



**NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

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The Honourable Michael A. Ballantyne, Speaker

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ITEM 1: PRAYER

---Prayer

SPEAKER (Hon. Michael Ballantyne):

Good morning. Orders of the day. Item 2, Ministers' statements. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Lewis.

ITEM 3: MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Member's Statement On Construction Of Highways In NWT

MR. LEWIS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On March 9, 1993, I questioned Mr. Todd about the objectives of our transportation strategy. Several colleagues were upset over a radio broadcast of March 10 which indicated I was against the building of the Mackenzie Valley highway. Anyone who reads the transcripts for that day will know I did not say the Mackenzie Valley highway should not be built. In fact, I believe the Mackenzie Valley highway should be built and my views have not changed since 1972.

The point I want to make is this, in the 1970s there was a proposal to build a 48 inch natural gas pipeline down the Mackenzie Valley at a cost of \$5 billion. Because there was a continental energy crisis, the price of oil had shot up dramatically. To get support for a pipeline, federal funds were allocated for the building of highway and we all remember the work of Hire North from those days. When the energy crisis was over and a small six inch oil pipeline was built from Norman Wells to Zama Lake the highway was suddenly forgotten. The pursuit of a gas pipeline was put on hold.

The building of new roads and highways in the Northwest Territories is a federal responsibility, Mr. Speaker. They will be built if they are in the federal

government's interest, which usually means roads to resources to serve national, continental or international interests. As a government, Mr. Speaker, our prime objective should be roads which reduces the cost of moving goods, services and people, to encourage inter-settlement economic activity and to encourage tourism. In other words, to reduce the cost of living for our people and to improve the quality of life.

Our strategy should be always to keep in mind that federal objectives in new road construction may not be the same as our own. The point I tried to make to Mr. Todd is that we must always keep our objectives in front of us. We do not control new road construction. If the next new road is from Izok Lake to the Coronation Gulf, we should not invest our limited resources in it if it does not serve the interests of the people we represent.

If you read Hansard you will find, Mr. Todd did change his mind and state that objectives are important. I regret the confusion my remarks may have, in fact, caused. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr. Lewis. Item 3, Members' statements. Mr. Gargan.

Member's Statement On Legislation In The NWT

MR. GARGAN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. G K Chesterton was an English novelist who started his writing career about 100 years ago. One of the best lines he ever wrote was on the topic of law. He said, "We do not get good laws to restrain bad people, we get good people to restrain bad law." Mr. Speaker, old G K could have filled a whole book with these kinds of sayings if he were to visit the Northwest Territories. He could find in a jurisdiction of this size that we have over 4,100 pages of consolidated statutes and more arriving every session. That is one page of law for every three households, Mr. Speaker.

We have laws regarding CGAs, CMAs and CNAs. We have laws regarding dentists, dependents, domestic relations, documents and dogs. Mr. Speaker, those are only the statutes. We are buried up to our necks as well in regulations. I photocopied all the wildlife regulations from the NWT Gazette and it stacks four centimetres thick of paper.

Mr. Speaker, I want to be serious for a moment. We are moving ahead in an era that will see more political changes than we have ever seen before in the Northwest Territories. We will be seeing new forms of government emerge in Nunavut and Denendeh, and we will see a growing recognition of the inherent right of aboriginal people to govern themselves. We must make sure our hands are not tied by the type of legislation which has accumulated over the years. It takes a long time to amend all of this legislation, Mr. Speaker. We should be taking every precaution to make sure that when we pass laws in this House we are carefully considering the future changes that lie around the corner. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

---Applause

MR. SPEAKER:

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

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ITEM 4: RETURNS TO ORAL QUESTIONS

Return To Question 413-12(3): Policy On Shipping Freight By NTCL North Of Norman Wells

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a return to an oral question asked by Mr. Koe on March 4, 1993 with respect to the policy on shipping freight by NTCL north of Norman Wells.

It has been a policy of the Government of the Northwest Territories since 1979 that all major GNWT shipments to the western Arctic and Keewatin regions are to be carried by the Northern Transportation Company Ltd. Government support for NTCL over these many years has been thought to be necessary to maintain a viable common carrier service in the western and central Arctic for the benefit of both the public and private sectors.

After 14 years, it is time to reconsider the government's transportation policy to see if it still serves its original purpose and if exclusive public support for a designated common carrier is still necessary. The transportation system is the life blood of our northern economy. The government cannot change such a central economic policy hastily, without giving all due consideration to its possible ramifications.

As my colleague the Minister for Government Services and Public Works stated earlier, we expect to deal with the transportation policy before the fall session. In the meantime, I would welcome any advice or suggestions the Members or their constituents might have to give me. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

ITEM 5: ORAL QUESTIONS

Question 470-12(3): Tampering Of Signs At New Legislative Assembly Building

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This being a Friday, I have an important question for the Minister of Public Works. In his capacity as the Minister responsible for overseeing the new Legislative Assembly building, Mr. Speaker, is the Minister aware the signs in front of the new Legislative Assembly building site have been tampered with?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 470-12(3): Tampering Of Signs At New Legislative Assembly Building

HON. DON MORIN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. No.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 470-12(3): Tampering Of Signs At New Legislative Assembly Building

MR. PATTERSON:

Mr. Speaker, I can tell the Minister and this House that although the Legislative Assembly building society and the Members' Services Board compositions have changed since the signs were erected in front of the construction site, the signs have been changed in one respect only. That is, to obliterate utterly any reference to the Honourable Nellie Cournoyea, who was Minister of Public Works when the project was started. A crew was dispatched to the site, her name was painted over and wiped out,

and the Honourable Don Morin's name has been carefully painted in.

---Laughter

Mr. Speaker, my question to the Minister of Public Works is, and I think this would be a good employment project for the Northwest Territories, will the Minister assure this House that he will make a priority to ensure that his deputy minister is instructed to ensure that every sign on every construction site in every community in the Northwest Territories is immediately inspected to ensure that any reference to the Minister's predecessor is obliterated and wiped out?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 470-12(3): Tampering Of Signs At New Legislative Assembly Building

HON. DON MORIN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 470-12(3): Tampering Of Signs At New Legislative Assembly Building

MR. PATTERSON:

Mr. Speaker, what happened to the humble guy from Fort Resolution who came to the big city to be a Minister without any pretence of putting on airs?

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Morin.

Further Return To Question 470-12(3): Tampering Of Signs At New Legislative Assembly Building

HON. DON MORIN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am still humbly following Members' instructions. Thank you.

---Laughter

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Whitford.

Question 471-12(3): Further Information Re Dumping Waste Into Arctic Ocean

MR. WHITFORD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Renewable Resources. This morning on the news it appears that the talks between the MP from Nunatsiaq and Mary Collins, I think she is the person responsible for the environment, have not gone very far. It is very disturbing and disappointing to hear that nothing had been established, other than the Minister in Ottawa will look into it further. As we pointed out in the last few days, my colleagues and I have indicated that the time for this project is fast approaching. I wondered if the Minister has heard anything that would further this concern?

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MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Alloo.oo.

Return To Question 471-12(3): Further Information Re Dumping Waste Into Arctic Ocean

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I requested a call to Mary Collins, since the Minister of the Environment, Jean Charest, was not available this morning. My staff has talked to Mr. Charest's office and we are also keeping in contact with ITC, who is thinking of putting in a notice of objection under the Environmental Protection Act. I asked my office to contact Mary Collins this morning and I am just waiting for a phone call back from them. Yesterday, when the Minister was asked about this project, she was not aware of the whole project. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Question 472-12(3): Lack Of Coordination Between Renewable Resources And Federal Counterparts

MR. ARVALUK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask the Minister a similar question. Is the Minister of Renewable Resources convinced that there is no coordination between the Minister of Environment Canada and his staff from the department regarding the dumping in the Arctic Ocean? Is he aware there is very little coordination between the Minister and the staff of the Environment on the dumping proposal?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Alloo.oo.

Return To Question 472-12(3): Lack Of Coordination Between Renewable Resources And Federal Counterparts

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. According to the federal government, the way this project was set up was acceptable to them. They thought if they dumped scrap metal in the ocean, there would be minimal impact. That was the advice given to the federal Minister and he did not pursue it. I think the communication is good, but the officials of the department were advising their Minister that this was no big deal. To us in the Northwest Territories any ocean dumping raises a concern, and my department has been rigorously pursuing the Department of Environment as well as the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. We are also trying to get a feeling from Indian and Northern Affairs on this ocean dumping to see if we can find another alternative to look after the garbage which is proposed to be dumped into the ocean. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mr. Arvaluk.

Supplementary To Question 472-12(3): Lack Of Coordination Between Renewable Resources And Federal Counterparts

MR. ARVALUK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the Minister is aware that Ms. Mary Collins was a consultant to Petro Canada during the liquified natural gas project. Knowing she has fairly good knowledge about the activities and the sensitivity of the environment in the Arctic, will the Minister be talking to her directly and have her directly involved with the question of dumping, rather than relying solely on the Department of Environment?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Alloo.oo.

Further Return To Question 472-12(3): Lack Of Coordination Between Renewable Resources And Federal Counterparts

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:

Mr. Speaker, as I said, I have requested to talk to the Minister, Mary Collins. I have not heard back about when I will be able to talk to Minister Collins, but I will talk to her about this.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mr. Arvaluk.

Supplementary To Question 472-12(3): Lack Of Coordination Between Renewable Resources And Federal Counterparts

MR. ARVALUK:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to get assurance from the Minister, will he insist on talking to her directly, rather than having his department and her department talk to each other?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Alloo.oo.

