items which use a great deal of electricity. This is a very basic unit that would operate from a wood stove with propane or fuel backup. Those are the programs which are available on the reserve. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Gargan.



Supplementary To Question 386-12(3): Access To Public Housing On Hay River Reserve

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Speaker, last Friday I was on the reserve and met with the district manager. At that time the district manager did say there was no allocation designated for the reserve, there were no special projects or access to housing projects, nothing. My concern, Mr. Speaker, is that we are still not addressing the issue of social housing for people who cannot afford to maintain or support themselves. I am talking about senior citizens and social assistance recipients. Because of it being a reserve, this government has never addressed the public housing issue for the reserve. There are still many homeless people who cannot afford the initiatives this government has. The only other alternative, Mr. Speaker, is public units. I would like to ask whether he intends to put public units on the reserve to address the people who do not fit into those particular programs?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Morin.

Page 668

Further Return To Question 386-12(3): Access To Public Housing For Hay River Reserve

**HON. DON MORIN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am not sure of the allocation to the reserve for this year. All the allocations are made according to the needs survey. If the Member says there are no allocations, I guess that is true because he would know. I understand the problem Mr. Gargan has. I have asked, in my last meeting with the Minister of Indian Affairs, Mr. Siddon, about allocations to treaty Indians for housing. He basically has said that responsibility has been transferred to the territorial government. I cannot find where it was transferred and I am still researching that issue.

I was on the reserve in the spring to meet with the band to talk about public housing and housing in general on the reserve. I believe at that time we were going to follow it up with another meeting to see how we could address those people's needs and see whether the reserve actually wanted to get into public housing and possibility get into a rut that has created some problems in other communities. Maybe there might be another way of addressing those needs,

other than the conventional public housing program. I understand that the reserve has an elders' facility. That is social housing similar to public housing that is going to be open soon. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Question 387-12(3): Meeting With European Parliamentarians Re Fur Issues

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Renewable Resources. I was going to ask for a supplementary question, however, I was too late. Mr. Speaker, this is similar to the questions I asked before. When did the Minister plan the trip to the conference in Charlottetown, PEI?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister of Renewable Resources.

Return To Question 387-12(3): Meeting With European Parliamentarians Re Fur Issues

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We heard on Friday night from the European parliament that the meeting was confirmed. We have been trying to get a meeting with them for a few days. We finally received confirmation that we will be meeting with them. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Arvaluk.

Supplementary To Question 387-12(3): Meeting With European Parliamentarians Re Fur Issues

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not know what you call this, maybe it is a decision in haste or not very well planned out. How does he expect to make a strong presentation with a high impact when, in fact, I suspect the regional wildlife federations or the Inuit or other aboriginal organizations have not really been consulted as to what position the Minister or government will be taking when meeting with the European parliament and IFAW. How does he expect to make a strong impact in a very short time when

the material has not yet been discussed regarding the GNWT's position?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister of Renewable Resources.

Further Return To Question 387-12(3): Meeting With European Parliamentarians Re Fur Issues

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As soon as I found out that the European parliamentarians were coming to Canada, I contacted the regions to see if they were going to hold regional conferences. I am referring to HTA's regional representatives. There was one being held in Iqaluit for the Baffin region. I have asked them to discuss the possibility of sending a member from that group to assist me in explaining our position of renewable resources use by the people of the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Speaker, I have been dealing with this issue since I became a Minister in 1987. I had a chance to go to Europe with the former Minister of Economic Development to state our position on the use of wildlife resources by our people for the purposes of economic venture. I have also been keeping contact with the Fur Institute of Canada, ISI, and the Dene Nation, TFN and Metis Association since 1987. I feel I know the subject, plus I have a staff who are dealing with fur issues extensively. They are working on the document we will be putting forward.

Our position, as a government, is we believe that sustainable development could be reached by using natural resources. Our basic principle as Dene, Inuit and Metis is that the best resources which would allow us to live comfortably and feed ourselves are renewable resources, which we have in the Northwest Territories. I feel qualified, so do Dene people and Metis people, to speak to the issue. They have been touched by the animal rights movement to the core of their hearts. I know my family was effected and Mr. Arvaluk's family was also effected when the seal hunting was being attacked by the animal rights people. As a result, through the initiative of ITC, this government, the Dene Nation and Metis Association, Greenpeace of Canada backed off from their fight to allow aboriginal people to harvest. They recognized that the aboriginal people need to harvest natural resources in the Northwest Territories. They are supportive of us. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Supplementary, Mr. Arvaluk.

Supplementary To Question 387-12(3): Meeting With European Parliamentarians Re Fur Issues

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am confident the Minister knows the subject of the European ban on importing seal skins in our northern economy. I am also confident that he is knowledgeable about the northern life-style because he lived it, as he mentioned. Mr. Speaker, will he be speaking, arguing and answering questions on behalf of the Government of the Northwest Territories?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Allooloo.

Page 669

Further Return To Question 387-12(3): Meeting With European Parliamentarians Re Fur Issues

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, this meeting is going to be between politicians. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Ningark. Point of order, Mr. Kakfwi.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, I do not know if it is appropriate, but no one bothered to correct me on my arithmetic earlier. I wanted to take this occasion to do that. It is so blatant that I feel awkward about it.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

That is not a point of order, Mr. Kakfwi, but I will allow some latitude with the rules just to set the record straight in case somebody responds to the wrong information. Go ahead and make your correction, Mr. Kakfwi.

**HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:**

Mr. Speaker, the fees for firearms acquisition certificates have gone up to \$50 per application, provided you are not a carrier of a general hunting

license or that you primarily live off hunting and trapping. The total I had added up does not add up at all, it is \$500 not \$1,000. I wanted to point that out and also that applications are not gathered until the end of the month. In fact, as soon as someone applies through the RCMP the application is forwarded to the proper office in Yellowknife. That is the reason for asking for a certified money order, so the RCMP does not have to change cash into something that can be put in the mail. I am not aware of the rest of the country, Mr. Whitford. I will get back to you on that.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

We allowed a certain amount of latitude. I think you may have carried it a little too far, Mr. Kakwi. Please think about that in future.

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Ningark.

Question 388-12(3): Construction Of Roads In Eastern Arctic

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is directed to the honourable Minister of Transportation. Mr. Speaker, while we put pavement on the roads in the western Arctic, the eastern communities are requesting gravel roads and the need is not being addressed by this government. We are talking about facilitating all-terrain vehicles in the eastern Arctic. We have been requesting this transportation infrastructure since I have been a Member of this House during the past two years. What is the Minister of Transportation doing to address the needs of the eastern Arctic communities?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Mr. Todd.

Return To Question 388-12(3): Construction Of Roads In Eastern Arctic

**HON. JOHN TODD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We are building an all-weather road from Churchill to Rankin Inlet at a cost of \$1 billion. It is a serious question and I would really like to build the road. The department in preparing its budget, are going to take into consideration the kinds of roads that the honourable Member from Pelly Bay is talking about. There will be consideration given, but while there is a significant amount of expenditure

in the highway system in the west, some due consideration must be given for some internal community roads to facilitate people to the hunting and fishing areas. I hope when we look at the capital process later in the year we

will be able to accommodate Mr. Ningark as well as others. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Supplementary, Mr. Ningark.

Supplementary To Question 388-12(3): Construction Of Roads In Eastern Arctic

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When is the honourable Minister going to accommodate my community? Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Minister of Transportation, Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 388-12(3): Construction Of Roads In Eastern Arctic

**HON. JOHN TODD:**

We will have continuing discussions and ongoing dialogue with respect to Mr. Ningark's concerns. I hope in the process which has been set up by the Premier with respect to determining capital and priorities within the communities, that the kind of road and infrastructure which Mr. Ningark rightly deserves will be reflected in the priorities established by the hamlet council in consultation with the honourable Member. Thank you.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

Question 389-12(3): Status Of Apology Requested From Armed Forces

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On January 13 of this year the Government Leader met with Tom Siddon, the Minister of Indian Affairs. One of the concerns he expressed at that time by form of a letter was with regard to the Canadian Armed Forces shooting caribou in the Northwest Territories. In his letter to the Minister, he said he wished to convey his concern

to Kim Campbell who is the Minister of National Defence. Has any progress been made with regard to the Minister making an apology on behalf of the Canadian Armed Forces for the way they acted and using the kind of weapons they did to kill the caribou?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Madam Premier.

Return To Question 389-12(3): Status Of Apology Requested From Armed Forces

**HON. NELLIE COURNOYEA:**

Mr. Speaker, there was a follow-up call to find out when we could have a response on that plus some other items, but there has been no further reply from Ms. Campbell.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 5, oral questions. Item 6, written questions. Item 7, returns to written questions. Item 8, replies to opening address. Item 9, replies to budget address. Mr. Koe.

Page 670

**ITEM 9: REPLIES TO BUDGET ADDRESS**

**MR. KOE:**

Mahsi, Mr. Speaker. Today I would like to present a reply to the budget address which was delivered by the Minister of Finance on February 19.

Mr. Speaker, I find that once again the Minister of Finance has a difficult task of trying to present an upbeat picture and message using some pretty sombre statistics and a pretty cloudy fiscal position and outlook. However, I would like to commend the Minister for sticking to his guns and his commitment to achieve a balanced budget in 1993-94. With the information presented to us in the budget address, the Minister states that the 1993-94 budget is a balanced one. The jury is still out, Mr. Speaker, and we will not know for sure how accurate the Minister's predictions will be until the 1993-94 audited public accounts are presented to this House sometime in 1994-95.

The Minister of Finance also cautions us by expressing his concern about elements of uncertainty which could affect the bottom line. The Minister included the following items in his list: the current hospital billings dispute, the pay equity issue,

unexpected expenditure requirements and higher social assistance costs. Mr. Speaker, I believe the Minister could also have added the following items to his list: the implementation of the staff housing policy, the implementation of the payroll tax, and federal cutbacks to language, cultural and aboriginal programs.

Mr. Speaker, depending on the results of the negotiations and court proceedings, my calculations indicate there is uncertainty on about \$140 to \$150 million worth of program and tax dollars. This has a big impact on our fiscal position and outlook, especially on the bottom line. Mr. Speaker, because of these uncertainties, I find myself in a very perplexing situation in trying to respond to this budget address. It is my understanding that the budget address is supposed to present to us a detailed overview of the government's fiscal position and outlook, and present some of the proposed changes and new initiatives to expenditures, taxes and revenues.