Further Return To Question 472-12(3): Lack Of Coordination Between Renewable Resources And Federal Counterparts

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:

Mr. Speaker, that is what I have requested. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 5, oral questions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Question 473-12(3): Criteria For Education Leave

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Personnel. Mr. Speaker, last week I asked the Minister about education leave. In reviewing unedited Hansard, he indicates "in 1992, 13 employees of the Government of the Northwest Territories were granted education leave." I would

like to ask the Minister what criteria was used in making decisions on whether or not to grant education leave? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Kakfwi.

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

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

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Question 474-12(3): Study On Ecosystem Of Arctic Ocean

MR. PUDLUK:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Further to Mr. Arvaluk's question to the Minister of Renewable Resources, I have a question also. There has been some activity going on near Resolute Bay from Fisheries and Oceans. Have they ever been questioned as to what is happening to the ecosystem and to the animal inhabitants of that area? Have they ever studied the impact on the micro-organisms in the ocean and the impact of dumping garbage in the ocean? Have they ever been questioned about this? Thank you.

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MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Allooloo.

Return To Question 474-12(3): Study On Ecosystem Of Arctic Ocean

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The people who are studying make reports annually. However, they have not completed their final report as of today, so we do not know what is going on with the ecosystem. They have not really noticed any changes which is stated in their reports. I will look into the matter, however. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mr. Pudluk.

Supplementary To Question 474-12(3): Study On Ecosystem Of Arctic Ocean

MR. PUDLUK:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I would like the Minister to look into this serious matter. At the time when PanArctic had a meeting about dumping garbage in the ocean, the director of Fisheries and Oceans could not attend the meeting. However, he did not want anyone dumping garbage into this particular ocean because some micro-organisms and marine life, such as walruses, would be affected by this dumping. Can the Minister table a report in the House to show us what kind of impact the dumping will have in the Arctic ocean? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Allooloo.

Further Return To Question 474-12(3): Study On Ecosystem Of Arctic Ocean

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will look into this matter. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mr. Pudluk.

Supplementary To Question 474-12(3): Study On Ecosystem Of Arctic Ocean

MR. PUDLUK:

(Translation) Supplementary to my question. Can you also look into another matter? They had dumped metal waste into the ocean last year and, I guess after no opposition, they have been wanting to dump some more waste into the Arctic Ocean. Has there been any studies on how this has impacted the small animals? I would like to ask the Minister if there have been any studies completed on the impacts from previous dumping into the ocean? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Allooloo.

Further Return To Question 474-12(3): Study On Ecosystem Of Arctic Ocean

HON. TITUS ALLOOLOO:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes, I will look into this study and report to the House what kind of effects the contaminants have had on the sea mammals. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 5, oral questions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Question 475-12(3): Policy For Lottery Licences

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question for the Minister of Safety and Public Services. Mr. Speaker, earlier I had brought a concern to the Minister on an application which was submitted by an organization in our community which was called "The Warriors." However, their application was for some type of lottery licence which was denied. Apparently, it was denied because of the fact that their membership was not open to the general public. However, I would like to ask the Minister if this policy applies to applications, why are lottery licences given to bands where the membership is not open to the general public, the Metis Association where the membership is not open to the general public, the Elks where the membership is not open to the general public and the Legion which is not open to the general public? What are the determining factors in this policy?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

That is a good question. I will have to take that question as notice, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

Question 476-12(3): Translation Of Court Documents

MR. PUDLAT:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question directed to the Minister of Justice. I believe in the aboriginal languages being implemented in the Northwest Territories, and I also ask questions in my native language. I wonder if court documents, particularly summons for court appearances have always been translated into Inuktitut. Mr. Speaker,

the unilingual people who have to attend court do not understand what kind of summons they have been issued. Mr. Speaker, using the Official Languages Act, can the Minister in the future get the documents translated into Inuktitut or into any other aboriginal language which is being used in the Northwest Territories? Can we hope to have these translated into Inuktitut in the future? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 476-12(3): Translation Of Court Documents

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, with the establishment of a justice system by the Canadian and territorial governments, the aboriginal people in particular have faced the imposition of a system which is largely not of their making, a system they do not readily identify with but nevertheless is backed by the full force of the law. Historically, it has not been seen as important whether aboriginal people could read or write or could understand a summons. However, with the development of a sense amongst communities and aboriginal people that the system needs to be changed in some major ways, I think the Member will find this government makes every possible effort to make sure all aboriginal people understand the proceedings of the present system of courts and legal communiques. I think, increasingly, the federal government will also be moving in that line. I think we will find that as we encourage more and more aboriginal communities and other communities to take a larger responsibility for the

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way in which they relate and demand that relations be set up with the present system, that increasingly the system will be changed positively to meet many of the demands and shortcomings which the people of the north are starting to articulate. The Member's suggestion is a good one and we will see what we can do to ensure that happens, at least in our system, and to address the question to the federal justice people to ensure we can make every effort to meet that demand as well. We will be informing all Members about what can be done in this area. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mr. Pudlat.

MR. PUDLAT:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is not a supplementary question. I will be asking further questions later. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Lewis.

Question 477-12(3): Financial Assistance For Izok Lake Deposit

MR. LEWIS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My question is to the Minister of Transportation. I am going to ask Mr. Todd whether our government has been asked, in any formal sense, to make a financial commitment to the infrastructure for the development of the Izok Lake deposit.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Return To Question 477-12(3): Financial Assistance For Izok Lake Deposit

HON. JOHN TODD:

No, Mr. Speaker, there is no financial commitment made at this time. As the honourable Member is aware, we are working with all the stakeholder groups in trying to develop a strategy as to how we would approach the federal government. Clearly, there is a need. At least initially, it appears there is a need for significant public infrastructure to make this mine a success, but at this time there is no financial commitment.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mr. Lewis.

Supplementary To Question 477-12(3): Financial Assistance For Izok Lake Deposit

MR. LEWIS:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know the Minister will be attending a meeting in Coppermine on May 7 and 8, I believe. I would like to ask the Minister, what is the purpose of this meeting? What does he hope will be achieved at this particular meeting?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 477-12(3): Financial Assistance For Izok Lake Deposit

HON. JOHN TODD:

I have said many times since I have come over on this side, it is the politics of inclusion. This project is national in scale, even international I suspect. I want to ensure northern interests are protected, if that is the right term, that we look after the interests of all northerners on this issue. The intent of the May 8 and 9 meeting in Coppermine is to bring groups together such as the Inuit of the Kitikmeot, the Dogrib, the NWT Chamber of Mines, the NWT Chamber of Commerce, the MLAs and the Minnova people. I spoke to Dr. Watkins, who is the president, yesterday and he has agreed to attend. It is just an effort to develop a strategy of how we would approach the federal government and how we are going to approach this project in relationship to the public infrastructure which is required. It is just an initial meeting to determine if there is sufficient interests amongst the groups to provide me and the department with input as to how we would approach this whole project at this time.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mr. Lewis.

Supplementary To Question 477-12(3): Financial Assistance For Izok Lake Deposit

MR. LEWIS:

What benefits does the Minister expect will accrue to this government and to the people of the Northwest Territories with the completion of this project? It is not a hypothetical question, Mr. Speaker, because we have been told it is going to go ahead.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd.

Further Return To Question 477-12(3): Financial Assistance For Izok Lake Deposit

HON. JOHN TODD:

What benefits are going to be accrued? I suspect it would depend upon how well we negotiate and how

well we become part of the process. That is the reason we are trying to get together with Minnova and the stakeholder groups. We need to develop a dialogue between the industry, between the government and between the stakeholder groups involved. The benefits, I suspect, could be numerous. There could be employment opportunities, equity opportunities for the aboriginal groups who will have land claims money and construction opportunities. There would be the opportunity to put significant public infrastructure in, whether it was a port in Coppermine or a highway. I could go on all day regarding the opportunities, Mr. Speaker. If I can quantify it in dollars at least initially the industry is looking at putting in \$450 million and the infrastructure, again the numbers are not hard yet, would be somewhere between \$400 to \$600 million for the road and the port. We have to assume, if I may use that term, that there are going to be significant economic benefits derived, not only to the north but to Canada. It is certainly my intention to link into the process to ensure there is a dialogue ongoing and our interests are protected through discussion.

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Arvaluk.

Question 478-12(3): Installation Of Telephones For Seals In Arctic Ocean

MR. ARVALUK:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. PanArctic takes a stand that they felt dumping in the ocean of scrap metal is not a big deal because they said they have never received any complaints. I will ask my question to the Minister of Government Services. Will Government Services instruct NorthwesTel to install phone lines in the ocean so that seals and other marine mammals will have equal access to be able to make complaints to PanArctic? Since human beings do not live there, I do not think they will receive any complaints

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MR. SPEAKER:

The wonders of modern technology. Mr. Morin.

Return To Question 478-12(3): Installation Of Telephones For Seals In Arctic Ocean

HON. DON MORIN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will seek advice from the Minister of Renewable Resources to see if those animals can use telephone services. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 5, oral questions. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Question 479-12(3): Explanation Of Treatment Of Inmate In Fort Smith

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Speaker, I have a question for the Minister of Justice. Mr. Speaker, in framing these questions I want to advise you that I have been mindful of your ruling on February 23, which indicated we should take concern when asking questions about individuals. However, I seem to be getting some concerns expressed by my constituents on how this issue is addressed.

Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, February 18, my honourable colleague for Deh Cho asked a series of questions about services which are being provided to a particular inmate within the territorial correctional system. This particular inmate was previously one of the senior officials with the territorial government. During the sentence hearing of this inmate, the lawyers indicated there was a specific need for counselling which could be best through a continued contact in Toronto with a therapist. This is certainly on public record. It was also stated during the sentence hearing that special needs were so great that the sentence ought to take them into consideration.