Mr. Speaker, the budget address does that to some degree but it also has too many qualifications or, as the Minister puts it, "too many uncertainties." Unless the public gets a copy of the actual document, the budget address, they do not get to read the information which is presented in the appendices. Appendix A - fiscal review and outlook, appendix B - revenues, and appendix C - the economic environment. These appendices provide much in-depth details of what has happened to date and what is predicted to happen. These appendices also have many phrases which I find very interesting. For example, you will find these words in the text, "uncontrollable expenditure demands, chronic deficits, disincentive to employment, progressive tax system, indexes of living cost differentials, modest price inflation, weak economic infrastructure, inter-sectoral linkages, economic stagnation, unprecedented competition, and compressing expenditures." Mr. Speaker, there are many more examples which I found.

My point is that the Minister seems to use these weasel words or better known as bureaucratic rhetoric to explain the state of our finances and our economy. I feel sorry for the interpreters and the general public who have to read and try to understand these words. Mr. Speaker, it is also very difficult to develop a focused picture of the proposed fiscal framework and new initiatives because much of the detail is yet to be presented to this Assembly. For example, further details of the proposed one time funding of \$6 million

for the Northwest Territories workers' training fund will be provided by the Minister of Education, Culture and Employment Programs. The Minister of Personnel will be providing more details of the proposed staff housing strategy. The Ministers of Education, Culture and Employment Programs and Housing will be providing information on the new strategy for training and construction. Finally, Mr. Speaker, this Assembly has yet to deal with the proposed payroll tax. These are major new initiatives, Mr. Speaker, and it would have been nice if all of the details were available to the public and this Assembly when this budget address was presented.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased about the Minister of Finance's statement that this budget is forward looking and includes measures that will improve economic efficiency and prepare more northern residents to fill available jobs. However, I have to wait to see the details of the proposed initiatives before I can jump up with glee. I am sure we are all aware of the dependence of our economy and labour market on government. About 30 per cent of the people employed in the Northwest Territories have a job with one of the three levels of government. Therefore, whatever initiatives this government takes depend largely on the goodwill of the federal government. Mr. Speaker, we need to create jobs for our people. I will support any initiatives which will achieve this goal, however, in doing this I hope we do not create have and have not communities and regions.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure we have all heard the saying that nothing is for certain except death and taxes. This government has ensured at least that part of the saying will come true and if all of the tax initiatives are implemented, it may cause a demise of some of our NWT businesses. The payroll tax will impose a one per cent tax on all residents. Here we are trying to use a high seas drift net approach to catch the non-resident employees. All residents will be caught up in the net and in the end some of the Northwest Territories residents will have to pay extra taxes. That was not the intent of the proposed payroll tax initiative. The residents will also be assessed another one per cent increase on their personal income tax. For those who drink the cost went up ten per cent in September. In all areas, actual freight costs will be added to the cost of alcohol. All fees and licenses, including hunting and game licences, are increasing. For government employees living in government housing units they can expect another 25 per cent in rent if the housing strategy is implemented.

The point which I am trying to illustrate is that once again the residents of the north are going to have to pay for some of the inefficiencies of government to enable us to live comfortably on our own homeland. NWT residents already pay a high tax burden. These proposals will further increase this. We all know we have to pay higher costs for food, transportation and recreation. Generally, our cost of living is probably the highest in north America and we do not want it to go any higher.

Mr. Speaker, it seems the economic outlook for the Northwest Territories is very positive. There are many potential major

Page 671

projects which could be developed. However, we must ensure that maximum benefits from these developments stay in the north and we must use northern labour, northern goods and northern services. To be able to do this, this government has to get its house in order. As the Standing Committee on Finance pointed out, it must create a vision, know where we want to go and plan on how to get there.

Mr. Speaker, in summary, I consider this budget a cloudy one, one which can become clear and focused once many of the uncertainties are quantified. We also have to create a healthy working environment for our employees and maintain a good quality of life for our residents. We also have to create an environment so investors are more confident to invest and spend their monies in the Northwest Territories. Mahsi, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Koe. Item 9, replies to budget address. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am very pleased to have this opportunity to reply to the budget address for the 1993-94 fiscal year. As honourable Members will know, the financial challenge which we will be facing as the Government of the Northwest Territories during the next fiscal year are going to be more significant than we have ever encountered before.

Government Priorities

This government is going to have to set its priorities on three things:

-First, there is going to need to be a renewed commitment to "value for money" -- we have to make sure that accountability systems are in place, which guarantee that government programs and services are running with the greatest degree of cost-efficiency. Each spending decision must be scrutinized to ensure there is not a better, more cost efficient way, of achieving the same goal.

-Secondly, there are going to have to be some cuts in programs. No one likes to see this, Mr. Speaker, but the fact of the matter is that, right now, we do not have enough money to pay for everything we would like to do. We do not have the resources to devote to programs or services which only benefit a single region. There must be more equitable distribution of funds based on the priorities that have been identified by people in the communities. We are going to have to cut spending on some programs and services, Mr. Speaker. It is unfortunate, but there is no way around it. We are limited in the amount of revenues which we can generate. Mr. Koe has elaborated on that already. We are limited by the unwillingness of the federal government to fund the territories at a level that will allow us to continue growing. The only way we can beat our way out of this deficit situation is to save money by cutting excess dollars from some of the programs and services.

-Finally, Mr. Speaker, we need a better picture of where we are going. To date, all this government has presented to the House has been a disconnected collection of financial and program initiatives and more bad news about federal cutbacks. We do not have an understanding of the government's financial platform. There does not seem to be a strategy, which ties together the way that all departments should be dealing with the deficit. The Auditor General of Canada noticed there is no strategic plan for the Department of Health. The Standing Committee on Finance pointed out that there is no "vision" for the future. This is an area where we are in bad need of good leadership. I hope that it can be addressed soon by the Premier and her Cabinet colleagues.

#### GNWT Employee Training

Mr. Speaker, I want to say some more about the need to ensure that there are mechanisms in place for accountability in government spending. For years, it was more or less accepted in the public service that a

fair bit of latitude should be given to staff in how to plan their training activities.

When many government workers want to go on a course, the tendency in previous years was to look at this as an excuse for getting down south to visit mom and dad, perhaps see a show or two and get a great deal of shopping done. It was common practice to plan duty travel around personal agendas, even when there were more cost-efficient ways of receiving the necessary training.

Fortunately, Mr. Speaker, most departments now seem to have better control over how training dollars are spent. In most departments, there seems to be a new commitment to tracking training funds and activities in a way that leads to good financial control. While they have not always liked it, I think our hard-working public servants have accepted that as the way it should be.

As long as these measures are tightened up equally on every one, I believe government workers will always be understanding and supportive. However, I am concerned that the same system may not be in place with respect to the training activities of judges in the Northwest Territories.

#### Judges' Training

Mr. Speaker, this matter has been raised previously. On February 25, 1992, a written question was asked about the type and cost of training received by judges. The government's response was that "training is something which the judiciary administers by itself." On September 30, 1992, I raised this with the Honourable Stephen Kakfwi.

At that time, he stated all we do is provide money for them to run a justice system. He said we provide money for them to take training and those things they deem for themselves as necessary to carry out their judicial duties.

Again, on November 23, I gave a Member's statement, in which I said that I simply cannot agree with the principle that expenditures on judges' training should be kept secret from the public.

Page 672

Mr. Speaker, I fully understand the principle that the judiciary must be independent from the Legislative Assembly, at least in terms of its ability to make judgement on matters of law. What we are talking about here is not the same thing. We are talking

about an expenditure of public money. I believe the public has a right to know how all its money is being used by government. That includes knowing where, and in what amounts, the Department of Justice is spending money to train judges. Of course, the judges are going to try to use all sorts of arguments about why we should not know this. They are going to say that "the administration of the courts cannot become an executive function."

Mr. Speaker, in a 1985 Supreme Court decision, known as *Valente versus the Queen*, it was clearly stated that essential requirements of judicial controls were always intended to refer to things such as assigning the court rooms, organizing the sitting of the courts and court lists, and supervising administrative staff. It is important for those things to be under the control of the judiciary, but nothing was said about having to keep training activities secret.

Judges' financial situations should not be based on the will of the Legislative Assembly either. The system will not work if the House was to cut judges' salaries for unpopular decisions. Their ability to judge cases independently of the Legislative Assembly cannot be threatened. Those are the essential elements of the independence of the judiciary. I have no trouble with any of them. However, that is not what we are talking about.

The judges are spending public money to go on training courses. To be responsible, we need to ensure this money is being spent appropriately. We need to know, for instance, that a judge is not going to Miami for a course that could be taken in Yellowknife or Edmonton; that their cross-cultural training workshops are being delivered by people who understand the culture of the north, as opposed to a sociologist, lawyer or other so-called southern expert; and, that judges are picking courses that will be helpful in the areas of administrative law, civil law and family law, as well as aspects of criminal law.

Mr. Speaker, we are the trustees of the public purse. I do not think it is right for us to throw money down a well without knowing what is happening to it. In a reply to a written question I asked, the Minister has acknowledged that, "The Member is correct in saying that public expenditures on judicial training may be appropriately scrutinized by the Legislature and its committees." Then, he seems to reserve his position in the same document and says, "Judges are independent of the Legislature and not accountable to it for how they train themselves, nor should this Legislature scrutinize the specific training taken by

individual judges and make comment or criticism on it."

Mr. Speaker, I do not buy that. There is no reason why we should not be supplied with the specific training taken by individual judges. If they are so afraid of being criticized, then list them as "Judge number one and Judge number two," and so on. The Minister's documents provided some total figures for training but very little detail. As you know, Mr. Speaker, it is a matter of privilege for this Assembly to have the disclosure of all the necessary details before we vote on appropriations.

In my November 23 statement I commented that unless the House is provided with a list showing how previous year's training dollars have been spent, I will oppose further appropriation for judges to attend workshop courses or training institutes when we deal with the 1993-94 budget. My position has not changed since. The people of the Northwest Territories should know their money is being spent appropriately.

At the proper time, I will consider introducing a motion in committee of the whole to defer territorial court budgets until the details are provided. Further, at the appropriate time, I will consider introducing a motion in committee of the whole that future main estimates should clearly state how much money has been allocated for judges' training. This is the way it was in 1991-92. Since then, the training budgets have been buried away in the overall costs of the territorial courts. I hope the government will see the importance of this principle and will approach this matter with a spirit of cooperation and consensus.