Recognizing that the courts were told it was so necessary for this previous civil servant who had defrauded the government in excess of a quarter of a million dollars to be incarcerated in a location where she could be seen by her therapist. I would like to ask the Minister to explain why she has been retained in the Fort Smith correctional centre rather than being transferred to Ontario? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 479-12(3): Explanation Of Treatment Of Inmate In Fort Smith

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, the short answer to it is that the courts when passing sentence give certain instructions. In this case the court, or the judge as far as I know has not issued specific instructions with regard to some of the suggestions made by the lawyers during the proceedings. As I have indicated earlier, once the person is sentenced they become the responsibility, and in this case, of Corrections Canada. By legislation and in keeping with their philosophy, both Corrections Canada and the territorial government's correctional system worked together to decide where the best location for this particular inmate would be. With the advice and full support of Corrections Canada it was decided to use the exchange agreement to have the particular inmate placed in the facility in Fort Smith.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

With all due respect, Mr. Speaker, I hear comments from women and particularly from native women that if this was a native woman she would be in a penitentiary down south. Mr. Speaker, the Minister stated that the responsibility is of Corrections Canada and at this time he is trying to work together with the NWT corrections and the justice system. Recognizing this is a federal inmate who plead guilty to one of the largest misappropriation of funds in the history of the territorial public service, and recognizing that her sentence specifically took into account the need to send out a message of general deterrence to others who might be tempted to commit this sort of breach, I would like to ask the Minister if his officials have considered the kind of image our territorial corrections system is creating by the fact that this past civil servant is now attending Arctic College and travelling around the community unsupervised? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mrs. Marie-Jewell, I think you are asking the opinion of the Minister. Perhaps you would like to rephrase that question. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question 479-12(3): Explanation Of Treatment Of Inmate In Fort Smith

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If my question is not meant to intend to ask for an opinion of the Minister, it is to indicate the policies which are being developed to be

implemented in the general justice system do not give deterrence to avoid this type of crime to reoccur. What have the Minister's officials done to assure the public that the justice system will address people who have committed crimes in the territories, to ensure that justice is done when crimes are being sentenced? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 479-12(3): Explanation Of Treatment Of Inmate In Fort Smith

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, the court system dealt with this particular individual. There was due process followed and a sentence was passed. Through our correctional system, we worked with the federal correctional people to work out what we thought was an acceptable arrangement for this specific individual. Whether we think the sentence was punishing enough, whether we thought it reflects enough hurt and whatever else people may feel should be inflicted on the individuals who perpetuate crimes is really not an issue here. The location of the institution may be more of an issue if the Member's constituents take particular exception to this institution sitting in the midst of their tranquil community. If they are upset about what they see as high risk inmates running around their community, going to the educational institution which is also located there, then that is a different issue. That can be addressed, possibly, in another way.

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 5, oral questions. Supplementary, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question 479-12(3): Explanation Of Treatment Of Inmate In Fort Smith

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Speaker, the issue is not the fact that my constituents are concerned of a high risk inmate in the

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community. I do not appreciate the motive which is being imputed by the Minister. Mr. Speaker, the issue at hand is the fact of what is the Justice department doing to deter future individuals who may be in the

civil service from committing such crimes? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 479-12(3): Explanation Of Treatment Of Inmate In Fort Smith

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, the federal government is still responsible for prosecutions. It is the federal government which lays charges. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 5, oral questions. Your final supplementary, Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Supplementary To Question 479-12(3): Explanation Of Treatment Of Inmate In Fort Smith

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My final supplementary will be a repeat of my last question because the Minister has not answered. I would like to ask the Minister, what is his department, the Department of Justice, the division of corrections, doing to avoid crimes such as this from being committed in the future? What type of deterrents do you have in your justice system from avoiding this reoccurring? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 479-12(3): Explanation Of Treatment Of Inmate In Fort Smith

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, the territorial justice system is not the agency which is set up with the sole mandate of deterring people from committing crimes. Our mandate more specifically focuses on dealing with people who commit crimes and are dealt with by the courts. There is some work we are trying to do in some of the areas, but much of the work remains in Education, Social Services, Health and in many of the other programs of the government. The question is so broad and general that I simply cannot answer it.

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Patterson.

Question 480-12(3): Indexing Of Rental Rates And Utility Charges

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I am quite pleased with the debate and constructive nature of the debate on the changes committed to by the government yesterday in the long-term staff housing strategy. I was pleased to hear the Minister of Personnel say yesterday that he thought the majority of committee recommendations made could be addressed and met by the government. I would like to ask about one area of the motion in which the Minister of Personnel did not comment, and that is the need to index the rental rates and utility charges to reflect differences in climate and costs in the various communities. Could I ask the Minister how he sees that issue being addressed by the government from here on? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Minister of Personnel, Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 480-12(3): Indexing Of Rental Rates And Utility Charges

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, I indicated to the Member yesterday in a private conversation that we should be careful not to take over the collective negotiations on behalf of the unions and employees here in the Legislature because the issue of salaries, settlement allowances, vacation travel assistance, other benefits as well as many of the other issues that affect the benefits and salaries of employees are negotiated by the unions at the appropriate time with the government. Such things like the settlement allowance, for instance, are used to offset the different costs of living in different areas of the north. There will be some evening out of benefits. The Member knows it will be up to the unions to decide when negotiations commence, and where the limited dollars, which the government may have to offer in the course of negotiations, will be best used. If they choose to put it all in vacation travel assistance or in settlement allowances then there will not be much money for salary levels. Again, the pay equity issue is a huge outstanding issue that can affect not only the union negotiations but the entire fiscal position of this government. We have responded as a government. The response I gave in

the course of the debate on the motion, I think, was clear. That is the extent to which the government is prepared to make changes. It has been done in consultation with the MLAs, I think that is a fair way to proceed and that is the way we are going to leave it at this time. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 480-12(3): Indexing Of Rental Rates And Utility Charges

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to assure the honourable Minister that I would not want to see collective bargaining negotiations take place in this Assembly either. There is a place for those issues. Just to be sure I understand the Minister, Mr. Speaker, do I understand he is saying the issue of indexing the rent formula and utilities charge could be a matter which is properly dealt with in the bargaining process, provided the union agrees?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 480-12(3): Indexing of Rental Rates And Utility Charges

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, the fact is there are many reasons why previous governments have chosen not to act on this particular strategy of getting the government out of staff housing and out of trying to set up a more equitable rent system across the territories. One of them, and I think all Members are aware, is that this undertaking is a huge, complex issue which involves trying to even out a situation which has taken 25 years to create. We have many factors and situations to consider. So, what would be fair to one sector may seem to be totally unfair to another. There is absolutely no way, in my mind, as I said yesterday, we could completely satisfy everyone at the initial phase of this initiative. I think it is wrong for the media and for the Members to create the illusion that we should wait until absolutely everything has been considered

and addressed before launching anything because that is precisely the reason that many governments before us have failed to stand up and address this issue. We have reached an achievement which we all agree on which is, the initiative is timely, it has to be done now and it has been sufficiently worked out so it is now acceptable to launch. We have done it in consultation with Members. It is my view that if we start making changes as early as January when Members became more initially indignant about many of the things we were suggesting, then I think we should have arrived today with the strategy totally in tatters. Strategically, there was merit and respect for due process that said wait until the session before changes were made. I think all Members are aware that had to be part of the plan. We would make changes as necessary because we know there is no way we could negotiate this launching of an initiative with the 100 per cent precision that some Members seem to indicate was possible.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mr. Patterson.

Supplementary To Question 480-12(3): Indexing Of Rental Rates And Utility Charges

MR. PATTERSON:

That was a wonderful speech, Mr. Speaker. The Minister is very eloquent. I would like to try to get back to the question I asked which I respectfully -- I remember the question still...

---Laughter

...but I do not think it was answered, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, for those who may have forgotten my question after the long and eloquent speech, my question was, following the first response from the Minister, does he see this issue of adjusting the rental formula and the utility charges to reflect the disparities in the climate and the costs in communities as different as Grise Fiord and Fort Liard? Does he see the place to deal with that issue since he stated yesterday he thought all the issues could be dealt with by the government, through the collective bargaining process? Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 480-12(3): Indexing Of Rental Rates And Utility Charges

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, yesterday in jest I suggested I felt like Little Red Riding Hood because the Member started off by saying it should be absolutely clear that he agrees with the objectives of the strategy. He spent the following 20 minutes making it very clear that he would be totally happy when the strategy was discarded. I said, "Are you sure you are the grannie you say you are?"

---Laughter

What big teeth you have, Dennis.

---Laughter

Mr. Speaker, the government and the Legislature have gone through a long process to get this initiative deal through in a manner which has some dignity and some integrity. I would say that the day after the debate here and the day after the motion is passed and the government has made a response, that it does not exactly fit the mood for the Member to continue to ask for additional concessions. There should be some period of time to get this initiative under way, to give certainty to the employees, to the public and to the staff so they can get to work with a strategy and initiative that they know has been dealt with in this House. If in the course of the next few months there are additional issues which need to be dealt with in the view of the Members, then I think it is appropriate that it be brought up, but hardly the day after to be still badgering the government because the public will start to question if we have made up our minds or not. Are there still other subsequent motions which are going to come up requesting more changes? The Member asked specific questions which were not brought up earlier in the discussions. The motion has been passed and the government has made a response. I think it is fairly appropriate to suggest we should respect that, at least for a couple of days.

MR. SPEAKER:

I would like to note something here. I think our rules are not based on individual Minister's philosophical preferences. The rules are fairly straightforward. If a Minister has a philosophical approach the Minister wants to put forward to the House, there is a Minister's statement format in which to give that. Question period is for Ministers to answer questions put by Members. Whether or not Ministers consider

those questions appropriate does not take away the right for Members to ask those questions.