#### Highway Patrol Service

There was a second issue which I wanted to spend some time discussing today which pertains to the high cost of delivering the current highway patrol services. As I mentioned earlier, our financial situation is making it necessary to cut spending. We must come to grips with the fact that we cannot deliver programs and services which are beyond our means, even if they would be nice to have. I believe many of the functions performed by the highway patrol service could be cut at substantial savings. I believe regular inspections of transport vehicles are necessary. These should continue to be provided by manning the weigh stations on our highways. However, the additional capital expenses of buying and maintaining a fleet of vehicles for highway patrol officers to cruise a few miles of highway, the costly capital and the

operational requirements for radar equipment, and the additional PYs that would otherwise be eliminated to reduce the deficit can and should receive a hard examination of this Assembly a few days from now when Mr. Todd's budget is under review.

I am a strong supporter of ensuring that vehicles on highways are safe. That is why I am convinced that the regulatory activities of weigh stations should continue to follow current standards, but I simply cannot see how people who live in Rankin Inlet, Tuktoyaktuk, Lutsel K'e and Whale Cove are going to agree with the idea of paying a salary to someone to sit on the highway near Hay River or Fort Providence to stop one person every 26 hours. That is not value for money, that is not

Page 673

an equitable distribution of funds. That is not even common sense. I believe spending cuts must be made in this over-exaggerated highway compliance system.

When we deal with the Transportation budget, I would like to ask Members to consider deleting portions of the budget which pays for these little cars to cruise around with their radar outfits beeping. I will be asking the Minister to identify the essential elements of these program areas, such as the weigh station compliance inspection and then trim off the rest of the fat. Mr. Speaker, perhaps some of the money we save could be allocated in the direction of increasing the rate per ton paid to independent long-distance hauling by this government, or other initiatives that would foster strong and responsible transportation industry in the north.

Those are the main points I wish to cover in my reply to the budget address, Mr. Speaker. Before closing, I would like to say I am glad my honourable colleague for Nahendeh has agreed to chair the Standing Committee on Finance. I am sure he will be able to maintain the high standards there were by the earlier chairpersons. I would like to thank all the Members of the Standing Committee on Finance for the many hours of hard work they have devoted to review this year's budget. Their work is certainly appreciated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Item 9, replies to budget address. Item 10, petitions. Item 11, reports of standing and special committees. Item 12, reports of committees on the review of bills. Item 13, tabling of documents. Item 14, notices of motion. Mr. Todd.

**HON. JOHN TODD:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can I ask for unanimous consent to return to item 13, tabling of documents?

**MR. SPEAKER:**

You certainly can, Mr. Todd. The honourable Member is seeking unanimous consent. Are there any nays? There are no nays. Please proceed, Mr. Todd.

REVERT BACK TO ITEM 13: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

**HON. JOHN TODD:**

Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 69-12(3), the 38th annual report of the Northwest Territories Liquor Commission for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1992.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 13, tabling of documents. Item 15, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Mr. Nerysoo.

ITEM 15: NOTICES OF MOTIONS

FOR FIRST READING OF BILLS

Bill 19: An Act To Amend The Student Financial Assistance Act

**HON. RICHARD NERYSOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I give notice that on Wednesday, March 3, 1993, I shall move that Bill 19, An Act to Amend the Student Financial Assistance Act, be read for the first time.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Nerysoo. Item 15, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Item 16, motions. Item 17, first reading of bills. Item 18, second reading of bills. Item 19, consideration in committee of the whole of bills and other matters: Tabled Document 2-12(3), The Justice House - Report of the Special Advisor on Gender Equality; Tabled Document 3-12(3), Report of the Commission for Constitutional Development;



Tabled Document 49-12(3), Long-Term Staff Housing Strategy; Bill 5, An Act to Amend the Social Assistance Act; Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Mental Health Act; Bill 17, Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1993-94; Minister's Statement 34-12(3), Long-Term Staff Housing Strategy; Committee Report 10-12(3), Report on Tabled Document 21-12(3): Payroll Tax Act; Committee Report 11-12(3), Report on the Review of the 1993-94 Main Estimates; and, appearance by members of commission for constitutional development, with Mr. Ningark in the chair.

ITEM 19: CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF BILLS AND OTHER MATTERS

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

This committee will come to order. When we concluded on Friday we were discussing the 1993-94 Main Estimates. We were on the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs, page 11-15. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We will be continuing with the budget.

Bill 17: Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1993-94

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. We will continue with the budget. We will take a 15 minute break.

---SHORT RECESS

Department Of Municipal And Community Affairs

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

This committee will come to order. We are dealing with Bill 17, Appropriation Act, No 2, 1993-94, main estimates. We are on page 11-15, municipal operations and assessment, total O and M. Mr. Alloo, do you wish to bring in your witnesses?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Yes.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

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

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Al Menard, deputy minister and Mr. Jim France, director of finance and administration.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. For the record, I am informed that page 11-14 of the main estimates, sport and recreation was deferred because one of our Members wanted a breakdown on the grants and contributions.

Page 674

Does the Minister have any information relating to page 11-14? A request was made for a breakdown on the grants and contributions.

Sport And Recreation

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Mr. Chairman, I believe the Member wanted information on two items, the agreement between our government and Sport North, and also the breakdown of Sport North contributions. I am prepared to give you both of them, the breakdown of Sport North contributions, as asked by Mrs. Marie-Jewell, and the impact of the \$250,000 reduction in Sport North.

In 1991-92, the department provided a contribution to Sport North totalling \$725,000; \$400,000 was for the 1992 Arctic winter games, \$30,000 was for the Canada games, \$106,000 in grants went to sport governing bodies and \$129,000 went to general administration. In 1992-93, the department will contribute a total of \$225,000 to Sport North, \$150,000 for the 1994 Arctic winter games and \$75,000 in grants went to sport governing bodies.

GNWT funding for Arctic winter games is \$150,000 in off-game years and \$400,000 during a year in which games are held. The Sport North Federation was able to offset the GNWT contribution reduction in 1992-93 by utilizing lottery revenues. The federation's preliminary 1993-94 budget is projecting a shortfall of \$400,000 for 1994 Arctic winter games. The department is investigating new revenue options through lotteries to offset this project shortfall.

For the outline of the agreement, the program areas Sport North will manage on behalf of the Government of the Northwest Territories include: Arctic winter games, Canada summer and winter games, winter

regional games, national coaching certification program, sport governing body and annual general meeting funds. In exchange for running these programs, Sport North is provided funds by the Government of the Northwest Territories. The agreement outlines that the programs must be managed under agreed terms of reference. Sport North also has their overall budget approved annually under terms of agreement. Finally, the agreement has a sister agreement, which gives Sport North the responsibility to run western Arctic lottery. These revenues help pay for programs. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. The information that was requested, I believe, is being disclosed. On page 11-14, sport and recreation, total O and M, \$8.057 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

Municipal Operations And Assessments

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. We will move on to the next page, 11-15, municipal operations and assessment, total O and M, \$47.213 million. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Since the Minister will not be in the House tomorrow, I presume from his statement today, I would like to ask some questions about the implications of the government's long-term staff housing policy on municipalities, while the Minister and his officials are here.

What impact is the addition of sizeable new residential customers going to have on municipalities where government tenants become responsible for paying their own water and sewer and thereby become individual ratepayers, as far as water and sewer bills are concerned? Will this have an impact on municipalities in terms of their administration requirements? Will it have impacts on municipalities in terms of their requirement to pay subsidies to residential customers that they would not have had to pay to government users? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister, what are the implications on the question by the honourable Member for Iqaluit?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Preliminary assessment by my department indicates minimal impact, both on the municipality as well as the subsidy which the government provides. What is going to happen, though, is that the municipality will bill the home owners residential rate, which is determined by our government through subsidy programs. The municipality will receive the money from the home owners. As well, the municipality will bill the government for the subsidy. We foresee no substantial administration costs to the municipality. At this point, we are forecasting there will only be about 2,000 more invoices by eastern Arctic municipalities.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The honourable Member for Iqaluit.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe there are some communities where municipalities are going to be suddenly faced with 300, 400 or 500 new residential customers for water and sewer. Will this not have an impact on the municipal administration, and will that not in turn affect the funding formula that is now in place and thereby affect the level of operational subsidy that municipality is entitled to?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Minister Allooloo.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

I will let Mr. Menard answer the question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Menard.

**MR. MENARD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The funding provided to the municipality from the government will not be impacted. There will be an administrative impact on the municipality because, instead of placing all of the bills into one bill and sending it to the government, they will have to issue individual bills, but it is a cost

that is recoverable from the program. The largest municipality which will be impacted will be Iqaluit. The other ones will not be impacted that greatly in the east because it only represents ten or 15 more bills which the municipality has to put out. They have to do the water tickets for each house anyway, so it is just a matter of taking the water ticket and sending out a bill to an individual and applying for a subsidy. Financially, it is not going to impact the municipality. The impact on the administration will be minimal.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

If I understand the deputy minister correctly, the additional cost of administration will be recovered

Page 675

from the program at the community level. Does that mean the additional cost will be passed on to all water and sewer ratepayers in the community?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Menard.

**MR. MENARD:**

It means the cost of the administration is a cost that is chargeable to the rates. Everyone will pay a bit more except the home owner, who only pays a fixed amount and the remainder is subsidized.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

I would like to ask about this subsidy, Mr. Chairman. The municipality will bill the government for the subsidy to residential ratepayers. Who pays this subsidy? What is the source of those funds for the water and sewer subsidy? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Menard.

**MR. MENARD:**

Right now, the way the government is structured, the Department of Municipal and Community Affairs pays

the subsidy to the municipality. It is a budgeted item. When the home owner has to pay his or her own water rates, the money is then transferred from DPW's budget to MACA to pay the subsidy.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question is to the Minister and his staff. We know the staff housing policy was announced in early December, after the main estimates were put to bed, and I think we can deduce that the additional subsidy costs for some 18,000 or 19,000 new residential water and sewer ratepayers has not been included in the main estimates which are before us. Do these main estimates which we are now reviewing include the additional costs of the additional water and sewer subsidy, which I understand ordinarily flow from the Department of Public Works through Municipal and Community Affairs? Are those amounts reflected in the main estimates which are before us today?

Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**MR. MENARD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Because the housing policy was going to be implemented sooner than we thought, we have reflected \$2.5 million being transferred from DPW. Because of the delay of the implementation, we will be returning the money to DPW so they can continue paying the bills until the policy is implemented.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can I deduce from that answer the estimated incremental costs for the new subsidy for these 18,000 or 19,000 new residential tenants were \$2.5 million?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister. Mr. Menard.