Item 5, oral questions. Mr. Gargan.

Question 481-12(3): Criteria For Day Release For Inmates

MR. GARGAN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to direct my question to the Minister of Justice. It is again with regard to a certain individual in the women's correctional centre. The Minister wrote to me on March 3 with regard to the situation of how an inmate can stay in the north, even when they receive a sentence which is longer than three years. He refers to the Corrections and Conditional Release Act. My question to the Minister is, under the present Corrections Act of the territories and the federal Corrections and Conditional Release Act, what are the requirements for an inmate to be released on day parole by those two acts? Do they differ? I understand if you serve two thirds of your term you can be released for good behaviour. On day parole, I believe it is after 50 per cent of your term you can be released on day parole to do work or training. I would like to know the criteria with regard to people going out on training or people who are on work release, unsupervised.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Kakfwi.

Return To Question 481-12(3): Criteria For Day Release For Inmates

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, the Members have been asking questions regarding a particular individual. I sense, from the questions, that the Members may feel this particular individual has received a fairly lenient sentence. There seems to be a strong implication. I will provide copies of the sentence, as it was handed down; the responsibilities and the decision on the placement of the individual; the rules regarding the time which people are supposed to spend in

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cells, if they have to spend it in cells; what other privileges inmates may have regarding times for meals, education, physical exercise and other activities which are normally granted to people,

regardless of their status in society; written rules regarding the conditions certain inmates can go about the community to perform certain jobs, whether they are required to be supervised and what type of supervision this would be; and, a written copy of what type of inmates are allowed out on their own and what type of activities, and specifically if inmates are allowed to attend an educational facility, who pays for the courses, who takes care of the transportation, whether they would be supervised in the classroom, and what other services available on the education campuses would be accessible to them to see if this would help the Members with the questions they are having. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Supplementary, Mr. Gargan.

Supplementary To Question 481-12(3): Criteria For Day Release Of Inmates

MR. GARGAN:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a question regarding the laws which govern inmates in the territories and the laws which govern inmates in a penitentiary. In the event an agreement is reached with regard to having the inmate serve their term, which is longer than two years in the territories, what laws govern them, the Federal Penitentiary Act or the Corrections Act of the Northwest Territories?

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Kakfwi.

Further Return To Question 481-12(3): Criteria For Day Release Of Inmates

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, the institution where the inmate is serving her sentence is a territorial government institution. The legislation which governs the operations within the institution is territorial legislation. The employees who run and manage the institution are territorial government employees. When the exchange agreement was made it was clear that if the federal government wished to have an exchange with us, it meant very clearly they would turn over inmates to us, under our responsibility, under our legislation, under our employees and under our laws. Thank you.

MR. SPEAKER:

Time for question period has expired. Item 6, written questions. Item 7, returns to written questions. Item 8, replies to opening address. Item 9, petitions. Item 10, reports of standing and special committees. Item 11, reports of committee on the review of bills. Item 12, tabling of documents. Mr. Lewis.

ITEM 12: TABLING OF DOCUMENTS

MR. LEWIS:

Mr. Speaker, I wish to table Tabled Document 92-12(3), which was provided for ordinary Members from the Department of Health officials which elaborates the problem we have with the AIDS virus in the Northwest Territories.

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 12, tabling of documents. Mr. Pollard.

HON. JOHN POLLARD:

Mr. Speaker, it is Friday, I wish to table Tabled Document 93-12(3), a cartoon. There is a remarkable likeness of Alan Vaughan in this cartoon, Mr. Speaker. The subject is sawmills and the caption is "Our costs on the sawmill project have levelled off and we expect soon we will see them start to decrease." Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 12, tabling of documents. Item 13, notices of motion. Item 14, notices of motions for first reading of bills. Item 15, motions. Item 16, first reading of bills. Item 17, second reading of bills. Mr. Todd.

ITEM 17: SECOND READING OF BILLS

Bill 22: An Act To Amend The Mining Safety Act

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Mackenzie Delta, that Bill 22, An Act to Amend the Mining Safety Act, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill would amend the Mining Safety Act to add a regulation making power respective fees payable under the act.

MR. SPEAKER:

Mr. Todd, the motion is in order. To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Question.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

---Carried

Bill 22, An Act to Amend the Mining Safety Act, has had second reading and accordingly the bill stands referred to a committee. Item 17, second reading of bills. Mr. Kakfwi.

Bill 21: An Act To Amend The Reciprocal Enforcement Of Judgments Act

HON. STEPHEN KAKFWI:

Mr. Speaker, I move, seconded by the honourable Member for Nunakput, that Bill 21, An Act to Amend the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Act, be read for the second time. Mr. Speaker, this bill would repeal the power of the Commissioner to make rules respecting practice and procedure under the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Act.

MR. SPEAKER:

The motion is in order. To the principle of the bill.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Question.

MR. SPEAKER:

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

---Carried

Bill 21, An Act to Amend the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Act, has had second reading and accordingly the bill stands referred to a committee.

Item 18, 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 General Equality; Tabled Document 3-12(3), Report of the Commission for Constitutional Development; Bill 5, An Act to Amend the Social Assistance

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Act; Bill 17, Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1993-94; 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; Committee Report 12-12(3), Report No. 4, Talking and Working Together; and, appearance by members of Commission for Constitutional Development, with Mr. Whitford in the chair.

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Good morning. The committee will now come to order. What is the wish of the committee? Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT:

Mr. Chairman, I would like to recommend that we continue with Bill 17, conclude Mr. Todd's departments and then move into Personnel.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

We have a recommendation that we continue with Bill 17 and then move on to Personnel. Does the committee agree?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

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

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

We have agreement. Prior to continuation, I know it is your desire we take a 15 minute break and then reconvene.

---SHORT RECESS

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

The committee will now come to order. The Minister responsible for WCB, do you care to make your opening remarks?

Workers' Compensation Board, Introductory Remarks

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to present to the Assembly the Workers' Compensation Board's budget for 1993.

Numerous concerns were raised by Members of the Assembly during the last session, as well as by the Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards and Commissions when it reported in June, 1992.

I have taken steps to address the majority of these concerns, and I would like to outline them for you.

-A legislative review has been completed and tabled with this Assembly. The chief commissioner, Garnet Garven, reported to me on February 15 after meeting with representatives of workers, employers and others interested in improving and updating the Workers' Compensation Act. I have also undertaken to present this Assembly with a legislative action paper during this sitting.

-I have appointed a chairman and three directors. These appointments reflect my view that the board must be sensitive and open to the needs of all its clients.

-A new general manager was appointed on December 29, 1992. His mandate is to work with the board of directors to make the Workers' Compensation Board more efficient and accessible. Performance and service standards will be established for all divisions, and priority will be given to achieving optimum client service levels. Great emphasis is being put on affirmative action, and a comprehensive plan will be in place by year end.

-The groundwork has been laid for a memorandum of understanding between the Department of Renewable Resources and the board to provide workers' compensation coverage for hunters, trappers and fishermen.

-Given the concern about the increased assessment rates for 1993, the board recently announced significant improvements to its instalment payment policy. Employers can now pay four equal instalments over the course of a year.

-Finally, Mr. Chairman, the board is considering the introduction of a merit surcharge program. If such a program is introduced, employers with a superior accident record would receive a rebate on their assessment. Conversely, employers with poor accident records would be forced to pay a premium assessment.

The board's operating and maintenance budget for 1993-94 reflects zero growth. Expenditures for compensation, medical aid, pensions and rehabilitation are dictated by policy and legislation; therefore, a growth of 3.9 per cent is projected.

Mr. Chairman, I am anxious to work with this Assembly to introduce the changes in legislation and policy that will restore our Workers' Compensation Board to a leadership position. Thank you.

---Applause

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Minister Todd. Mr. Antoine, you will be presenting the report of the Standing Committee on Finance?

Comments By Standing Committee On Finance

MR. ANTOINE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have our report of the Standing Committee on Finance on the Workers' Compensation Board.

The committee recognizes that the Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) must fairly compensate injured workers. However, we must recognize that with higher rates, for example, construction and mining, companies may experience great difficulty in paying these amounts.

The committee is also concerned about the board's office accommodations which appear excessive, as do the payments to board members. We remind the Minister that the WCB is paying a significant premium of over \$1 million for the privilege

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and right to buy the office property which it currently occupies. The committee urges the WCB to review all areas and recognize that there is not a bottomless well of money out there.

It is time for the WCB to come down to earth and face current realities.

Mr. Chairman, there are a number of motions which I have here. I will begin with the first motion.

Committee Motion 82-12(3): To Adopt Recommendation 26

I move, the committee recommends that the Workers' Compensation Board review the financial implications and necessity of using the American Medical Association's guidelines and report to the Assembly accordingly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Antoine. The motion is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

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

---Carried

Mr. Antoine.

Committee Motion 83-12(3): To Adopt Recommendation 27

MR. ANTOINE:

Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee recommends that the Workers' Compensation Board take steps to reduce the cost of board operations.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Antoine. The motion is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

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

---Carried

Mr. Antoine.

Committee Motion 84-12(3): To Adopt Recommendation 28

MR. ANTOINE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that the committee recommends that the Workers' Compensation Board

work closely with the Department of Health to review the costs, benefits and feasibility of repatriating the rehabilitation program to the Northwest Territories.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Antoine. The motion is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

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

---Carried

Mr. Antoine.

Committee Motion 85-12(3): To Adopt Recommendation 29

MR. ANTOINE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have one final motion. I move the committee recommends that the Workers' Compensation Board improve their affirmative action results.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Antoine. The motion is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

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

---Carried

Thank you. Mr. Antoine.

MR. ANTOINE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This concludes the recommendations and motions of the Standing Committee on Finance. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Antoine. There is no money to be voted upon. It is an information item only, on page 7-16. The floor is open for general comments on this item. If the Minister would like to invite witnesses to the witness table, the Sergeant-at-Arms will assist.

Thank you. Mr. Minister, for the record would you introduce your witnesses, please?

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With me is Dorothy Chattell who is in charge of finance, Mr. Gerry Muir who is the new general manager appointed in late December, and our new chairman, Mr. Jeff Gilmour who was recently the assistant deputy minister of Justice.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Workers' Compensation Board. The item is found on page 7-16. General comments. Mr. Patterson.

General Comments

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to publicly congratulate the Minister on the appointment of Mr. Gilmour to the chair of the Workers' Compensation Board. I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Gilmour in other capacities and I am confident he has the right qualities to take on this difficult assignment. I am also very pleased with what I have heard of the success of the new general manager in improving morale in the board.

I also want to say I have had a chance to review the legislative review done by Mr. Garven and I think, given the time constraints, it is a very thoughtful and helpful piece of work.

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I want to say generally, having been involved with the board myself as the previous Minister, I am aware better than most that it has been under intense scrutiny in the past year or so. Although sometimes the questions and criticisms have not been entirely fair to the employees, I think we should look on this scrutiny as healthy. I do not think the Workers' Compensation Board has ever undergone such scrutiny since it was established as it has in the last year. Everyone should view this as positive, helpful and indicating fundamentally a well intentioned

concern that the board work well, that rates be kept as low as possible and services to workers be maximized. I think the board and the new Minister are off to a very good start. I would like to think I have had a small role in helping prepare for some of the changes which have been put in place. However, everything I have heard indicates things are moving forward and that the motions which were presented by this committee will be dealt with expeditiously. There are some tough choices ahead and some difficult issues which have been thrust on the board. I am confident under the leadership of Mr. Todd and Mr. Gilmour, with the new blood on the board, that these difficult issues will be tackled. I want to wish them well in their work ahead. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Are there any general comments? Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT:

Mr. Chairman, I do not have general comments but I have a question which relates to revenues. Since we do not have any detail to go through I am assuming this is an appropriate time to bring this up. In the information which was presented to the Standing Committee on Finance during our review of the budget, we were advised there is an expectation that there will be \$200,000 in revenues from Renewable Resources to pay for compensation for hunters and trappers. I wanted to ask the Minister if he is confident, or if the board is confident that this is a relatively accurate figure according to normal budgetary principles?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

This is a long outstanding issue which our colleague, Mr. Gargan, has raised on a number of occasions. I want to assure everyone that the memorandum of agreement is close to completion. Historically, \$200,000 has been the kind of dollars required. The financial responsibility for this falls upon the Department of Renewable Resources. If there is a requirement for more, then we will go and ask them for it. I would say the agreement is a week to ten days away from being finalized. Based on some historical experience, they feel \$200,000 is sufficient.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Todd. Mr. Dent.

MR. DENT:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The reason I brought it up, Mr. Chairman, was that Renewable Resources had indicated in their budget there may not be any requirement for any funds to go to the Workers' Compensation Board. I am wondering how, in the grand scheme of things, we have two agencies of the same government, one saying that it is going to get \$200,000 approximately as a budgetary figure from a department, and the department saying they do not think they will have to give any but if necessary, they will come back with a supp. It does not seem there is a cohesive budgetary process. This is what I was getting at. This question perhaps should be directed to the Minister of Finance in terms of how budgets are prepared. However, I wanted to get a feel from the Minister responsible for the Workers' Compensation Board if they felt all reasonable efforts had been made to forecast these revenues. I guess the question still begs of Renewable Resources, why they could not make the effort to forecast the expenditure accurately. No question, just a comment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Dent. Mr. Todd, it was a comment, however, you may wish to respond.

HON. JOHN TODD:

I suspect because there was no agreement being reached in terms of the memorandum, I cannot speak for the Department of Renewable Resources, perhaps it did not include it because of this. I would think what will happen is they will come in with a supplementary appropriation. I want to assure everyone there is an understanding between the WCB and the Department of Renewable Resources that when the memorandum of agreement is signed it will meet the concerns and the issues which were raised frequently by Mr. Gargan. It will meet the needs and requirements of legitimate hunters and trappers.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Todd. Are there any general comments? Mr. Pudluk.

MR. PUDLUK:

(Translation) Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When the Legislative Assembly started, I raised a concern with the Minister of WCB. In January, 1992, the president of mining at Nanisivik and Polaris had some concerns regarding the WCB. At that time, he said he was going to be meeting with WCB members. Can you inform me if his concerns were addressed, or has he spoken to the WCB regarding these concerns? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Pudluk. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Pudluk had raised this issue in the House earlier regarding me not meeting with the mining people. That was an unfortunate communication problem. I want to assure the honourable Member that the mining industry and particularly the Nanisivik and Polaris group are currently in contact with the chairman. I believe meetings are scheduled for next month. The principle concern of the mining industry, and it is understandable, was the rates and the costs associated with it. We are trying to address that issue by looking at some of the options which have been laid out in the Workers' Compensation Board legislative review document. I want to assure the honourable Member that the board is communicating with the mining industry, and I will be meeting with the chamber of mines soon myself. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. With regard to people who come up from the south to work, do they make a contribution to compensation and do we cover their injuries if they have an accident?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Minister

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HON. JOHN TODD:

If a worker is hurt within our jurisdiction, then we are responsible for the compensation. For example, if a

transient worker goes into Lupin Mine and is hurt there, we are responsible for his benefits.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN:

They do not pay taxes up here. How does the government collect premiums from them?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

The way the Workers' Compensation Board collects its revenues is through the employers, not the employees. So, the employer would be assessed based on his payroll. If you have client "A" from Edmonton who is working in Lupin and earning his wages there, the WCB would assess Lupin Mine based upon the payroll of that particular individual.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN:

Because the company is southern based, they do their adjustments down south. Does this government double check to make sure they are not being...

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Mr. Gargan, your microphone was off.

MR. GARGAN:

I will start over. Does this government double check to ensure we are not looking at two compensations based on the fact they are getting their checks down south and receiving compensation from the north.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

All employers in the Northwest Territories have to register with the WCB. The WCB is very vigilant in the area of making sure that takes place. Everyone registers with the WCB. Then, your assessment is

based upon your wages, the total wages of that particular company. We are vigilant in that field and we feel comfortable we get most of them. It is very well policed to make sure we capture all the new businesses, whether they be transient or permanent.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN:

You used the example of Lupin Mine and when their employees come here they are registered. By virtue of the employer being stationed down south, do they also register down south?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

If they have business interests in southern Canada, I would assume they would register down south and they would be covered by the Alberta board. Where they are within the NWT jurisdiction whether it is a mine or a candy store, they have to register with the WCB and annually they have to give us their payroll records so we can determine the assessment.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Any other general comments? Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN:

Have you come up with the definition of "principally engaged" yet?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

That was addressed in the report and it will be in the memorandum of agreement. Why not have that together? I know this is an important issue in Mr. Gargan's eyes and I understand why. I am prepared to give him a copy of that definition. It is being worked out.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN:

For the record, with the cost of fur being quite low, I would hope if they are going to be looking at providing compensation that it is at a reasonable cost. Because an individual made \$2,000 in fur sales last year, I do not want to see him being compensated for that. I want to ensure this is fair. In the eastern Arctic, it is the seal industry, and the situation is similar. I just wanted to say that for the record. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Minister, would you like to respond?

HON. JOHN TODD:

When we were developing this policy, I did spend some time with Mr. Gargan on this issue. I am confident what will be arranged will be to the hunters' and trappers' satisfaction. It will reflect a fair level of compensation, should a trapper be hurt. Once the memorandum of understanding is signed, I am prepared to provide the honourable Member with a copy.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN:

One final comment with regard to compensation of injured workers. There is a person in my constituency who received compensation based on his earnings at the time of the accident, not based on what he could have earned that year had he worked all year. What happened was the individual was injured about three months into the job, so he received compensation on the amount he earned up until that time. So, he is caught in a very awkward situation where he receives about \$300 every two weeks from WCB, and in one year he receives about \$7,000.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

There are debates all the time in WCB about how we evaluate wage loss versus a variety of other things, the Garven report alludes to it and it is going to be part of the review. This House will have an ample

opportunity when we come in with a legislative action paper.

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CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. General comments. Does the committee agree that WCB is concluded? Mr. Patterson. I thought you had moved to the other side, Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON:

No, I am starting to enjoy it over here. Mr. Chairman, one issue I would like to ask the Minister about, and that is in the spirit of improving the revenues to the board, could I get an indication of how things are going on leasing the "jogging track," that very spacious area in the upper regions of the board offices which has been painfully empty for some time. I know the Minister, with his previous experience in real estate, may have been more successful than other Ministers in finding someone to take up that space. Could I get a report on what chances we have of improving the board's revenues by subletting some of that space? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Let me say, for the record, that I concur with the Standing Committee on Finance chairman who said the board and the offices are somewhat ostentatious, there is no question of that. There is no question that it is somewhat of an embarrassment that we are sitting with a fourth floor we are paying for and there is no one in it. I am not going to deny that for one minute.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. General comments. If there are no further general comments, the item will be concluded.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Mr. Minister, I would like to thank you on behalf of the committee, and your witnesses for appearing before us.

Does the committee agree to move to the Department of Safety and Public Services. The item to be found on section seven, page seven. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Safety And Public Services

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Mr. Minister, are you prepared to give the committee your opening remarks for the Department of Safety and Public Services?