**MR. MENARD:**

Mr. Chairman, yes, it is \$2.5 million.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mahsi. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that is the extent of my questions in this area, although I have some questions about community lands. I want to make sure I understand this correctly before we leave it. If it had not been for this new staff housing policy, the incremental cost budget of \$2.5 million, which I understand may now not be fully realized this fiscal year because of the delay of the implementation of the policy, these incremental costs would not have been incurred. Is that correct?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me explain the \$2.589 million which was moved from DPW to my department thinking that the long-term housing strategy would be in place by April 1. It is not an incremental cost, the money was within DPW's budget and was moved to our department. Now we are going to have to give it back until such time as the policy is in place. There is no additional money set aside for the long-term housing strategy, it is just a matter of moving between two departments. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

I apologize, Mr. Chairman. I thought I understood, but that last answer has told me I do not understand. Mr. Chairman, the new residential ratepayers will get a subsidy on their water and sewer. This subsidy will be paid by Municipal and Community Affairs. This is a new cost because of these new 18,000 or 19,000 ratepayers. Why is the Minister saying that in effect it is revenue neutral, that the money is only flowing from DPW to MACA? Is it not true that our government is picking up additional costs because these ratepayers are going under a subsidy program which would not have been paid to them if they were not paying their

own water and sewer rates? Is that not a new cost, Mr. Chairman? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is a new cost to our department, but it is not a new cost to the government. DPW traditionally paid for this subsidy. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Municipal operations and assessment on page 11-15. Total O and M \$47.213 million. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am curious about the statement, "To support community self-government additional emphasis is being placed on training and development of municipal representatives and officials. Structured workshops, courses and provision of resource materials are being used to support local governments." When you are talking about this, are you referring specifically to the mayor and councils? You are not referring to band councils in this case.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Minister.

Page 676

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is primarily for hamlet councils, mayors and that sort of thing, but bands could be included if they ask for help from our department. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

For the purpose of municipal service and contracts, when this government is referring to community self-government you are looking specifically at municipal councils.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The government is looking at all communities. I think Mr. Kakwi would be able to tell you there are bands who are interested in the self-government type initiatives. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Honourable Member for Deh Cho.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, it bothers me that the government would make such a statement with regard to municipal and community operations where we are talking about municipal and community affairs, but we are not talking about any kind of government within that department. I believe it is the responsibility of the Department of Culture and Communications or Mr. Kakwi's department. What is the purpose of putting it in your statements, as it does create confusion?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We feel as a department we are here to help communities in terms of developing their community infrastructure and also developing community leaders such as mayors and councillors. If asked, we will assist a band council. If they want to know about government programs we can hold workshops. In fact, we held a workshop in Fort Simpson last week to give bands an idea of how to run a community. Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, it would be more appropriate if my deputy minister provided more details on how we help bands and other councillors in the communities.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Menard.

**MR. MENARD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the Minister was saying, this is all encompassing. Training and support is available to all communities in the Northwest Territories and not just incorporated

communities. We have worked closely with quite a few communities dealing with band councils in the development of water and sewer services, how to run a council and how to organize themselves to respond to their own needs. We do that with everybody. We recently finished a workshop with the community of Fort Franklin where they are now combining their councils together. Training and development are available to all communities in the Northwest Territories whether they are bands, hamlets, villages or towns.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you. I am not sure of the initiatives taken by the department, however, by virtue of approving this budget of \$47.213 million, you also have the mandate to support community self-government. If we approve this budget, we are also approving the initiatives for the creation of self-government. That clearly gives the mandate to the department to inform the band councils the budget has been approved and that the government is looking at this direction, this is the way it is going to go, and it has been supported by the Assembly. To have something such as this approved and giving the mandate to the government to start some initiatives in the area of community self-government, is misleading. I find it very difficult, Mr. Chairman, to deal with this when something such as this is included as part of their mandate for approval. It is clearly stated, if we approve this \$47.213 million, we are then giving them a mandate for that initiative to occur. This is what I am concerned about.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. If the wording "community self-government", or "self-government" is a problem, we are prepared to change the wording. What we are trying to say is that we tried to emphasize the training and development of municipal representatives including their officials. It is our interest to help community development in terms of councillors, mayors, their officials and bands, should they want help. If the wording is a problem we can change it. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Can we change it to say, "to support communities, additional emphasis"?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister, do you comply?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, in order for us to do this, do we need to make a motion? What is the process? I want to make sure that we are not being misled in any way.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Gargan, would you clarify which word you would like to change. Is it on page 11-15, which line, which paragraph?

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, the second paragraph, the fourth line, "to support community self-government additional", that we change it to, "to support communities, additional emphasis is being placed." Delete "self-government" altogether.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. You already clarified for the Minister and the Minister agreed he will comply. I do not think it is necessary to make a motion. It is in the record. Thank you. Page 11-15, municipal operations and assessment, total O and M, \$47.213. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Chairman, is this the area through which municipalities are given financial assistance to develop land for residential property construction?

Page 677

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The area the Member is interested in is under community planning in the capital budget.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Patterson, I believe your question is addressed on page 11-12, community planning. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Chairman, what about for a tax-based municipality?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is also under the capital budget.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

I would like to go back to community planning, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Is the committee agreed that we go back to community planning on page 11-12? Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

Community Planning

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. According to the government's new long-term staff housing policy employees who are unhappy about paying substantial

increases in their rent should be encouraged to pursue home ownership. I am interested in community planning, Mr. Chairman, because I would like to find out from the Minister, how much land is available for residential construction in our communities now that we have some 1,800 or 1,900 people who are presumably going to be looking for lots on which to build houses? I know for example in my own community of Iqaluit, Mr. Chairman, there are about 300 or 400 government employees who are now feeling pressured by the new staff housing policy and who are looking at home ownership options. As I understand it, there are but a few private residential lots available in my community. So when my constituents hear the government say "home ownership is an option, do not feel trapped, you can build your own house", they find it difficult to believe because when they go down to the local municipality, they find there is no land. Has the community planning activity in his department been working with the Department of Personnel to identify the impact of all the new requirements from public servants for home ownership? Has the department been working with the Department of Personnel? Have they oriented their residential development to take into account the numbers of public servants in a community who may now be applying for land? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The question is under the activity of community planning. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In terms of developing land for houses, that comes under capital. What we are dealing with here is O and M. Nevertheless, I will attempt to answer Mr. Patterson's question. The department has been working with the Housing Corporation and Department of Personnel to identify possible land requirements by new home owners. As the Member stated, there is quite a number of employees who are interested in obtaining their own houses. Not all of the 1300 employees who are interested in getting houses are going to require new lots. My understanding is that most of them are willing to purchase the units which they are living in.

In terms of finding out the number of lots that are available, we will have to do an inventory at this point. We do not know the number of people who will require new lots. At this moment, primarily the employees are interested in getting government-

owned houses. If you find out there are employees who want to pursue HAP units or the new program the Housing Corporation has developed, then we will work with the Housing Corporation to determine the number of lots that will be required. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Thank you for correcting me. That question falls under capital. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do believe that the O and M portion of this budget, which we are reviewing today, is to identify and plan for land development projects. I realize the money for developing that land comes out of the capital budget. I am talking about the planning function, Mr. Chairman. With respect to the Minister, I think it is an appropriate question. Mr. Chairman, the Member may know that in my constituency there are only a handful of single detached housing units available in the community for sale to government employees. For better or for worse, most government employees live in multiple row housing or apartment type units? I am sure the honourable Minister is aware that a substantial amount of the 300 or 400 public servants in Iqaluit may wish to purchase or construct houses on new land. What work has been undertaken with the municipality of Iqaluit to plan for these new land requirements resulting from this policy, given that most employees cannot buy their own units because they are part of multiple dwelling units. What plans are under way to deal with the land shortage that we can now anticipate in Iqaluit?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Under community planning, community plans and zoning, Mr. Minister.

**MR. MENARD:**

The planning itself is supported through the municipality and through the capital program as well. However, the community of Iqaluit has a long-range plan in place to address different population growths of the community. That is the only way that the government and the municipality know the community is developing. There has been no approach to the municipality yet to discuss with them the possible impact of lot needs because of the housing policy. I think it is assumed that the majority of the people will try to

purchase a government unit. I do not think the municipality is ready if it happened tomorrow, but we have to try to get some needs from somewhere to work with the municipality to ensure getting lots in place. That includes other municipalities as well, even the hamlets.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Yes, well I would like to thank the deputy minister for his candid answer. The reality is, Mr. Chairman, there are only a handful of public servants who could buy their own units in Iqaluit because there are only handful of single detached units available. I think the deputy minister's assessment that the municipality is not ready is quite accurate. The municipality has been taken by surprise by this new policy, just as most of the tenants have been taken by surprise by this new policy and no one is ready to deal with the land requirements that will result from many public servants being forced into home ownership by the threat of substantial increases in rent. Mr. Chairman, would the Minister undertake to provide this Assembly, this session, with an inventory of the existing available residential lots by community in the communities affected by this new long-term staff housing policy? I would like to have the information brought to this Legislature during this session and as soon as possible. I assume it is easily available by the excellent record keeping and land administration system that is in place.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we will have the information available as soon as possible. Like the Member stated, the information is largely in the department, we just have to check it to make sure it is correct. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Mr. Patterson, you do not even have to go through the access to information officer. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I was also pleased to hear the Minister state that his department is working with the Department of Personnel and the Housing Corporation to respond to these anticipated new residential land requirements. I would also like to ask the honourable Minister if we could also be provided with any information about plans that are in place to target land development to communities where these kinds of pressures from government employees who want to build their own houses, or acquire home ownership units, are being felt. Could the Minister undertake to provide this House, in as timely a fashion as possible, with strategies that are in place on the part of the department to meet these anticipated requirements in various communities where these pressures might be felt? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Qujannamiik, Mr. Chairman. Once we know the anticipated requirement for that, we will have the information. Thank you.

Municipal Operations And Assessment

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. We are back to page 11-15, municipal operations and assessment, total O & M, \$47.213 million. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

In regard to the \$47.213 million, what portion of that actually goes to the municipalities for administration?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The second line on the top of the first figures, the grants and contributions, the transfer payment to hamlets is \$42.724 million, including the tax-based municipalities. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Municipal operations and assessment, total O and M, \$47.213 million. Agreed?



**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

--Agreed

Lands

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Lands on page 11-16, total O and M, \$1.154 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Page 11-17, details of grants and contributions, grants on the next page, we have the total of \$1.428 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Contributions on page 11-20, \$49.341 million. Mr. Patterson.