HON. JOHN TODD:

I am, Mr. Chairman. Shall I proceed?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Yes, Mr. Minister, you may proceed.

Introductory Remarks

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to present the proposed 1993-94 O and M budget for the Department of Safety and Public Services. For 1993-94, the department is requesting \$6.412 million compared to last year's budget of \$6.354 million, for a net increase of \$58,000. This increase of \$58,000 is the result of an additional \$91,000 to meet the UNW negotiated salary increase and a \$33,000 reduction to support the GNWT program reduction initiative. The department is projecting revenues of \$17.864 million, an increase of \$734,000.

I am pleased to inform you that the department is making progress in its affirmative action program. At present, 18 per cent of our staff are native northerners and an additional 18 per cent are indigenous non-native. The department is taking steps to further improve its record in this area. For example, it has obtained training positions from the Department of Education for a labour standards inspectors and a safety officer in an effort to place aboriginal northerners in inspector positions.

The department has developed objectives for 1993-94 to enable the department to meet its goals, and to assist the government to meet its overall objective of fiscal restraint. To that end, the directorate intends to implement a reorganization of the division within the department to maximize operational efficiencies, reduce costs and develop a long range plan to ensure optimum use of resources.

Over the past three years the department has developed a strong and effective management for results system which allows us to evaluate and monitor the department's expenditures in relationship to its goals and objectives.

Mr. Chairman, the investigation of accidents and fatalities to determine causes and make recommendations to reduce such accidents will continue to be a high priority in the department, along with the monitoring of work places to ensure that work practices are safe. The department will continue to ensure that the safety and health of the public is protected by the effective enforcement and administration of acts and regulations pertaining to fire, safety, gas, boiler and pressure vessels safety and electrical and elevator safety.

Mr. Chairman, I will be pleased to answer any questions the Members of the committee may have.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister, for your opening remarks. Is the Standing Committee on Finance prepared to present its report? Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

Comments By Standing Committee On Finance

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The committee commends the Department of Safety and Public Services for the relatively comprehensive report on performance measures. It reflects on the ability of the

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department to answer the committee's questions. The government, specifically the Minister of Finance, should look at this as a model for performance measure reports for all departments.

Committee Motion 86-12(3): To Adopt Recommendation 22

With that, Mr. Chairman, I move that this committee recommends that the Department of Safety and Public Services ensure that they have sufficient inspectors, possibly by maintaining a roster of inspectors who are prepared to work on contract, so as to avoid construction delays in the communities. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

The motion is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Question has been called. There does not appear to be a quorum. Would the Clerk ring the bell?

Thank you. There is a quorum. There is a motion on the floor which is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

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

---Carried

We will move into general comments. Mrs. Marie-Jewell, are you finished your report?

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

We will move into general comments. Mr. Minister, do you wish to bring in witnesses? Sergeant-at-Arms, will you assist?

Mr. Minister, would you be so kind as to introduce your witnesses to the committee, please.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have with me Mr. Henry Dragon, director of finance and administration, and Mr. John Quirke who is the deputy minister.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Welcome to the committee, gentlemen. General comments, Department of Safety and Public Services. Line by line.

Directorate

Page 07-8. Directorate. Total O and M, \$737,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

Consumer And Corporate Affairs

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

We have agreement. Consumer and corporate affairs. Total O and M, \$747,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

Safety

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Safety. Total O and M. \$2.321 million. Agreed? Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN:

With regard to hazardous accidents, could you tell me how many accidents we had this year? I know there was an oil spill on the Mackenzie and there was also another one in the Barren Strait. In the eastern Arctic there were several trucks which had accidents carrying hazardous waste. What are the statistics on this?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

I will ask Mr. Quirke to answer this because I am not sure we have the statistics which Mr. Gargan is asking about with respect to hazardous waste.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Mr. Quirke.

MR. QUIRKE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The Member is referring to accidents resulting from hazardous wastes such as oil spills, et cetera. We do not capture those statistics. The only statistics we would capture are when a worker was injured. We investigated 11 work place accidents and issued certain compliance orders. However, unless a worker was injured we would not have information regarding hazardous waste.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Quirke. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN:

Does the department investigate accidents with regard to hazardous waste and the environment?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

I understand that responsibility lies within the Department of Renewable Resources with respect to pollution control. We do not have the statistical information within the Department of Safety and Public Services, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Todd. Page 07-10, safety, total O and M, \$2.321 million. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, I have made many of my comments in the Standing Committee on Finance so the Minister is aware of some of the concerns. I believe I have not received clarification on one particular issue. I know the Minister's department is considering increasing the fees for such things as licences which are issued under his department with respect to safety. I am quite aware these fees are

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somewhat equitable to southern jurisdictions. I asked previously with respect to this. I do not believe the individuals are concerned, some of them are concerned about the drastic increase in fees which are being imposed, but at the same time the length of

time which these licences are valid are not equivalent to southern jurisdictions, yet the department readily agreed to the concept of applying the fee structure to southern jurisdictions. I would like to ask the Minister if he is going to consider ensuring that these licences are equivalent for the money they are asking people to pay for the fee structure he is imposing? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

The amendment which is being proposed to the regulations is for gas permits, basically. There will be an increase in the fee costs. The certificate would be for a three year period. I think this is consistent with what takes place in southern jurisdictions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Todd. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is what the Minister believes, but it is not consistent with southern jurisdictions. I would like to ask the Minister if he would take it upon himself to review that to ensure it is consistent with southern jurisdictions, that the fees they are imposing are equivalent to southern jurisdictions. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Yes, Mr. Chairman, I will revisit the increase and see if we can bring it forward so that it is reflective of our counterparts in southern Canada.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Todd. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question with respect to the electrical/mechanical gas occupational health and safety inspections of buildings and work sites. How frequent are the inspections on particular buildings and work sites which are in the construction phases?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand the honourable Member's concern that we need to get timely safety inspections, particularly during the construction season. The contractors need these kind of inspections to get their claims, et cetera. I am aware of this from my previous profession. However, like everyone else in government, we are restricted to the PYs we have and the inspectors we have. Sometimes we do not get to these areas in as timely a manner as we would like.

We are preparing a document for the new year to look at the possibility of bringing in new inspector positions, seeking the support of the Cabinet and the House. I understand the concern. It is an important one. However, we are limited in terms of who we have and how quickly we can move about. The construction season in this country is very short and a great deal of work gets done in a very short period of time. It is not always possible to be in every place at the same time because of the limitations of the staff we have. We do recognize the problem and we are endeavouring to find some ways around it. It is a serious problem and we have to make sure it is ratified. For example, in electrical inspections, you need an electrical inspection before you move into the second phase of construction, et cetera. We are looking at this and we may have to look at considering, as was being suggested by the standing committee, some kind of contractual agreements when the construction season is up.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Todd. Safety. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, I wanted to advise the Minister that was one of the main purposes of the motion presented today, to ensure that you were aware there were not enough inspectors to enable you to find other methods of addressing that important issue. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Total O and M, \$2.321 million. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

--Agreed

Mine Safety

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Mine safety, total O and M, \$896,000. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN:

Mr. Chairman, with regard to mine inspections, are we fairly consistent with regard to inspections in our mine operations?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Yes, it all works under the chief mine inspector and the rules which apply to one place apply to every place. This is a serious activity and responsibility. The rules are for everyone. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mine safety, Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON:

Mr. Chairman, could I ask the Minister if he has any thoughts on resolving the long-standing discussion/debate/confrontation with regard to the responsibility for safety education between the Workers' Compensation Board and the Department of Safety and Public Services? Does he have any ideas about how this issue can be gratefully resolved and put aside?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

With respect to educational safety, should it lay with the Workers' Compensation Board, in Safety or is it a combination of both? I have indicated to the chairman of the

WCB and to the deputy minister, in polite terms, they better work it out. We cannot simply be going out there and duplicating each other. There has to be a way to do this in a manner which is cost-effective. I am one of the people who believe you can be regulatory and be educational at the same time. We are working on that right now. There are discussions going on between the chairman of the WCB and the deputy. I have indicated that they cannot go on forever. I have said to them they had better come to a compromise and it has to be in a manner which is going to ensure that there is adequate safety education out there.

I did get a report from the WCB safety division and they are getting out into the communities. I am pleased by that. The whole issue of safety is intertwined with WCB in a sense because it relates to assessments and accidents, et cetera. We are working towards a position where both the WCB and the Department of Safety can work in harmony to provide both the regulatory functions and the educational functions.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Sorry, Mr. Minister I cut you off. Mr. Patterson.

MR. PATTERSON:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased to hear that. As a former Minister who was responsible for both the department and the WCB, also directed the deputy and urged the chairman to resolve it and saw negotiations go so far as a draft memorandum of agreement, I wish the Minister well in resolving this issue. I hope he has more success than I did in settling it because there is a need to settle it, we cannot afford the luxury of competition. I know the Minister agrees. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Patterson. Our sentiments exactly. Mr. Minister, did you wish to respond?

HON. JOHN TODD:

Yes, I agree with what Mr. Patterson is saying. Clearly, there is a need for an integrated approach to safety, whether it is mine safety or construction safety. I have told both the chairman and the deputy, they have to work it out. I want it done soon. I am confident, with Mr. Quirke and Mr. Gilmour, that they will see the necessity to move expeditiously in resolving this issue.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mine safety, \$896,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I heard all the agrees come from that side, but not from this side. I do have a question. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister, in respect to mine safety, would he provide to us the number of inspections and services of mines for the NWT. I believe they have those statistics available.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

This was inspections on mines, Mr. Chairman?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

That is correct, Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

I can provide it in hard copy and I can do it orally, if you wish. We had 122 mine inspections to date for the first nine months of the year, 40 inspections in underground mines, 30 mill and surface inspections, 1 open pit, 14 quarried, 12 abandoned mines and 18 blasting general industries for a total of 122 inspections.