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to Sport North, could the Minister inform the committee as to what progress has been made toward obtaining new storefront accommodations for Sport North? I am aware that Sport North has requested assistance from the Government of the Northwest Territories, through the Minister, to acquire storefront accommodation that would make them more accessible to the public than their present location. I am also aware that they have also applied to the government for assistance with finding space to possibly establish a sports hall of fame for the Northwest Territories. Could the Minister tell the committee whether there is any progress made in these directions, new more accessible office space and space for the sports hall of fame that Sport North is proposing to establish to recognize athletes in the Northwest Territories who have made historic contributions?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have made good progress on this issue. About a half an hour

Page 679

ago, Mr. Todd and I met with Sport North to deal with this issue. We are still trying to find ways to accommodate them. We are making great progress in this area. I hope at some point in the future, we will be able to complete, satisfactory to all parties, what Mr. Patterson started. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Contributions, \$49.341 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Grants and contributions, \$50.769 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. The next page, details of work performed on behalf of the third parties, total department, \$145,000. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

--Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. We are back to page 11-9, program summary, operations and maintenance, total O and M, \$65.104 million. Agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Does the committee agree this program summary of the Municipal and Community Affairs is concluded?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. I would like to thank the Minister and his witnesses for appearing before the committee. Thank you. Next on the order paper is Bill 17, Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1993-94. We have Renewable Resources. That is one of my favourite departments. Mr. Minister, would you like to make opening remarks?

Department Of Renewable Resources, Introductory Remarks

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In 1993-94, the Department of Renewable Resources (End of translation) will continue to adjust its programs and services to respond to the changing needs of territorial residents. Although the mandate of the department remains the same, it is how we do the job that is changing. The need for employment opportunities, especially in the smaller communities where sustainable use of renewable resources has potential for growth, and the demand for cleaner

air, water and land by residents are the primary influences causing the changes.

The ratification of Nunavut and Gwich'in claims establishes new resource management systems. We want these new systems to be successful. Staff is being directed to assist resource management boards and communities to sustain and use renewable resources effectively.

We hope to use some of the implementation funds to improve our contact with communities. For example, we are presently developing a new program for training potential renewable resource officers for the Nunavut area. These added "eyes and ears" should

help adapt departmental programs to be more sensitive to local needs.

Mr. Chairman, I support increased involvement of residents in resource management. I believe that the polar bear management agreements are an excellent example of co-management. The agreements are based on information provided by harvesters and scientists and are ratified by harvesters from communities who hunt a shared polar bear population.

In 1993-94, agreements for three more polar bear populations, that are only hunted by territorial residents, will be drafted. Greater effort is also being placed on developing agreements with polar bear populations shared with harvesters in Manitoba, Quebec and Greenland.

In the Liard area, we are working with communities to prepare a resource management plan for forests. If resource users are to continue to benefit from renewable resources, the management plans must accommodate their needs while maintaining the productivity of the resource. I have been very pleased with the enthusiasm, thoughtfulness and hard work the communities have shown. Together, I believe, we will take much better care of the resources we value so highly. Showing the rest of the world that we have effective resource management plans that maintain our animals and plant populations, will do more to counter anti-harvest lobbies.

We are also applying this approach to our forest fire management program. A review is currently being conducted to find ways to increase local employment and business opportunities and to ensure that we are using the most effective management techniques.

Depending on the fire season, this program can provide full-time, seasonal or casual employment for almost 1,000 residents. The majority of forest fire employees are affirmative action candidates. Additional residents are hired through contracts issued to various community corporations to provide forest fire management services.

In 1993-94, the department will stress the development of opportunities for residents to benefit from our renewable resources. A territorial fur strategy will be presented to the Legislative Assembly and the public to review and implement. A draft forest management policy will be distributed for public review. This should help establish priorities for forest uses, such as trapping, recreation and logging. The

department will continue to represent the interest of residents in gaining more

Page 680

access to commercial quotas on marine fish resources. We will continue to conduct population surveys to respond to requests from communities that wish to harvest wildlife for outfitting or other commercial purposes.

The last service area we are changing is in response to the public's demand for clean air, water and land. The challenge is complex and requires national and international cooperation because most contaminants come from areas outside of the Northwest Territories. The department is involved in many programs that aim to monitor clean up and prevent the release of contaminants.

Independently, and in association with the Department of Health and federal agencies, the department is monitoring contaminants in the water, fish, wildlife, soil and air. Depending upon the study, samples are analyzed for the presence of pesticides, heavy metals, radioactive compounds and so on. These analyses can be very expensive and require specialized equipment. Through these studies, people can be kept advised of potential health problems. We also try to determine the origin of contaminants so that we can decide how to prevent the future release of the contaminants, if possible.

We have put a lot of effort in working with various programs of the federal government to clean up the northern environment. These efforts are a direct result of public requests. Programs include advising on priorities for clean up of abandoned military sites, dumps and chemical spills. We also provide technical assistance for communities to discard hazardous chemicals safely and to clean up garbage left at old campsites.

However, where the most amount of effort should be placed is in preventing the initial release of contaminants. That is why we are pushing to complete agreements on water quality and upstream neighbours. All parties are undertaking a legal review of the master agreements and we will be coordinating a meeting of western environment Ministers to recommit to this process. Five out of seven bilateral agreements are nearing finalization and we expect to sign an Alberta/NWT water quality agreement in the near future. As well, we are completing the drafting of regulations which will require contingency plans for

any organization using contaminants. Emphasis is placed on public education to not be litterbugs and to reduce the volume of garbage by reusing and recycling.

Mr. Chairman, as Members review the proposed budget and activities of the Department of Renewable Resources for 1993-94, I welcome more suggestions for how we can improve our programs and services. We are conducting this work for the benefit of our children and their children. We must prove to them that we have done the best job possible in a short time and that we are responsible for the management of our forest, waters and wildlife. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ningark):**

Thank you. Before I move to the Standing Committee on Finance, it is my pleasure to recognize Mr. Pete Fraser, a former Member of this House.

---Applause

Do we have a presentation from the Standing Committee on Finance? Mr. Dent.

Comments By Standing Committee On Finance

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a very short response. The Standing Committee on Finance is aware that the Department of Renewable Resources has previously developed a paper on the harvesters' support program. This program should be re-examined in light of developments in the TFN land claim and encouraging people to lessen their dependence on welfare.

The committee also noted that the Department of Renewable Resources had a relatively high degree of purchases from southern contractors, particularly in the area of fire suppression.

Therefore, I move that the Departments of Renewable Resources and Economic Development work together to encourage and facilitate northern businesses to supply a maximum amount of contract services required for fire suppression.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

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

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

I do not have a quorum at this time.

Mr. Dent, would you please read your recommendation again?

Committee Motion 75-12(3): To Adopt Recommendation 21

**MR. DENT:**

Mr. Chairman, I would be happy to make the motion again. I move that this committee recommends that the Departments of Renewable Resources and Economic Development work together to encourage and facilitate northern businesses to supply a maximum amount of contract services required for fire suppression.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

The motion is in order. To the motion. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, right now, much of the fire suppression is provided by the band-owned companies. That also includes Fort Providence and the Hay River Reserve. They have a negotiated five-year contract with regard to this particular initiative. Also, I believe Fort Simpson had it at one time, but it is out for contract, as it would reflect this motion itself. When you have a large contract for fire suppression, this opens the door to not only the local people, it provides for anyone who has a northern business to tap in and receive contracts. This takes business away from the local people. That is the only intent of this motion. I disagree with it strongly. I think the opportunity should be there for members of the community to negotiate with the government to supply fire suppression. I cannot support something such as this, that gives opportunity for people even in Yellowknife to bid on contracts to provide that service in Fort Providence. I disagree with that. I am not going to support this motion.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Patterson.

Page 681

**MR. PATTERSON:**

Mr. Chairman, I would like to respond to Mr. Gargan's concern as a Member of the Standing Committee on Finance. I think he will agree with the broad thrust of the motion, which is to maximize northern opportunities under fire suppression. I am sure he agrees with that fundamental thrust of the motion. Mr. Chairman, I would like to assure the honourable Member that this is not designed to divert opportunities away from the small communities. In fact, as I understand the business incentive policy, there are already preferences in place to give local and community bidders an advantage over any other bidder from outside that particular community, where the contracting opportunity takes place. It certainly was not our intention, in formulating this motion, to see the result the Member is concerned about realized. I would like to assure the honourable Member, the motion was intended to encourage the government to continue in its present direction, whereby we have a number of small communities taking good opportunities and maximizing opportunities from these contracts. There is no intention to do anything but continue on in that direction and encourage the government to maximize the opportunities even more. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Dent.

**MR. DENT:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will add to what Mr. Patterson was saying. During committee meetings, we reviewed a number of contracts, which the department had let to southern firms in the course of the previous year and found that this department, in particular, had a high number where they were using southern contractors. The purpose here is to try and bring more business back to the Northwest Territories. The Standing Committee on Finance is on record saying that we support development of business opportunities in all communities across the north.

There is no intention, with this motion, of saying that it should be one community over another where the business opportunities would arise. We are saying that too many of the opportunities right now are being sent down south. Rather than that, we should see them repatriated to the north. We should see opportunities for northerners to get the jobs where it is possible. As Mr. Patterson had said, there is a northern and local preference policy, which this government already has, that should, in fact, ensure

that local firms will gain an opportunity to be successful in these contracts. At the moment, if they are all going down south, the jobs are not kept in the north. I think the intent of this motion is not at odds with what the honourable Member for Deh Cho is hoping to see in his constituency. I think this supports the goal that he is after. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

To the motion. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, if the Members were listening to the Minister's opening remarks, one of the initiatives of the department is with regard to the forest management policy. If the department is doing that and they are reviewing everything from helicopter operations, air, water bombers, operations, regional operations and suppression operations, then I have no problem with the department doing that.

If you are looking at specifically fire suppression, Mr. Chairman, then you are looking at local people who serve as fire fighters in that area. Most of the contracts in that area are to bands and locally owned band council corporations. It does not say anything about helicopter operations. It is specific in its intent. That is what I disagree with. I realize most of the contracts for catering and everything else including fire towers means there are still some areas in which southern people are hired. We have tower operations as well that we take care of in our own particular areas. I find it difficult to support only contract services required for fire suppression, because that is specific. Those are the services that have directly affected the local people. With regard to helicopter contracts and everything else, you are looking at a whole new thing. Those are the ones you should be addressing.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. To the motion. Mr. Ningark.

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The term "northern businesses" implies native corporations. Although we do not have any fire suppression programs in my area, I support the motion because northern businesses also applies to native corporations. This is my understanding and opinion. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. To the motion.

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

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

---Carried

Before we proceed to details, would the Minister like to bring in his witnesses? Mr. Alloofoo.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Is this committee agreed?

**SOME HON. MEMBERS:**

Agreed.

---Agreed

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Please proceed, Sergeant-at-Arms. For the record, Mr. Minister, would you please introduce your witnesses.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOFOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Joe Handley, deputy minister and Mr. Rick Fiel, director of finance and administration. Thank you.

General Comments

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Are there any general comments? Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, I have one question with regard to the motion which was just passed. In your objectives, you said you would review and update the implementation of the strategy for the approval of the forest fire management policy. What is the status of this report? I realize you did have a

proposal for tender on this. Is this still being advertised, has it been implemented or is it concluded? What is the status of this?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We put a proposal out for tender to do the forest fire management program, the contract was awarded. The contractor will complete his report by the end of May. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Are there any further general comments? Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Who is the contractor?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Mr. Chairman, Peat Marwick and Stevenson and Kellogg. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Are there any further general comments? Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, with regard to the motion which was just passed, what kind of effect would this have on the operations in Fort Rae, Fort Providence, Hay River, Fort Resolution, and Fort Smith. I would like to know if this sheds a whole new light on fire suppression and the way it has been operating for the last five years with regard to contribution agreements as opposed to contracts?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We foresee that there is not going to be any significant change. I think the motion talked about those contracts which are given out to southern companies. The finance committee would like to see more of them taken up by northern contractors. Bands and corporations have been allowed to get a fire crew, the government will continue to do this. I am looking at options for this year. I have asked my department to continue to contract with the communities, for this year, until the new policy comes into play. That may also improve our contracting system in the communities after the report has come out. The motion would support the report with regard to hiring more local and also northern contractors. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Obviously the standing committee did get some information with regard to the amount of contracts which have been leaking out of the territories. I would like to ask the Minister if he can provide us with the breakdown of the contracts in general, both in and out of the territories?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Yes, we can provide that information. However, I would like to inform you in all the areas of contracts, we are not yet at a 50 per cent level. Most

of the contracts go to southern contractors, especially the air and helicopter contracts. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Are there any general comments? Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

By virtue of this motion, are you anticipating that this year's awarding of contracts to helicopter operations will be going to northern firms? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. For this year's 1993 fire season, there is not going to be any significant changes in terms of contracting for fixed-wing and helicopter services. I am hoping the report, which will come out in May, will suggest some ways of addressing the need to contract to more northern businesses. This will take effect starting in the 1994 fire season. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Are there any general comments? Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to the definitive objectives, under conservation, education and resource development, it says in the third paragraph they participate in the planning and delivery of an environmental day camp in one of the district or regional centres. Have you determined which district or region this will happen in? What is the purpose of this?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

So far, we have not determined the community. We had an environmental day camp, last year in Yellowknife. We also had one in the eastern Arctic, in the Igloodik area. The one in Igloodik area was initiated by ITC. We ran it as an environmental day camp. Once we know where it is going to be, I will let the Members know. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, what exactly does this program involve?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is geared toward young people who are school age. The program tries to make them aware of the need to protect the environment, how it is important to protect trees, water and wildlife. We also try to sensitize people so that they will start to be part of the issues that have been so important to our people, Dene, Metis and Inuit. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. General comments? Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you. I have a few questions in the area of the definitive objectives to help clarify some of the items that are being undertaken. They are in no particular order, Mr. Chairman. For the reforestation program, recognizing we do not have forests similar to those of the provinces, we do have some commercial timber areas. For example, the Liard and the

Page 683

Fort Smith area. I see in the reforestation section, they are only doing 50 hectares of harvested land in the Cameron Hills and Jean Marie River area. In the last few years, I understand that you did some reforestation as well. Is that correct?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Member is correct. We did some reforestation in the Fort Liard and Fort Simpson area.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. General comments. Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There have been areas that have been logged for lumber and fire wood. In some areas of the territories, it takes a long time for trees to reach a mature stage. In Fort Smith, they were cutting fire wood back in the 1920s and 1930s, even in the 1940s, for supplying ships wood for their boilers. The recovery was all natural and it took quite awhile before the trees grew back again to a harvestable stage. If you let nature take its course it

will eventually reforest itself, but when you reforest these areas what type of trees are being used? Areas as I mentioned along the Slave River have grown back naturally, but they follow a cycle. They go through a deciduous stage and then eventually the conifers will take over, pine and spruce, et cetera. It takes a long time to go through that cycle. I am wondering what kind of trees they are planting in the Cameron Hills, Jean Marie River and the Liard area.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They are planting white spruce and pine.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are those species indigenous to that area? With a long-range look to that area, are white spruce and pine indigenous to those areas?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Yes, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you. One or two years is probably not long enough to do an assessment and 50 hectares seems fairly small with one hectare being close to an acre. It is something that a good tree planter can probably do in a matter of a few days. In addition to that, there are many areas that have been logged out and cut for fire wood, certainly south of the lake and in this area near Yellowknife you have to go a long way for fire wood. It is left to nature to take its course. It is going to be forever before we get trees there again. South of the lake trees grow a little bit faster. I am wondering if there was a reclamation program taking place to seed these areas to stimulate faster growth to help that

area recover? I know jack pine is the predominant tree around Salt River area.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Joe Handley will answer that question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Handley.

**MR. HANDLEY:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Largely through EDA agreement funding, we are doing some seeding of those areas that were burnt years ago or areas that have been burnt recently by forest fires. We are slowly making some headway. I realize that 50 hectares is not really very much land and there is probably more than that being logged right now. Our policy with regard to stumps is that we charge those who are cutting timber an amount that is enough to pay for the seeding of an area the same size. Some of the old areas we may never catch up on, but from now on we will be seeding as much as is cut. That policy came into effect this year.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:**

I guess that is something we have to become a little bit more involved with. On the west coast a tree can grow much faster because of the climate, but here it is somewhat slower. You plant these trees and I seriously doubt very much if I will be around by the time they reach maturity -- well, I hope I will. There has to be something done to assist nature on its way to reclaim areas. Look at parts of northern Alberta in Peace River country, where there is commercial use of timber there. It is very devastating to see some of these hills and sides of mountains that have been stripped bare of trees, with very little being done to reclaim them. I would not like to see the territories, knowing what the provinces are going through with the effects of logging, delay it too long.

I realize we do not have a large timber industry in the territories, but we have an excellent opportunity to set an example. The people who do harvest should be



made to account for the trees that are taken out. I am glad to see that you are doing that now, because if we delay it too long, we are going to end up like British Columbia, where years after the scars are still there with no effort being made to reforest. It is good to see that is happening. There is still a bit more that can be done, certainly in the area of fire wood. Fire wood is important in some areas. It takes a long time before we get a tree to mature.

As well, in forest management, an inventory is going to take place, to complete the public consultation process in the Mackenzie Valley communities. I gather that is for the living trees and their commercial value. Would that include the fire kills and inventory that would include fire wood potential in some areas, so we know where it is and be able to make some effort to harvest that during its usefulness? If we have a fire, it takes a few years before you can get in there, but there is also a limited time period in which the trees standing, good fire wood, are commercially accessible. We do not have a good inventory of where these lots are or how to get to them. In some areas, including Yellowknife, fire wood is a premium and we have to travel a long way. Perhaps there are other areas that we can access, but we do not know where they are. Would this include fire wood inventory, Mr. Chairman?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

Page 684

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

The Member's question on our initiative to do inventory work is in the Fort McPherson area. It is to identify fire wood lots as the Member was stating. We are also doing some forest fire management areas in Fort Liard. That would also identify areas of timber, trapping and fire wood. We would like to see the inventory work being done throughout the western Arctic. We will eventually get there. It is a slow process to do that. Hopefully, at some point in the near future, we will be able to have a plan for each community, where we identify possible timber and trapping areas, areas that are important to the local people, and they would like to save for their own traditional pursuits, as well as the area where they cut down trees to use for fire wood. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:**

In the area of pollution control, the last objective, is the clean-up program. Over the years, contaminants have been accumulating in work sites and areas perhaps we did not recognize at the time, but now we are becoming more aware of it, so we are starting to clean up areas and gather these contaminants together into one spot where they can be secured, the public and land can be protected.

We have the problem, of getting rid of the contaminants, once we do collect them. We gathered contaminants, stored them in a safe area and we had to negotiate with the provinces to use their incinerators to get rid of them. From time to time, the public hears how the Swan Hills incinerators are to be used by the territories. A little while later there is more news that is very disturbing, Albertans do not want our contaminants. Then again, we hear some very exciting news that they are going to use the facilities and they are cooperating. It is on and off again. What is the status of that now? Are we going to be able to use Alberta? Are they cooperating with us to the extent that we would like to see? I do not think we have that much when we look at the grand scheme of things. The province of Ontario, for example, Mr. Chairman, produces 100 times what we have here in the territories, but we can get rid of it all in a short period of time if we ever got around to it. What is the status of our cooperative efforts with the province to destroy our pollutants?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The last meeting I had with the Minister of Environment from Alberta was on February 12. I met with him on a number of issues, including water and contaminants. I need to have an agreement in place where the province would allow us to ship hazardous waste to Swan Hills. Up to this point, the province of Alberta has a policy stating that no contaminants will be transported to Swan Hills to be destroyed. That was their policy. The only contaminants they were allowing to be destroyed in Swan Hills were Alberta's own contaminants. I have been working with the Alberta government for quite awhile, starting with Mr. Klein when he was Minister of Environment. It was Mr. Klein's initiative to try to

change the policy to allow limited contaminants to be transported to Alberta from the Northwest Territories. He understood that we have very little compared to what they process in a day in Swan Hills.

I have been told there could be a possible agreement in place by September to transport our contaminants down to Alberta. Also, they had a document produced in Cabinet. They have had public hearings around communities where the road goes from the Northwest Territories down to Swan Hills. I am told there was no public outcry because our contaminants are very minimal compared to what they have. It is now up to the Cabinet of Alberta to decide whether or not they will receive our contaminants. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is reassuring to hear that the talks are ongoing and that there is a resolution in sight, September is not that far away. The main concern now is that Albertans recognize that we are a small jurisdiction and that we cannot economically have our own incinerator to get rid of any contaminants which have accumulated. They must also be made aware that whatever we have in the territories, we do not produce on our own. We import items. There are roads to bring in materials to the territories. I do not know why they are so shocked when we have to take it back out again over that same road.