In previous years we did close to the same, I think. We are sitting with 122 inspections to date in nine months, which is not bad.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Would the Minister advise us as to the amount of inspections for the last few years to determine whether his department has been keeping the inspections up to the numbers of previous years?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

I do not have it immediately at hand, but I will provide it to the Members later on today or tomorrow, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Tomorrow meaning Saturday, Mr. Minister? Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not interested in the information tomorrow, but I would be interested in receiving it sometime. Mr. Chairman, I would also like to ask the Minister with respect to underground mines, he indicated that there has been 30 mining inspections on underground mines for 1992. Is that correct?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Sorry, for the first nine months of the year there have been 40 underground mine inspections.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Todd. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, could the Minister also provide us with a breakdown of where all these inspections took place and what dates, for the underground mines specifically?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Yes, we will provide that to the Member and to the House.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Todd. Mine safety, total O and M, \$896,000. Agreed?

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SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

Fire Safety

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Fire safety, total O and M, \$743,000. Mr. Gargan.

MR. GARGAN:

Mr. Chairman, I have a question with regard to inspection regulations. Is there a different category of inspection for residential and commercial areas, this building for example?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Gargan. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Chairman, the primary focus of fire safety is in the commercial buildings. In fact, we do very little domestic fire safety inspections unless it has been specifically requested. Most of our work is done in commercial buildings similar to this one.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Todd. Fire safety, \$743,000. Mr. Antoine.

MR. ANTOINE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Fire safety includes the office of the fire marshal, Mr. Chairman. There was a bit of controversy in the media with regard to the Minister by some of the comments he had made, and the previous fire marshal's public statements questioning the Minister responsible for this department. I was wondering if the Minister responsible for this office could inform us of his

position with regard to fire safety in the Northwest Territories. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Antoine. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

They say in this business that sometimes your words come back to haunt you and I guess they did on this one, when I was being humorous as the chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance. I want to assure the House that there has been no deviation from the previous Minister in terms of the fire marshal. The system which was in place in the past is currently there. I have not made any attempts to add any humour to the fire marshal's office. The previous fire marshal departed by his own decision. We are in the throws of looking to recruit a new fire marshal. The deputy minister is interviewing next week. I want to say for the record, and I appreciate the question, it is business as usual. It is a dangerous business. We need to ensure that the integrity of the fire marshal's office is maintained and that is exactly the way in which I intend to behave. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Todd. Fire safety, \$743,000. Mr. Antoine.

MR. ANTOINE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This activity of fire safety deals with training of professional and volunteer fire chiefs and fire departments, and the delivery of fire prevention programs, et cetera. It has been brought to my attention, by some of the smaller communities which I represent, that there is a real need to upgrade the fire equipment. I believe your department received a letter from Fort Liard. Trout Lake and Jean Marie River have also indicated their concerns to me. You have a good program for volunteer fire chiefs. I believe they go for training in Rae-Edzo. The comments I have received indicate it is a good program and when they attend training they learn a great deal of useful information which they take back to their communities. They are also told that there is a number of different kinds of equipment which they are entitled to in each community. Once they get back to their communities and ask for the type of equipment which they are supposed to have, it takes them a long time to obtain the equipment from your department. Can the Minister inform me if his

department has been able to find out what the problem is and to solve these problems? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Antoine. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Chairman, the fiscal responsibility for the capital, of course, lies with MACA. However, the department works closely with MACA in trying to identify real needs, et cetera. I recognize the importance for the need of proper equipment in these communities, and for the equipment to reflect the kind of community they have, particularly as they grow in size. We are working closely with MACA on the issue.

On the issue of training, I would like to see more of it because our volunteer firemen require as much support as possible. I want to assure the honourable Member that every effort is being made, particular in this area, within the confines of the budget, to try to meet the needs of these small communities. Thank you.

Labour Board And Labour Services

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Fire safety. Labour board and labour services. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister, does he at any time plan, within the next year or so, to look at reviewing the minimum wage in the NWT? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

My understanding is that the review of the minimum wage is done on an annual basis. I would assume it would be done again, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Labour board and labour services.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, it is not automatically done on an annual basis, but if it has been and if the changes have been made to allow it to be done on an annual basis, what were the Minister's department's findings and why was the minimum wage not raised this year from the current rate? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

What I said was it is reviewed on an annual

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basis, it is not necessarily increased on an annual basis. I will ask Mr. Quirke, because he did the review, to answer what took place this past year.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Mr. Quirke.

MR. QUIRKE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The last review was done by the department in concert with Social Services, et cetera, prior to Christmas. It was discovered with the decrease in the rate of inflation there was no need to change the present minimum wage.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Quirke. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, I am sorry I did not get the last portion. With the review of what, there was no need to increase the rate? What was the word I missed?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. I will ask Mr. Quirke to repeat his response. Perhaps if the microphone could be a little closer to you, Mr. Quirke. Thank you.

MR. QUIRKE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The review of the minimum wage was conducted prior to Christmas by staff in the department along with staff from Social Services. The review found that since the rate of inflation had, in fact, decreased there was no need or requirement to amend the minimum wage.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Quirke. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, can the Minister indicate the findings? Besides not finding a need to raise the minimum wage, which we recognize because we have not had any legislative changes or advisement to us, what were their findings in respect to the review of the minimum wage? I am just trying to think whether the cost of living was taken into consideration. I cannot recall all the listed requirements, so this is why I would like further clarification on the findings, not particularly their decision. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

I do not have the findings here, but I can provide the analysis which was done with the department and Social Services regarding how they determined that there should be no increase in last year's minimum wage, the procedure and the process that takes place to determine that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you. I would appreciate that, Mr. Chairman. In addition to that, would the Minister also provide to us the minimum wage applied to other jurisdictions in the country in comparison to the NWT? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

I certainly will.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Labour board and labour services. Total O and M, \$425,000. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I also want to ask the Minister in respect to the labour board, how long is the process to go through the labour board in regard to a labour dispute? Can the Minister indicate to us the time frame? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know there are a considerable number of complaints with respect to the turnaround time on an appeal which has gone in. I am not sure there is a consistent turnaround time, if that is the correct term. In some cases, depending upon the complexity of the complaint, it could be as much as one year, and in some cases it may be 30 days. I do admit that we should be turning around these complaints a little more expeditiously. I have asked the department to look at why it is taking so long in some cases. I cannot really categorically say this is happening this way. Again, as I said, it depends upon the complexity of the complaint. The board should be striving to move as quickly as they can on these issues because they are important. I have asked the deputy and I will be meeting with the board to express my concern with respect to turnaround time on these issues.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Labour board and labour services. Total O and M, \$425,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

Public Utilities Board

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Public utilities board. Total O and M, \$543,000. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, can I ask the Minister if the decentralization of the public utilities board is now completed to Hay River? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Minister.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Yes, it is now complete.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Minister. Public utilities board. Total O and M, \$543,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

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

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

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CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford): Total grants and contributions, \$15,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Liquor commission revolving fund is an information item. Are there any questions on that? Details of work performed on behalf of third parties. Total department, \$54,000.

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, if we may go back to page 07-17, liquor commission revolving fund.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Yes, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Liquor commission revolving fund, page 07-17. Go ahead.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister why are the previous year's dollars the same this year with respect to freight surcharge, when the government is taking out the freight subsidy? Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Is it the \$29.171 million versus the \$276,000 freight surcharge? Is that what you are referring to? It is my understanding that this freight surcharge is for Iqaluit only. That is the additional cost for the movement of beer. Mr. Quirke informs me this is charged back to the consumers.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Todd. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Why is it applied to Iqaluit? It is my understanding the whole subsidy for freight of liquor would be taken away, therefore you would increase your revenues for the GNWT. Why is one particular area being treated differently?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Mr. Quirke is familiar with the history of this issue, and I would like to refer the question to him.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Mr. Quirke.

MR. QUIRKE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This particular item of freight surcharge, \$276,000, is for Iqaluit only. This

occurs during the months of April, May and June when we have to fly the beer up to replenish the stock in Iqaluit. The cost of flying that beer up is passed on to the consumers, about \$2 or \$2.50 per case. That is under revenue and that is where we get the money back. By flying the liquor in we get the money back through the surcharge. There is no cost to the government, there is no subsidy.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Quirke. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

My question still has not been answered, Mr. Chairman. Why is it applied to only one particular area and not all other regions in the north? I am sure it is costly to fly beer up to Cambridge Bay in the Kitikmeot region, equivalent as it is to Iqaluit. Why are they not being considered for a surcharge?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

I will ask Mr. Quirke to respond.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Mr. Quirke.

MR. QUIRKE:

Mr. Chairman, the reason it is Iqaluit is because it is the only community we actually fly our liquor up to during the whole year. The warehouse is not large enough to hold a year's supply of liquor, and particularly beer. Secondly, the shelf life of beer is about 12 months. In our Arctic communities such as Inuvik and Fort Simpson we use the road system extensively. It is an ongoing movement of the goods going back and forth. The Member mentioned Cambridge Bay as an example. We do not operate a liquor store in Cambridge Bay any more. It closed down three or four years ago. Iqaluit is unique from the point of view that it is the only place we actually fly liquor in and we pass the costs of flying that product, back to the consumers.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Quirke. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, I recognize this is basically a method of placing the money up front to be able to get the product to the community. However, I feel the process used is an inequitable process. I would like the Minister to review this to determine whether this should be applied to other regions. I would also like the Minister to review it to ensure that equity is in the system, that not one particular region is favoured over the other. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Yes, Mr. Chairman, I will do that.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Todd. Liquor commission revolving fund, details of work performed on behalf of third parties, total department, \$54,000. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

--Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you. Page 07-7, program summary, total O and M, \$6.412 million. Agreed? Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, I was hoping to go through the revenue recoveries and transfer payments on this budget, this is on page 07-19.