It is not practical to bring the hazardous material to the western part of the territories. How do we deal with it from the Baffin with the items that go in by ship or plane? When do we deal with that and are negotiations under way with another province?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the eastern Arctic in the Baffin area, there was PCB guided by military and was shipped to a Montreal destruction facility. The Power Corporation shipped their transformers to a Montreal destruction facility. I am not sure how they shipped them, but they have mostly taken care of the local items. Again, we were briefed by military last week on the need to clean up the old DEW Line sites

and one of the things they are dealing with are the contaminated sites regarding chemicals, hazardous waste and also contaminated soil and lakes which they are planning to clean up. They are coming up with a strategy and are working with our department to deal with those issues. My department will be working with MACA and the military to come up with a strategy. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have the transformer problem almost under control now with the recognition that PCBs are hazardous and they are finding other alternatives for cooling off these larger transformers. I guess a daily occurrence is oil changes in large engines and ships on the ocean and rivers. The oil which is taken from these engines contains flakes of metal and, of course, it becomes unusable. There was a storage facility in Hay River and they were planning to refine, ship or burn this oil. Does getting rid of this substance come under your jurisdiction? I wondered how much can be stored in one area before it becomes a hazard without anything being done to either refine it or burn it. Is there a plan or program for that oil which comes in in large volumes?

Page 685

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My two departments are working on ways to deal with most of the waste oil and garbage which would be dangerous to the environment. The department is also working with the Power Corporation to deal with their oil changes and other contaminants, as well as DPW. The Member is correct that some time ago a Hay River corporation was trying to start purifying oil, but they found there is not enough of it to use. There was not enough used oil in the western Arctic to do what they were trying to do, so they stopped the project. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. General comments. Mr. Whitford.

**MR. WHITFORD:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. A concern which was brought to me some time ago deals with fire fighting at airports. It is probably a practise that we need to see continued, that firemen get practice in the event there is a disaster or an air crash so they can rescue people. It is essential and has to be done. The concern that was expressed was that they use oil, gas or something to set fire to these mock airplane crashes, usually every second Sunday you see a tremendously huge black cloud of smoke by the airport. For those of us who are not aware of what is going on, it is kind of scary. What the heck are they burning that makes such black smoke? I am sure Yellowknife is not the only place, I have seen these model airplanes in other communities. Hay River and Fort Smith each have one. What do they burn and is this an environmental hazard? I do not want to see this practise stopped, Mr. Minister, but I am only expressing that when you see a big black cloud of smoke going in the air you know that within that smoke there is a lot of unburned something, otherwise you would not see any smoke. Is this something that falls under your department and have you checked it out to see what is in there? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. These burns are done by municipalities. It is to train the fire fighters and they are using fuel oil to burn. The black smoke you see is mostly carbon. There might be other chemicals, but I am not sure. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. General comments. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to stay on the same subject of trees. I have lived in the west for quite a long time now and have grown to love these trees. Mr. Chairman, I know when we take things over from the federal government, we end up having the bad jobs. We do not own the trees, yet we are responsible for putting out the fires which threaten to destroy them. There are a few other things which we have taken over also that puts a heavy obligation on us, but we do not get the nice parts which are connected with that particular activity. Since we have

taken over fire suppression from the federal government, what other jobs in connection with trees are the federal government still responsible for? Since they own the trees, what does the federal government do to protect this assets which belongs to the Crown?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

I will have my deputy minister answer the question.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Handley.

**MR. HANDLEY:**

Mr. Chairman, the federal government still retains responsibility for environmental issues on Crown land. In a general sense, they are still responsible for air and water and those kinds of issues on Crown land. Basically our responsibility is primarily on Commissioner's land. They look after the broad environmental issues which may affect the trees. The second area would be that they are responsible for land use permits on the same land. If someone is building a road to a logging area, then this would be a federal responsibility. Our responsibility would be to issue the logging permit or to determine where a wood lot would be in this case.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I believe I asked this question a few years ago and I have never really received a straightforward answer to it, or at least not one which I had a clear idea about. I understand that in places where they do clear cut logging in British Columbia and in the maritime provinces, because they destroy the whole lot, they then go about reforesting the area. From several of the presentations which we have had in this Assembly, we have been told that people do not do clear cut logging. What they do is select areas, because perhaps in our part of the world not that many trees reach the dimensions where you can justify cutting a large number of trees down in one area. I am not an expert in the area, however, I have read a lot and I

have spoken with quite a few people. What I cannot understand is why do we reforest those areas, when I am told the best plan is to simply let nature take its course and that you would be far better off weeding out or taking out those trees which obviously are not going to come to very much and let the stronger ones grow. I am always struck when I am travelling on the highway that we have huge expanses of land where fire has, in fact, essentially clear cut the whole area. You have literally thickets of trees, they grow so close together. Everyone of them is struggling for space, air and nourishment. Why is it that we have gone the route of reforestation, in other words, putting in new plants and seeding things, where we have these huge expansions when all you really have to do is cut some of those trees out to let the other ones grow. I have never seen a program where we have done this; Where we simply take advantage of the work which has already been done by nature and then cut out the trees which are not doing that well so that the stronger ones can grow and have a better wood harvest for us sometime in the future. It is a long question but it has always puzzled me.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In the area of selective logging, I am told that we do not do reforestation. In areas where we allow block cutting, for example, we might select ten feet by 50 feet and allow a company to cut logs in all of that area. We force them to reforest that particular area. In selective logging, we let nature take its course. If we think there is going to be erosion in any

Page 686

case, where the salt might go into the water, we force the companies to do reforestation. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you. Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understood we had a policy which did not allow for clear cut logging, where you take everything off of the land in the area which has been assigned for that purpose. Is the Minister saying then that we do allow clear cut logging in the Northwest Territories?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Lewis. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. No, we do not allow clear cut logging. However, we do allow block cutting. You cut in a particular area and then you go onto the next one. The areas have to be in small sizes in order for the planted growth to come back. We leave sections untouched in between cut blocks. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Are there any general comments? Mr. Lewis.

**MR. LEWIS:**

I will not pursue any further. It sounds like there is clear cut logging in specified areas. However, they may be smaller clear cut areas than you would have in other jurisdictions, where they take literally hundreds of acres out. It seems to me that we have come up with our own system whereby it is clear cut, but it is clear cut in a very small chunk. My last question is one which I have already spoken to the Minister about, I was told this summer there was wood being brought into the city which had been banned in other provinces. This was wood which had been cut in British Columbia and the timber had been killed by a certain kind of bug. It was being sold at gas stations across the country. It still had eggs and bugs in it. I suppose by now any wood in Yellowknife from that source would not be much of a danger because everything would be dead. Other provinces had banned these bundles of logs which were being sold in gas stations because of the potential threat to the forestry in those provinces. I have already spoken to the Minister about this. I know several people in the community know about this and have raised it. I thought perhaps he would have an answer on this issue.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Pudluk):**

Thank you, Mr. Lewis. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have asked the department to look into this. They have taken samples from the place where you can get these cut logs and firewood. The scientists are reviewing it to

see what kind of bug might be living in the logs and they have not given a response as of yet. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ningark, general comments.

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Under the definitive objectives, one of the objectives is to conduct major studies in some areas. One of the studies was on the polar bear. Mr. Chairman, almost every year in the early fall, polar bears come into the community of Pelly Bay causing damage to property, mainly the meat caches, and endangering the lives of the residents of Pelly Bay. In fact, about ten years ago a man was mauled by a polar bear during Christmas right in front of his house. The hunters' and trappers' association of Pelly Bay has been requesting the Department of Renewable Resources to move the opening of the polar bear hunting season from December 1 to November 1, one month ahead. When a nuisance bear comes to town and the people in Pelly Bay have no choice but to eliminate or kill the polar bear, people are very concerned about this especially when wildlife management confiscates the skin. I think this causes unnecessary anxiety on the part of the hunter not knowing if they are going to be charged or not. One of the ways we can eliminate the problem, Mr. Chairman, is to move the hunting season from December 1 to November 1. It may not be solved altogether, but that is one of the options. I wonder if the Minister or his staff would tell the House when this request, which has been outstanding for many years, will be addressed by the Department of Renewable Resources. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The opening of polar bear hunting season is basically up to the community and the department through an agreement in areas where there is no polar bear management agreement, which includes Pelly Bay. Some time ago we were encouraging communities not to harvest polar bears before December to allow females to be in a den to have cubs in January. We allowed, in some cases, communities to have one or two extra tags in order for them to do that. I am not aware of the background in

Pelly Bay, but if we do that for the community, then we will require the community to give up the number of tags which we gave them when we told them not to hunt before December 1. It is our recent experience that the bears which are hunted before December are, this year, worthless. Nobody wants to buy them. That would be up to the community if they really want to pursue harvesting of polar bears in November, they could do that with an agreement with our department. They would have to face a couple of problems, they would have to reduce their quota or they may have to face not selling the polar bear hides to markets. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ningark.

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Would the Minister clarify why the community has to give up two or more tags if they want to open the hunting season earlier? Why do we have that consequence? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not aware of the background in Pelly Bay, but in coming up with the date of December 1 for the opening of polar bear season, if we had given you more tags, then we would take that number of polar bears which we initially gave you tags for, if you were going to hunt before December 1. In some cases where the community has made changes to the opening date, we allow them to have two additional tags. If we did that for

Page 687

the community of Pelly Bay, then we would ask them to give up two more. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ningark.

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Why do we just not legalize the date, instead of December 1 to November 1? I cannot see why, when you legalize the opening

of the season hunt, that you have to give up the quotas or licences. Would the Minister explain that to me? I do not think I am getting the message from the Minister.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our objective was to encourage communities not to harvest polar bears prior to December 1, so it would give the polar bears a chance to be able to den, especially the females to have their cubs and come out in the spring. If the community agreed not to hunt polar bears, we gave them a few more tags. If the community of Pelly Bay wants to harvest prior to December 1, then we would ask them to give up what we initially gave them. I am not too sure of the situation in Pelly Bay. I will check into it. If we did not do that, then we will not ask the community to give up anything. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Ningark, do you have another question?

**MR. NINGARK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Could the Minister get me a copy of the information on the seasonal polar bear hunt within the NWT in the eastern Arctic? I wonder if he could outline which communities and which area hunts in November, when the other communities' hunt begins during the month of December. When will the Minister come to my area and conduct a major study in the Kitikmeot region on polar bear management? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Ningark. Mr. Minister, an invitation to you.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, I will be able to provide the times when polar bear hunting is open in each community to the House. With respect to coming up with a polar bear management plan for the Kitikmeot east area, I have no date at this point but I believe it is one of the areas we would like to do next. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any general comments? Mr. Arvaluk.

**MR. ARVALUK:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In Coral Harbour on the north side of Southampton Island, we have a quota of 35,000 Arctic char, and a quota of ten narwhals. We have no access from the east side of the island. There is old ice which comes through Fury and Hecla Strait and settles there. The water is so shallow on the right side, there is no shelter for approximately 200 miles of the coastline. There is also great potential for tourism in this area. I would be very happy to show the Minister this area if he would like to visit. There is an airstrip there. Will the Minister work with the Departments of Transportation and Economic Development and Tourism to develop an access road from Coral Harbour to the Duke of York Bay in order for the community to enjoy access to traditional hunting and fishing areas to utilize the quotas and potential tourism? Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Arvaluk. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would be happy to.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Are there any general comments? Mr. Arngna'naaq.

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a couple of questions with regard to the hunters' and trappers' associations in the communities. How are they funded and what are their mandates as associations?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Arngna'naaq. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. They are funded using a formula. Their basic funding is \$5,000. If they are over 400 members they are given a certain amount, and if they are over that, they are given another amount. Their mandate is to help the department use

traditional knowledge in the area of renewable resource harvesting. Also, they are to be the contact point for myself and headquarters in dealing with renewable resources in their particular area. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any general comments? Mr. Arngna'naaq.

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

I would like to find out if there is any developmental work being done with the associations. Is there any kind of work being done with the associations to try to encourage them to be more like boards? At this point, I am not sure exactly how they operate.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Basically our officers help them to develop in this area, especially the secretary managers. In the Keewatin, we have the Keewatin wildlife federation which our department funds to hold annual meetings. They also have a regional person who works for them. It is those regional organizations, such as the Baffin hunters' and trappers' regional organizations, and the Keewatin wildlife federation, which indemnifies the requirement for each community. If they focus on one community which needs to be assisted in any way, we look at the proposals to see if we have enough money to deal with their requests. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Whitford. Mr. Arngna'naaq.

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With the discussions of transferring responsibility from various departments, does the Department of Renewable Resources have a plan, at some future date, to transfer programs or other initiatives to the community level, such as the HTA?

Page 688

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Arngna'naaq. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Yes, we are open to that. As our Premier has said in her opening statements regarding the community development programs, anything which the government does in each community is open for devolution to the community governments.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Arngna'naaq.

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is good to know. I have a question with regard to the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation in Winnipeg? At this point, I understand any fish being sold commercially has to be inspected through FFMC, is this still the case?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Arngna'naaq. Mr. Minister, is this still the case?

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The freshwater fisheries deal with freshwater. They still have to be inspected if they are from freshwater. We have a different arrangement at the present time for the Arctic char with the Pangnirtung fishery in the delivery of Arctic char to southern markets. Inspections are done through Fisheries and Oceans. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Are there any general comments? Mr. Arngna'naaq.

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are there any plans for a similar type of arrangement for freshwater fish?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Not to my knowledge at the present time, even though there is a great deal of discussions between the freshwater fishermen and

the DFO. The freshwater fishermen are always trying to find a better way to deliver their fish and also for a better price. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans is conducting a study to see how they can better manage the freshwater fisheries in Canada. I do not know if there are going to be significant changes at this point. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Mr. Arngna'naaq.

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will change the topic. One of the objectives under wildlife management is to produce a final report on the assessment of wildlife habitat in the proposed Kiggavik mine area. When will this report be completed?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I do not know the date. I would have to get back to the Member with a precise date for completion of the report, but I know it has to be completed in 1993-94. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Arngna'naaq.

**MR. ARNGNA'NAAQ:**

I do not remember if I noticed it last year when it was budget time, but is this something that has been ongoing since the proposal of the Kiggavik mine?

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The department is using remote sensing units to determine the wildlife in that particular area. We have been doing it for a number of years and, hopefully, this year we will be able to get a report which will tell us what is in that particular area. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Are you satisfied with the answer? Okay. General comments.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Line by line.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Line by line. Mr. Koe.

**MR. KOE:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of my favourite subjects is the utilization of renewable resources. I have raised questions and made statements over the year about the ability of this department to work and coordinate projects with other government departments in trying to establish projects or programs where we can use our natural resources and our people resources. I have mentioned before that in the area of renewable resources, fishing, the use of furs, the meat products that our people use and the bird population that we utilize, there is a tremendous resource out there that we are slowly starting to develop. In these areas, many of our people do not need much education. They need some specialized skills, but generally they know how to go on the land, they know how to work out of canoes and they know how to survive. In terms of technology required to prepare, address and preserve the wildlife for sale, not only to outside people but to our own restaurants and other northern residents, we do not seem to be making much headway. We have small projects here and there. Some are successful and go for a short time and then they close down and we do not follow-up on why or what happened. Many times we say it is marketing problems and that is it. There has been a tremendous amount of work done in this area and I feel that all the departments, Economic Development, your department and the Department of Health in terms of the inspection required for many of these products, including the department of Education and Employment Programs, can develop new programs and projects to make use of these resources. Over the years, through EDA and other programs, there have been many studies done and it leads me to wonder where all these studies are which were completed on the use of goose and duck feathers, the use of caribou hides, the use of just about every product, fish oil, seal oils and seal meats. There have been hundreds of studies done that must be stacked somewhere and we should start digging them out and spreading the knowledge around to give people something to do.



The other area I would like to talk about is the livelihood of trapping. There has been some very good statements made over the past week by my colleague, Jim Antoine, about the way of life that a trapper leads. That way of life seems to be slowly dying because it seems that the policies being developed by this government -- I know it is not only this government, it is international -- but we are implementing

Page 689

policies and program changes and the main one is the use of the quick kill trap. From the trappers I have talked to, the quick kill traps being used do not work. We have had professional trappers who have been in the bush all their lives coming back and giving up trapping in December, when it is prime trapping time, saying these traps are not working. Here we are, a government, and in November we ran out of these traps. When people were going out on the trap line, they could not get enough of these traps because there were not enough available. In that case, many trappers did not even bother to go out on their trap line. Yet, we have no way of compensating, no way of looking after these people other than sending them to the Social Services office and tell them to go on social assistance. I know many, what we call professional trappers, usually never go on social assistance in their lives as they are very independent, strong-willed individuals. It is a shame because of the policies or programs that we are putting in place, that these people are suffering and subsequently their families are suffering. It is negatively affecting the way of life of many of these people. I feel we should do something and do it quickly to try to instill some confidence in the trapping industry to help these trappers who used to go and live in the bush most of the winter and make a good living at it. From what they and other people have told me, they cannot and are not making a good living. I think it is up to us and the department to come up with some new initiative or something to assist them. I will leave it at that, Mr. Chairman.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Koe. Mr. Minister. You have 30 seconds.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I agree with much of what Mr. Koe is saying. There have been a number of factors which come into play when you are trapping.

When you are living off the land there are periods with low levels of animals, and also the environment comes into play quite a bit if you are relying on natural resources. This year, throughout the trapping area in the western Arctic, there has been a low population of animals and poor weather conditions. I was talking with trappers in Fort Simpson the day before yesterday and they are experiencing a number of difficult problems. Travelling this year is very difficult because of thin ice.

In our department we have a small amount of money for the demonstration projects.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. Members of the committee, may I have order here. There is noise taking place in this corner and some of the Members are being distracted and are unable to concentrate on the Minister's response. Could the Minister continue? Mr. Gargan.

**MR. GARGAN:**

Mr. Chairman, my point of order is to recognize the clock.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you. As I say a person has two watches and never knows what time it is. The clock says 5:55:57 and I am allowing the Minister to continue. There was no point of order there. Continue briefly, Mr. Minister.

**HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have a small amount of money in my department to allow a certain amount of demonstration projects. Hopefully, with this fur strategy, we will be able to come up with something to assist trappers, for large projects and continuing projects funding is the responsibility of Economic Development. We are here as managers. We will be there to set quotas and that sort of thing. We are here to help Economic Development, but we are not major players in this particular area. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Minister, you will have an opportunity to continue tomorrow. Recognizing the clock, I shall rise and report progress.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Item 20, report of committee of the whole. Mr. Chairman.

ITEM 20: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, your committee has been considering Bill 17 and Committee Report 11-12(3) and would like to report progress with one motion being adopted. Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Seconded by Mr. Koe. The motion is in order.

**AN HON. MEMBER:**

Question.

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Question has been called. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

Item 21, third reading of bills. Item 22, orders of the day, Mr. Clerk.

ITEM 22: ORDERS OF THE DAY

**CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):**

Mr. Speaker, there will be a meeting of the full caucus at 9:00 am, tomorrow morning and of the Ordinary Members' Caucus at 10:30 am. Orders of the day for Tuesday, March 2, 1993.

1. Prayer
2. Ministers' Statements
3. Members' Statements
4. Returns to Oral Questions
5. Oral Questions
6. Written Questions
7. Returns to Written Questions
8. Replies to Opening Address

9. Replies to Budget Address
10. Petitions
11. Reports of Standing and Special Committees

Page 690

12. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
13. Tabling of Documents
14. Notices of Motion
15. Notices of Motion for First Reading of Bills
16. Motions
17. First Reading of Bills
18. Second Reading of Bills
  - Bill 8, Payroll Tax Act
19. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters
  - Tabled Document 2-12(3), The Justice House - Report of the Special Advisor on Gender Equality
  - Tabled Document 3-12(3), Report of the Commission for Constitutional Development
  - Tabled Document 49-12(3), Long-Term Staff Housing Strategy
  - Bill 5, An Act to Amend the Social Assistance Act
  - Bill 12, An Act to Amend the Mental Health Act
  - Bill 17, Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1993-94
  - Minister's Statement 34-12(3), Long-Term Staff Housing Strategy
  - Committee Report 10-12(3), Report on Tabled Document 21-12(3): Payroll Tax Act
  - Committee Report 11-12(3), Report on the Review of the 1993-94 Main Estimates
  - Appearance by Members of Commission for Constitutional Development

20. Report of Committee of the Whole

21. Third Reading of Bills

22. Orders of the Day

**MR. SPEAKER:**

Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned until 1:30 pm, Tuesday, March 2, 1993.

--ADJOURNMENT