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CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. If you so wish, it has not been the practice, however, page 07-19, revenue recoveries and transfer payments. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, I know it is not the practice of the committee regarding revenue items, however, I find it is critically important that people of the north recognize, and it should be on the record, the different

types of licenses which are going to be increased over the next year for their revenue initiatives. If we do not discuss it on this page, then I do not know which other page allows us to do so.

I would like to ask the Minister to provide us with a listing or read into the record how he will increase business licenses by \$20,000 and how he will increase lottery licenses by \$75,000? There was no fee imposed before for examinations and certificates and now he is going to raise revenue of \$110,000. He is anticipating an additional \$50,000 for revenue for electrical permits and an additional \$10,000 for gas permits, along with boiler registration and elevator permits. I find this is something the public should be aware of. If the Minister could advise us for public record it would be appreciated. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Do you want me to go through them one at a time or do you wish me to provide the hard copy?

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Mr. Todd, were you asking a question?

HON. JOHN TODD:

I would like clarification.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Mrs. Marie-Jewell, what was your wish regarding that item?

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

If the Minister were to provide the information in form of a tabled document that would be acceptable. However, if it is not in the form of a tabled document, I would suggest the Minister read it into the record. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Mr. Todd.

HON. JOHN TODD:

I do have the information. I will table the document on Monday.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Todd. Revenue recoveries and transfer payments, page 07-20. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Agreed.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Agreement. Distribution of budget. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Page 07-7, program summary, total O and M, \$6.412 million. Agreed?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Is the committee agreed this department is concluded?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

I would like to thank the Minister and the witnesses for their participation and informative answers.

HON. JOHN TODD:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

What is the committee's wish? Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, we are willing to address the Department of Personnel, initially, but we have

noticed the Minister is not in the House. Therefore, we will request the Minister of Health to proceed with her budget. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mrs. Marie-Jewell. Is the committee in agreement?

SOME HON. MEMBERS:

Agreed.

---Agreed

Department Of Health

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

We have agreement. Is the Minister of Health prepared to present her opening remarks for the Department of Health?

HON. REBECCA MIKE:

Yes, I am, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Madam Minister. Please proceed.

Introductory Remarks

HON. REBECCA MIKE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for this opportunity to provide opening comments.

Overall, the Department of Health's budget has decreased by approximately .5 per cent in comparison to the 1992-93 revised main estimates. The department's budget reflects an effort to control expenditures in the areas of medicare, medical travel and hospital services. This will be accomplished by monitoring of service utilization, establishment and application of standard guidelines and procedures and the development of payment methods which encourage good practice and provide predictability of costs over time.

One significant task to be accomplished during the year will be consolidated management of medical travel benefits to GNWT

employees into the Department of Health. It is currently within the mandate of the Department of Personnel.

Other initiatives the department has undertaken previously which will continue are as follows: a comprehensive AIDS prevention package; repatriation of specialized services to Stanton Yellowknife Hospital, with the aim of further enhancing services to the communities outside of Yellowknife; in collaboration with the Department of Education, development of a registered nursing diploma program at Arctic College; assessment of work load factors in the community health centres; continued planning through the development of community profiles to determine health needs, health service resources and use, and the options for improving service arrangements; review of expenditure issues with boards, especially for travel, drugs and overtime, with a view to better cost projection and control; negotiation of per diem and salaried contracts with physicians to provide predictable costs; strengthening the monitoring of medical travel use; establishing a means of reviewing patient care provided in the south so that opportunities for repatriation are identified and acted upon; and, continued development of the advanced nursing skills in-service program to prepare and support the needs of NWT nurses.

Significant issues to be dealt with in 1993-94 are as follows: improvements of the department's management for results system to make it a more useful tool for comparing results with resources, and full integration of MFRS into the budget into the budget and financial reporting system; development of a plan of action to increase aboriginal representation in the department at management levels; the collaborative development of a memorandum of understanding between hospital and health boards and the Department of Health; resolution of the DIAND dispute over hospital services to Indian and Inuit residents; development and discussion of principles upon which the NWT health system will be developed over the next decade; the planned consolidation of the Department of Health and Social Services, beginning with the joint review of and planning for alcohol and drug programs and for services to aged and handicapped; and, decentralization of the health insurance services division to Inuvik and Rankin Inlet.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my opening comments. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Madam Minister. Is the Standing Committee on Finance prepared to present its report? Mr. Zoe.

Comments By Standing Committee On Finance

MR. ZOE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is the Standing Committee on Finance report on the review of the 1993-94 Main Estimates to the Department of Health.

The Department of Health has the second largest allocation at \$182 million, only Education is larger. The Auditor General has told us that this department is not fiscally effective, efficient and economical. Obviously, Mr. Chairman, we are greatly concerned.

Frankly, the Department of Health is not managing, they are only reacting. The departmental responses to the committee's recommendations were unsatisfactory. If you cannot measure the key indicators in your program, you cannot manage them effectively.

This government spends \$182 million per year on reacting to our communities' poor health. We agree that a person is his or her own "health control board." However, someone must provide leadership to improve the overall health situation. The Department of Health is where the resources are. The Department of Health must significantly improve the support, direction and leadership provided to ensure community development in matters of health.

The department must ensure that it is serving the regional health board well by providing suitable support, direction and training programs; by keeping systems simple, and by developing an early warning system aimed at preventing serious problems.

Major improvement is an urgent matter, the risks are too high otherwise. Unhealthy life-styles and practices must be addressed. Change must occur at an accelerated pace. We must turn around the trend of rising health costs, in human and in financial terms.

Mr. Chairman, the committee has three recommendations they would like to pursue.

Committee Motion 87-12(3): To Adopt Recommendation 10

I move, the committee recommends that the Government Leader and the Minister responsible take immediate action to correct the deficiencies noted in

the comprehensive audit report of the Auditor General, and take responsible action to control health costs while meeting the public needs. Mahsi.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Zoe. We have a motion. The motion is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

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

---Carried

Mr. Zoe.

Committee Motion 88-12(3): To Adopt Recommendation 11

MR. ZOE:

Thank you. Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee recommends that the Department of Health strengthen wellness programs in the communities, and review recent developments in the provinces to discourage cigarette smoking among young people.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Zoe. The motion is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

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

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---Carried

Mr. Zoe.

Committee Motion 89-12(3): To Adopt Recommendation 12

MR. ZOE:

Mahsi. Mr. Chairman, I move that the committee recommends that the Department of Health resolve the problem of the Mackenzie regional health services by creating two boards, based on the affected communities' input.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Zoe. We have a motion. The motion is in order. To the motion.

AN HON. MEMBER:

Question.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

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

---Carried

Mr. Zoe.

MR. ZOE:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That concludes the comments and recommendations from the Standing Committee on Finance. Mahsi.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Zoe. The Department of Health's O and M budget. General comments. Before we go into general comments, is the Minister prepared to take the witness table and bring in witnesses?

HON. REBECCA MIKE:

Yes, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Madam Minister. The Sergeant-at-Arms will assist the witnesses to the witness table. Mrs. Marie-Jewell.

MRS. MARIE-JEWELL:

Mr. Chairman, there are concerns from some Members of not having their information prepared for the Department of Health respecting general comments because we anticipated the Department of Personnel today. Therefore, I have been requested to move to report progress. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

We have a motion to report progress and it is not debateable. All those in favour? All those opposed? The motion is carried.

---Carried

I will rise and report progress. I thank the Minister and her witnesses for temporarily being at the witness table. We look forward to seeing you again on Monday.

MR. SPEAKER:

Item 19, report of committee of the whole. Mr. Chairman.

ITEM 19: REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

CHAIRMAN (Mr. Whitford):

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Your committee has been considering Bill 17 and Committee Report 11-12(3), and would like to report progress with eight motions

being adopted. Mr. Speaker, I move that the report of the committee of the whole be concurred with.

MR. SPEAKER:

Seconded by Mr. Zoe. Motion is in order. All those in favour? All those opposed? Motion is carried.

---Carried

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

ITEM 21: ORDERS OF THE DAY

CLERK OF THE HOUSE (Mr. Hamilton):

Mr. Speaker, there will be a meeting of the Standing Committee on Rules, Procedures and Privileges at 2:00 pm this afternoon. At 10:00 am tomorrow morning there will be a meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance. On Monday morning there will be a meeting of the Standing Committee on Agencies, Boards and Commissions at 9:00 am, and at 10:30 am of the Ordinary Members' Caucus. Orders of the day for Monday, March 15, 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. Petitions
10. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
11. Reports of Committees on the Review of Bills
12. Tabling of Documents
13. Notices of Motion
14. Notices of Motions for First Reading of Bills
15. Motions
 - Motion 22-12(3): Condemnation of Federal Government Cuts to Funding for NWT Programs
16. First Reading of Bills
17. Second Reading of Bills
 - Bill 8, Payroll Tax Act
18. Consideration in Committee of the Whole of Bills and Other Matters

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- 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
- Bill 5, An Act to Amend the Social Assistance Act
- Bill 17, Appropriation Act, No. 2, 1993-94
- 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
- Committee Report 12-12(3), Report No. 4, Talking and Working Together

- Appearance by Members of the
Commission for Constitutional Development

19. Report of Committee of the Whole
20. Third Reading of Bills
21. Orders of the Day

MR. SPEAKER:

Thank you, Mr. Clerk. This House stands adjourned
until 1:30 pm, Monday, March 15, 1993.

---ADJOURNMENT